



From the Principal....

April 27, 2021

Dear Parents,

I hope you and your family are safe and healthy. It is hard to believe we only have one month of school left in the 2020-2021 school year. This newsletter contains a lot of important information, so I appreciate you reading it thoroughly and responding promptly to the items that apply to you and your family.

Board Approves WCPSS Virtual Academy for 2021-22

On April 20th, the Board of Education approved a plan to open the WCPSS Virtual Academy to serve grades K-12 for the 2021-22 school year. There also will be a separate virtual learning option for Pre-K students.

More information regarding the Virtual Academy, along with a link to the registration form and pre-K virtual option and registration information, can be found at www.wcpss.net/VirtualAcademy. The site also includes information regarding the level of commitment we seek, student and family responsibilities, course offerings and FAQs.

Following are a few important facts that families should know as they consider learning options for 2021-22:

- The registration will window close **Sunday, May 2 at 5 p.m.**
- To the degree possible, students will be assigned teachers from their assigned school. **However, students may be assigned to teachers from different schools within the district in order to adequately populate classes or courses.**
- For traditional calendar schools, the WCPSS Virtual Academy program students will follow the traditional calendar.
- **Families will be asked to commit to remaining in the Virtual Academy for one year** unless vaccines for students become widely available.
- Families must also agree to a [Statement of Understanding](#).
- We have developed a list of [responsibilities](#) that students and families, along with teachers, must work together to uphold.
- A virtual option is not the ideal learning environment for our younger students in grades PreK-3. The development of academic, social, and emotional learning skills needed for this age group is best taught in person. But we do know that some parents will desire this option depending on the evolution of the pandemic.

Remote Learning Day Change for Traditional Calendar Schools

The Remote Learning Day previously planned for May 5th for traditional calendar students has been moved to May 13th. May 5th is now a regular school day, and May 13th is a remote learning day.



MPE 2021 Spring Silent Auction, Raffle Baskets and Scholastic Book Fair

Last Week, the PTA kicked off MPE's 2021 Spring Silent Auction, Raffle Baskets and Scholastic Book Fair online. Silent Auction and Raffle Baskets run through May 1st with bidding closing at 7pm that day. The book fair closes on May 2nd.

Our community businesses and parents have generously contributed some amazing items that have been listed on the auction website listed below:

<https://www.biddingowl.com/Auction/home.cfm?auctionID=21025>

Scholastic Book Fair can be accessed through this website:

<https://www.scholastic.com/bf/millsparkedelementaryschool>

Please support us by actively participating to make these spring events a success benefitting our MPE students and the school!

Not Returning to Mills Park Elementary for the 2021-2022 School Year?

Please click on the link below and complete the short form for each of your students who will **NOT** be returning to Mills Park Elementary for the 2021-2022 school year. You do not need to complete this form if your child is a current 5th grade student.

[NOT RETURNING to MPE FOR THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR](#)

A Note from Mr. Rood about Kids Heart Challenge

Thanks to everyone who participated in Kids Heart Challenge this year! Our school ended up raising \$5,683.00 for the American Heart Association to help fight heart disease. In person students who earned prizes will get them during PE class. Mr. Rood will be having a drive thru Kids Heart Challenge prize pick up for students that are virtual. Virtual students that raised money for KHC and earned prizes will need to come to the drive thru prize pickup on **Thursday, May 13th from 9:30am-11:30am @ Mills Park Elementary School Bus Loop**. Please click the link to see if your student has prizes that need to be picked up: [VA KHC prize list](#) . Please display a sign in your vehicle windshield with student first/last name and teacher name. Prizes that are not picked up during this time will be left outside the main office front door. They will be on a cart with student's names on them during school hours until Friday (5/14) at 3:45pm to be picked up. Please email Scott Rood (PE Teacher) srood@wcpss.net if you have any questions.

Rising Kindergarten Students

Please remind your friends and neighbors that it is time register for Kindergarten for the 2021-2022 school year. If your child is five years old by 8/31/2021, you can enroll them now for Kindergarten! Please visit <https://www.wcpss.net/domain/13656> for more information.



EOG Schedule

Below is Mills Park's End-of-Grade (EOG) testing schedule. We will be testing in-person and virtual academy students at the same time. If the dates should change, we will notify parents as soon as possible. A special thank you to our virtual academy parents for completing the EOG survey. Based on your responses, we were able to create our EOG testing plan. Test dates for the Extend 1 test will be determined soon. Ms. Scatamacchia will communicate these dates to you as soon as we finalize them.

Date	Grade	Test
Monday, May 24	3 rd & 4 th	Reading
Tuesday, May 25	3 rd & 4 th	Math
Thursday, May 27	5 th	Reading
Friday, May 28	5 th	Math
Wednesday, June 2	5 th	Science

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Michael Regan
Principal

Upcoming Events for May 2021

April 19 – May 1: [PTA Spring Online Silent Auction and Raffle](#), All Bids Close at 7:00 pm on May 1, 2021

April 19 – May 2: [Mills Park Elementary Scholastic Virtual Book Fair](#)

May 5: Regular School Day (it is no longer a remote learning day)

May 6: Student of the Week lawn sign pick up and drop off

May 10: District 8 Board Advisory Committee, 6:30 pm

May 13: Remote/Asynchronous Learning Day...No Live Instruction

May 13: Student of the Week lawn sign pick up and drop off

May 24: 3rd & 4th Reading EOG Test

May 25: 3rd & 4th Math EOG Test

May 26: Remote/Asynchronous Learning Day...No Live Instruction

May 27: 5th Reading EOG Test

May 28: 5th Math EOG Test

May 31: Memorial Day Holiday – No School for Students and Staff