



**From the Principal....**

**September 26, 2017**

Dear Parents,

The PTA's annual fundraiser "**Take Stock in MPE - Building Blocks for our Future**" began on Monday Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> and runs through Oct. 6<sup>th</sup>. Please refer to the MPE PTA's website, <https://millsparkpta.membershiptoolkit.com/home>, for specific information about the fundraiser. I want to take a moment to thank you in advance for your unwavering support and generosity. Your generosity plays a pivotal role in meeting the needs of all MPE students as it helps provide the necessary tools and resources to enhance our instructional program. So, on behalf of the teachers, staff and students, thank you for your support!

**Here Comes the Bus - Traditional Calendar Roll-out**

WCPSS bus rider families are now able to use a free bus tracking system called **Here Comes the Bus**. **Here Comes the Bus** translates GPS data into an easy to use customizable map that works on a computer, tablet or smartphone. It allows you to see where the bus is and how close it is to your stop.

You can sign up for **Here Comes the Bus** at <https://herecomesthebus.com/getting-started/>. You will need the district code and your student's ID number to sign up. **The WCPSS school code is 67500**. For your smartphone or tablet, download the **Here Comes the Bus** app from the App Store or Google Play. Once activated, you can customize or edit features, including how the app will communicate with you and the size of the notification radius. WCPSS posted a few videos, <http://www.wcpss.net/herecomesthebus>, that will help you create an account on a computer or on a mobile device.

The app is available for Traditional-calendar bus riders based on the following schedule:

- Elementary families on Wednesday, September 27
- Middle school families on Friday, September 29
- High school families on Monday, October 2

**Lockdown Drill**

During the month of October, the Mills Park Schools (elementary & middle) will conduct a Lockdown Drill. We are not sharing the specific date with teachers, students, and parents, so we can conduct an authentic drill. This type of drill helps us practice what to do in the event there is an immediate and dangerous threat on our campus. The teachers and staff are trained annually on lockdown procedures, and they practice these procedures with students each year prior to the first lockdown drill. Parents will be notified on the actual day of the drill.



### **Volunteer Reactivation and Registration 2<sup>nd</sup> Reminder**

I would like to remind continuing volunteers, approved during the 2016-2017 school year, to reactivate your status as a volunteer no later than 4:00 p.m. on October 31, 2017. Volunteers may go to any WCPSS site and register through the intranet. After October 31, 2017, individuals previously approved may not volunteer without a new criminal record check. To avoid unnecessary costs to the school system, please remember to reactivate early in the school year – and no later than October 31, 2017.

New volunteer applicants for the 2017-2018 school year must register and have an approved criminal record check prior to engaging in volunteer work. Applicants may register at any WCPSS site through the intranet. The volunteer system will be open daily for registration through October 31, 2017.

### **Checking Students Out Early**

If you need to check your child out early from school, please do so before 3:15 pm. The end of the day is a very busy time for us, so we need to take care of early check-outs before 3:15 pm. If you cannot make it by 3:15, you must use the carpool line and follow the afternoon carpool dismissal procedures (see below).

### **Carpool Afternoon Dismissal**

Carpool tags must be displayed on your rearview mirror for pick-up. If you need a carpool tag, you may pick one up at the main office. In order to ensure a safe and smooth carpool dismissal, please adhere to the following carpool dismissal procedures:

1. Hang carpool tag on rearview mirror.
2. Follow the carpool line.
3. Please do not park and walk up to check your child out of carpool.
4. Pull up to a designated loading zone.
5. Students will be loaded by an adult or safety patrol.
6. If you do not have a carpool tag, you will be asked to sign your child out in the office.
7. Please refrain from using your cell phone while in the carpool line

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Michael Regan  
Principal

\*\*\*Please see below for upcoming events\*\*\*



### **Upcoming Events for October 2017**

- Oct. 2: Kindergarten Field Trip (Huffman/Harland), Fire Station, 9:30 am
- Oct. 2: Room Parent Meeting, MPE Cafeteria, 9:30 am
- Oct. 2: District 8 Board Advisory Committee Meeting, Holly Springs HS, 6:30 pm
- Oct. 3: Kindergarten Field Trip (Milberg/Kellogg), Fire Station, 9:30 am
- Oct. 4: Kindergarten Field Trip (Stewart/Cross), Fire Station, 9:30 am
- Oct. 5: Special Programs Field Trip, Camp Royall, 9:30 am
- Oct. 5: OM Coaches Meeting, MPE Media Center, 6:00 pm
- Oct. 6: Last Day of MPE PTA Fall Fundraiser
- Oct. 10: Municipal Election Day – MPE is a polling site
- Oct. 10-12: 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade COG-AT Test, 9:30 am
- Oct. 12: Fall Pictures
- Oct. 18: Leadership/School Improvement Team Meeting, Media Center, 7:45 am
- Oct. 19: 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Field Trip (Salva/Reichel/Williams/Mohn), NC Art Museum, 9:30 am
- Oct. 20: Early Release Day, Students dismiss at 1:15 pm
- Oct. 23 – Nov. 2: Book Fair
- Oct. 24: 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Field Trip (White/Lane/Bortz/Dowell), NC Art Museum, 9:30 am
- Oct. 24: Kindergarten Dental Screenings, Classrooms
- Oct. 26: Donuts with Dad (Last Name A-L), MPE Cafeteria, 8:15-8:45 am
- Oct. 26-27: 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Field, Historic Oak View, 9:30 am
- Oct. 26: 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Fall Learning Experience, Classrooms, 12:30 pm
- Oct. 27: Donuts with Dad (Last Name M-Z), MPE Cafeteria, 8:15-8:45 am
- Oct. 27: Kindergarten Field Trip, Upchurch Pumpkin Farm, 9:30 am
- Oct. 30: End of 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter
- Oct. 30: Kindergarten Letterland Parade, MPE, 9:30 am
- Oct. 30: 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Fall Learning Experience, Classrooms, 1:15 pm
- Oct. 31: Teacher Workday, No School for Students