

## **Hello, Zebulon Elementary Families,**

This is Principal Newkirk with the update for the week of September 3, 2021

### **Transportation Changes**

The office staff asks that if you have a transportation change for your child that you put the request in writing and send it to the teacher 24 hours in advance. We ask for this to ensure that communication is not missed causing students to miss a bus or ride the wrong mode of transportation in the afternoon.

Transportation change requests will not be accepted after 12:30 PM.

### **Bus Issues**

Many of you have been impacted by the bus driver shortage and issues surrounding bus pickup and drop-off times. We understand that it is not a best-case scenario for students to wait up to and even over an hour for buses to pick up and drop off students. I am in daily communication with the Eastern Area Superintendent providing feedback on the status of our buses. Know that there are plans in the works to address our bus issues. Also know that it will take some time to hire and train the new drivers necessary to solve our bus issues.

The best place to get information about our bus service is online at [www.wcpss.net/parent/transportation](http://www.wcpss.net/parent/transportation). You can find answers to questions, request bus stop changes, or contact customer support. You may also reach transportation by telephone at 919.805.3030.

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### **Magnet Registration**

Fall Magnet Registration is September 1st - 10<sup>th</sup>. If you do not register your child by midnight of the 10<sup>th</sup>, an elective will be chosen for your child that has adequate space available. We are in the process of doing beginning of the year assessments and if it is determined that your child needs additional academic support, at least one of your child's electives will be an academic support elective.

The registration link is [here](#) to make elective choices for your child. Students are not guaranteed their first choice of electives.

## **Covid-19 Protocols**

This past week, we cut the crowd size in the cafeteria by 50%. Half of each grade level eats in the cafeteria while the other half eats either in the room or outside, weather permitting. Because the cafeteria is the only space where students can congregate with their masks off, we felt it was important to maximize social distancing.

Students are asked to eat their lunch in the first 15 minutes of the period. Once lunch is complete, they may put on their masks and socialize with their peers.

## **Before and After School**

Zebulon Elementary School is implementing a Before and After School Program!

Many parents and caregivers are in need of supervision of their children during before or after school hours. Zebulon GT Magnet Elementary School is in the process of establishing and providing a safe, nurturing and stimulating environment for your child.

This is a fee-based program that will operate Before School during the hours of 6:30am – 8:00am. The After School hours will operate from 3:15pm -6:00pm. There is an initial \$15.00 per child application fee for both Before and After Care. There are no reduced rates/fees for multiple children within the same family. All tuition and application fees must be submitted by check, money order or online.

Highlights of the program will be:

- A routine daily schedule that will be posted for reference by parents and caregivers
- Students must turn 5 years old by the start of the school year.
- A healthy snack that will be provided by the program
- A specified time that kids can do homework (30- 40 minutes maximum). This program is not an extension of the classroom
- Quality enhanced program with age appropriate structured and unstructured activities
- Attached is the link that will answer additional questions including tuition fees, online payment, etc.

<https://www.wcpss.net/Page/58>

Please contact/see the following staff in reference to Before or After School Care or to complete an application. **We cannot begin the program until enough students have registered and paid the registration. We still need at least 8 more students registered for each program to begin. If we do not get enough registrations by September 3, 2021, we will not be able to operate a program.**

Before School Care: Erica Flory [eflory@wcpss.net](mailto:eflory@wcpss.net)

After School Care: Yvonne Glenn [yglenn@wcpss.net](mailto:yglenn@wcpss.net)

<b>September 1</b>	<b>Elective Registration Begins</b>
<b>September 2</b>	<b>McDonald's Night 5-8 PM</b>
<b>September 6</b>	<b>Labor Day</b>
<b>September 7</b>	<b>Teacher Workday</b>
<b>September 8</b>	<b>K-2 Open House at 5:45 PM</b>
<b>September 9</b>	<b>3-5 Open House at 5:45 PM</b>
<b>September 16</b>	<b>Teacher Workday</b>
<b>September 20</b>	<b>Electives Begin</b>

**Yours,**

**David Newkirk, Principal**

