



LYONS MILL ELEMENTARY

Volume 5
Issue 7

March 2020

Dear Lyons Mill Families,

As I began to write my last Lyons Mill Elementary principal's message, I looked back at what I shared in my first newsletter back in August 2015. I wrote about how honored I was to announce the Grand Opening of Lyons Mill Elementary School. My two children as well as my husband Steve will be saying goodbye to Lyons Mill after 5 years of service to all of you. The experience of opening Woodholme Elementary in 2005 all the way through National Blue Ribbon recognition in 2012 then opening Lyons Mill Elementary in 2015 has been an incredible journey because of our supportive community, incredible staff members and talented students. As we celebrate our fifth year, I am confident that Lyons Mill Elementary will continue to empower our students to succeed in **Literacy, Math, Engineering and Science**. Our focus is always on maximizing student achievement by creating a student-centered, rigorous learning environment. In just a few years, our students have accomplished so much. Here are some of the highlights:

- Green School status during first year of eligibility
- Ben Carson Scholarship Award Winner
- Lyons Mill Engineering Squad qualified for the 2018 VEX Robotics World Championships in Louisville, Kentucky by winning the Design Award at the Maryland State Championships
- Chess Team won the Baltimore County Public Schools Chess Championship in April 2019 placing 1st out of 25 elementary schools
- 2018-2019 Baltimore County Public Schools Teacher of the Year
- 2018-2019 Elementary School Technology and Engineering Educators Association of Maryland (TEEAM) Teacher of Excellence Award Winner
- 2019-2020 Technology and Engineering Educators Association of Maryland (TEEAM) Elementary Program Excellence Award Winner

Last week's first Black History Month Showcase event is a perfect example of how our staff, students and families collaborated to create an amazing day filled with inspiring living history presentations, student performances, guest readers, interactive projects and creative historical classroom door decorations. A shout out to Brendan Penn and Lauren Sager for leading the way.

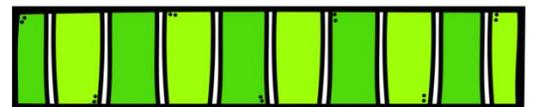
I have thoroughly enjoyed being the first principal of Lyons Mill Elementary. After 26 years with Baltimore County Public Schools, I will truly miss all of you.

Explorers Believe, Explorers Achieve!

Maralee Clark

Upcoming Events

- Week of March 2 - Read Across America
- March 4 - Recycling Monsters Assembly
- March 11 - Spring Picture Day
- March 24 & 25 - 5th Grade MISA testing
- March 24 - Multi Cultural Night 6 PM



Maralee Clark
Principal
Samantha Maile
Stacey Enty
Assistant Principals

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Follow us on Twitter @LyonsMill
Like us on Facebook: Lyons Mill

Counselor's Corner

March will mark 238 classroom lessons delivered by the School Counselors. This month, our focus will be on Emotional Regulation. Through targeted activities, students will be encouraged to learn the importance of self-regulation. An important concept we stress during this month's lessons is the realization that all feelings are okay and appropriate to experience. A feeling is just a feeling. Our feelings are only problematic depending on our response to them. Impulsive reactions to our feelings can sometimes lead to consequences. Please encourage your student to acknowledge any of the emotions that they experience throughout the day. There are no negative feelings, there are only negative responses. Validate feelings whenever possible and explore student mindset during each of those emotional experiences. Support your student even during the uncomfortable feelings, such as sadness and anger, by openly discussing them and brainstorming the best response to each of the feelings in any given situation. Stop and think is an easy topic to discuss but is a hard action to practice for many of our young learners.

By acknowledging our feelings, we can reflectively determine what our personal needs are to help navigate those emotions. Acknowledging our feelings and exploring our response options will help lead us into next month's important topic of Coping Skills. If you need any follow up discussion activities to help guide the home-school connection related to this topic, please do not hesitate to reach out to Mr. Menikheim or Ms. Arrington for suggestions.

If you ever need to speak with a counselor, please call us at (443)-809-1719 and specify which counselor you need to speak with. We are split up by grades:

Mr. Menikheim has grades First, Third, and Fifth

Ms. Arrington has grades Kindergarten, Second, and Fourth

Career Day - March 27, 2020

We are looking to construct an engaging, diversified, and educational program to spark a forward-thinking mindset. We ask that professionals push into the classrooms of our intermediate students, delivering a 10 to 15 minute presentation highlighting their career and personality traits. To make this a successful event, we need to secure interest from a range of presenters. If you are interested in presenting about your career, please contact Brandon Menikheim at 443-809-1719 or bmenikheim@bcps.org for additional information.

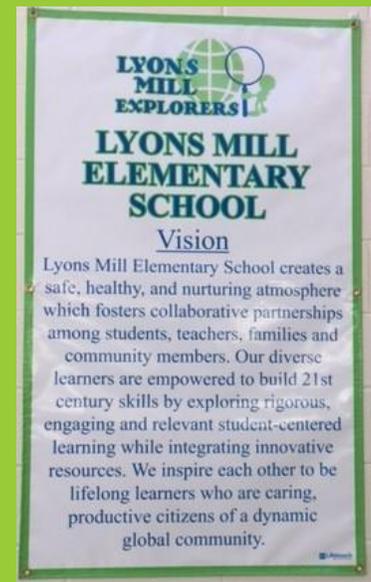


School Hours

- School hours 8:30 a.m.- 3:30 p.m. Students may enter the building at 8:30 a.m.
- Arrival 8:30 a.m. to 8:45 a.m.
- There is no supervision for any child dropped off before 8:30 a.m. Unsupervised students are not permitted on school grounds prior to 8:30 a.m. Students must arrive in their classrooms before the 8:45 a.m. bell.
- Homeroom begins at 8:45 a.m.
- Dismissal 3:15 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Office Hours

- Office hours 8:15 a.m.- 4:15 p.m.
- If your child arrives to school late or leaves school early for any reason, please report to the main office to meet him/her and not to the classroom. Parents are required to sign students in/out in the main office.
- If your child forgets materials necessary for the school day, these should be dropped off in the office. Please make sure items are clearly marked with your child's name.



Music

In vocal music this month, we will be focusing on music from the United Kingdom, with special focus given to Celtic music from Ireland, Scotland, and Wales. Kindergarten through third grade will focus on the appropriate rhythms for each grade in compound (triple) meter. They will also learn to differentiate between compound (triple) meter and simple (duple) meter using the dance steps and musical styles of a jig and reel, which are in compound and simple meters respectively. Fourth grade will apply metric counting to compound and simple meters and play borduns on barred instruments. They will also continue learning the music that you will hear in the 4th Grade Chorus Concert on June 2nd.

Lastly, fifth grade is using the scale tones of the C Major Scale to build I, IV, and V chords, so that they can accompany their singing with instruments, like the ukulele. Finally, fifth grade will focus on the intonation and identification of "Ti" the last scale degree they have yet to identify. All fifth grade students are eligible for BCPS Summer Music Camp. Information has been sent home via email and hard copy. Contact Mrs. Safford if you have any questions. If you would like more information about each individual class, Mrs. Alleman and Mrs. Safford can be contacted via email, or by following @SaffordMusic and @DebbieAlleman2 on Twitter.

In instrumental music, Fourth grade is continuing to learn about the brass family, with a focus on the trumpet and good embouchure technique. They are working in small groups learning the basics of how the instrument functions and is played. Other students work on small projects in their station rotations. They have also learned the basic fingerings to play a simple song. After brass, students will begin on woodwinds. Mr. Poissant is working on technique and musicality with the fifth grade instrumental students. They will perform at the concert on June 2nd as well. The Jazz Band made their debut at the Black History Month Celebration and will continue to demonstrate their skills at the June 2nd concert.

Mrs. Safford is preparing four students to sing in the All-County Chorus Concert at Perry Hall High School on May 2nd. They will learn songs in a variety of styles and languages to sing in a multi-part ensemble with students from other schools in Baltimore County. This concert will be broadcast on BCPS TV, so everyone can see the hard work these students put in.

The Musical Theater Club is working on Disney's "The Aristocats, Kids". The cast has taken to the stage and is starting to block in and out of numbers. Students should have all of their lines memorized at this point, but it is always helpful to get practice. Please encourage them in their learning and practice with them if you get the chance. In March, students will start putting together costumes, learn a little about makeup, and start running the show all the way through. We are excited to perform this show and hope to see you at the performance on April 21st.

Volunteer Information:

If you are interested in chaperoning field trips, helping out at Sports Day, volunteering in the lunchroom or assisting teachers in the classroom, please complete both mentioned items below at your earliest convenience. All training is completed electronically. If you do not have access to the internet, arrangements can be made to utilize a computer at Lyons Mill in order to complete the training. Please contact the school to make arrangements, if needed.

The volunteer application and training module can be accessed at http://www.bcps.org/community/volunteer_info/ Once you complete your application and the SafeSchools Training, send your application and your certificate to bmenikheim@bcps.org.

Are you moving?

- If you have moved, please make sure you notify us immediately.
- If you do not notify us within 15 days of moving then you are considered to be fraudulently enrolled.
- It is important for the school to have the most up-to-date information concerning your children in the event of an emergency. Even if you switch apartments in the same development, you must re-register. Any changes to email addresses or phone numbers need to be reported to the main office. Please contact our Lyons Mill main office at 443-809-1719 with any questions.

Replacement of student ID badges

- During the school day, as long as it is safe, student identification (ID) badges need to be worn visibly by lanyard or clip. All students MUST HAVE ID badges.
- If a student identification badge is lost or stolen, there is a replacement fee. Fees for replacement badges are \$5.00 per badge.
- Please submit \$5.00 in cash in a sealed envelope clearly labeled with your child's name addressed to Ms. Stacey Enty, Assistant Principal. The new badge will be printed and given to your child's teacher.



Nurse's Corner

Hello LMES Families!

Hearing & Vision Screening was conducted during the month of January for all Kindergarten, First, & Fourth grade students! All Screening letters have been sent home for your reference. If indicated, please return the completed letter to the school nurse as soon as possible! If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to call the school nurse at (443) 809-6758.

March 15-21 is Poison Control Prevention Week!

Poison-proofing the home can be accomplished by teaching the following poison prevention tips:

1. Avoid storing potential poisons in low cabinets where children can reach. Use safety locks on cabinets.
2. Use child-resistant containers. Remember, they are not child-proof!
3. Safely discard expired or unused medicine and chemicals (i.e. cleaning products).
4. Know the names of flowers and plants in your home and yard.
5. Keep medicine and other potential poisons in their original containers. DO NOT use food/drink containers such as cups or bottles to store household products.
6. Read and follow the directions and caution labels on medicines and other products before using them each time.
7. Do not call medicine "candy."
8. Avoid taking medicine in front of children. Young children often imitate grownups.
9. Make sure a spray (i.e. perfume, sunscreen, bug spray) is directed away from the face. Wear protective clothing when spraying pesticides and other chemicals.
10. Take medicine or cleaning product containers with you, or put them away, when answering the phone or doorbell.

Kindergarten Tour

Visit our Lyons Mill website to sign up for the tour on May 1, 2020. The tour begins at 9:15.



Queridos estudiantes, familias y amigos del cuarto grado (**4th grade**) y del quinto grado (**5th grade**), ¡HOLA! Es el **invierno** y **hace frío** y **hace fresco**. We are continuing to have AWESOME conversations in Spanish! I hope that you've been enjoying seeing your child's progress in Spanish from all the graded papers that have come home each week **and also checking on Schoology for their grades**. If you have not seen any graded papers, please let me know and ask your child. As a reminder, these grades are to help you and your child gauge their progress in Spanish class.

We are finishing up Unit 2 and will be starting Unit 3 toward the end of March. In the boxes below is what we've learned so far. We will be finishing up and handing in Mission 2 in the next few weeks (only to be completed in school). We will also be taking the Unit 2 Quiz which will include listening skills.

PLEASE CHECK YOUR CHILD'S PROGRESS ON SCHOOLGY REGULARLY!!!!

In 4th grade, we know how to ask & talk about:
* all the skills from Unit 1.
* self-descriptions (internal & external).
* identifying and introducing our family members.
* family descriptions (physical & personality traits)
* what we want to be when we grow up.
* what jobs our family members have/don't have.
* activities & sports our family members enjoy.
* pets we have/don't have.
(Please keep in mind that some classes are ahead of others and my not have had all these lessons yet.)

In 5th grade, we know how to:
* do all skills in the 4th grade box.
* do all the skills from Unit 1.
* identify meals of the day & when we eat each meal.
* express what we like to eat and drink for breakfast, lunch, dinner, & snacks.
* express where & with whom we eat various meals.
* identify food groups & sort foods into each one.
* describe food/drinks in various ways based on taste, temperature, and if they're healthy or not.
* explain what utensils & flatware we use to eat/drink.
(Please keep in mind that some classes are ahead of others and my not have had all these lessons yet.)

ALL CLASS NOTES are glued into students' cuadernos (notebooks) at the end of class. These do not ever come home, so please **go on BCPS One in Schoology in the link for Spanish class to find all class notes in a marked folder**. I add these to the folder on Schoology weekly.

There are a lot of ways you can help your child at home to prepare your child to be as successful as possible throughout the year and even into next year.

- * Ask each week what they learned in class & look on **Schoology**. **Ask him/her to teach you the skill!**
- * Get some Spanish books out of the library and look for words they know and/or recognize.
- * Remind your child to **ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE** in class at all times. (This includes **repeating** the words/phrases, **acting out** the vocabulary, staying **focused**, and **following directions**.)

**** Students have been trained on how to access and complete the VLM's. Epic Books is only available for free until 4pm, but students can access other parts of the VLM's.**

Please feel free to contact me at any time with any questions or concerns! Please also check **Twitter often to see all the fun things we do in Spanish class! I thank you for all your support & involvement in your child's education!**

Señora Chupnick
ichupnick@bcps.org
Twitter: @SraChupnick

Before and After School Vendor

Baltimore County Public Schools has adopted a new procedure which requires schools to evaluate the before and after child care programs at least every five (5) years. As part of this process, pre-qualified child care providers are offered an opportunity to submit proposals for a fair and equitable opportunity to obtain the contract with an individual school. This year, 2 vendors submitted proposals for review by our school. These proposals were evaluated by a small panel of parents that rely on these services as well as a school administrator.

The highest scoring vendor, HotSpots, was offered the contract for the 2020-2021 year. You will receive communication from our child care vendor soon. Should you have any questions regarding the child care selection process, please don't hesitate to reach out to our Office of Purchasing at 443-809-4334 or contact Ms. Enty, assistant principal, at 443-809-1719 or by email senty@bcps.org.

Read Across America Week

READ ACROSS AMERICA WEEK at LYONS MILL ELEMENTARY

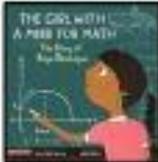
Readers are...

Wonders
Monday, March 2, 2020



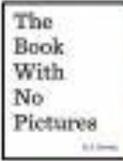
What color makes you feel wonderful? Wear it today to show your spirit!

Thinkers
Tuesday, March 3, 2020



What do you want to be when you grow up? Dress up like your future job.

Writers
Wednesday, March 4, 2020



Words are powerful! Wear something with words or a positive message.

Leaders
Thursday, March 5, 2020



Books show us that we are all unique and strong leaders. Dress like a super hero today!

Dreamers
Friday, March 6, 2020



Readers never stop dreaming. Wear pajamas, bring in your favorite book & stuffed animal and get cozy today while you read!

Advanced Academics Community Meeting

The Maryland State Department of Education approved changes to COMAR related to Gifted and Talented education. As a result, there are changes coming to Baltimore County Public Schools and the programs and services offered to students identified as gifted and talented. All interested parents and community members are invited to attend one of four presentations designed to explain these changes and how they will impact students in BCPS.

Woodlawn High School: Auditorium: March 4, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Dundalk High School: Library: March 18, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Parkville Middle School: Auditorium: March 25, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Cockeysville Middle School: Meeting Space: April 2, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Baltimore County Public Schools 2020 Summer Music Camp

Welcome to the 34th Annual BCPS Summer Music Camp. The camp will be held on weekdays beginning Tuesday, June 23, 2020, through Wednesday, July 1, 2020, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:50 p.m. at Perry Hall High School.

This summer music experience promises to be both highly rewarding and very enjoyable.

The BCPS Summer Music Camp is a non-auditioned day camp for Baltimore County Public Schools students who are currently in Grades 5-12 and are enrolled in their school's music programs. During camp, students will participate in a band, chorus, guitar ensemble, orchestra, or digital music composition course in the appropriate grade level. We will be offering digital music composition in which students, currently in grades 5-12, will learn, create, and compose musical pieces. Their work will be featured before the start of the concert and between musical ensembles. In addition to large group rehearsals, students will participate in enrichment classes and receive instruction to enhance musical performance skills. All of the musical ensembles will be featured in a public concert at Perry Hall High School on the evening of Wednesday, July 1, 2020. Our traditional concert venue of Oregon Ridge was not available due to BCPS end of school dates and performances by the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra.

The fee for this unique summer musical experience is \$225.00, which includes a camp t-shirt. Transportation to and from Perry Hall High School will be provided at no additional charge to students who do not reside in the host school community. A listing of the school-based, pick-up sites is included on the registration form.

Detailed bus transportation information will be sent out in June.

All registration forms and payment in full are due to the Office of Music and Dance Education no later than Friday, May 8, 2020. Check/money order are payable to Baltimore County Public Schools in the amount of \$225.00 and include student name in memo. If a check is returned for insufficient funds, the registration fee along with a returned check fee (\$35.00) will need to be paid by money order. Any applications received after May 8, 2020 will not be guaranteed transportation. NEW THIS YEAR - To pay using a credit card, visit the Office of Music and Dance Education website. The Office of Music and Dance Education will need still need the registration form and the credit card confirmation number should be entered for verification.

https://dcibcps.org/department/academics/career_technical_education_and_fine_arts/music_education

If the student has a condition that may require additional attention, medication, or specialized emergency training (e.g., a seizure disorder), please submit documentation (Doctor's order, written/signed statement with contact information) in writing along with the application. Financial assistance may be available. Contact

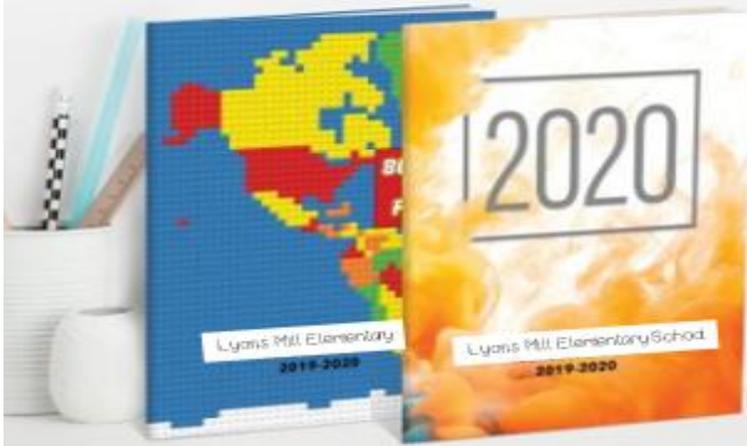
Mr. Shane Jensen, Music Specialist, at sjensen@bcps.org or 443-809-4024 for more information.

For additional information about Summer Music Camp, contact the music teacher at your school.

Order your yearbook today!

\$21 for full color yearbook

\$25 with personalization



Order Deadline:

Friday, April 17th – Cash only
(in envelope labeled with child's name
and homeroom teacher) by 3pm
Sunday, April 19th – Only for
Online credit card orders

Order online at

ybpay.lifetouch.com

Yearbook ID Code: 12533520

Lifetouch

Black History Month Showcase



On Friday, February 28, 2020, Lyons Mill Elementary students and staff took part in our Black History Month Showcase: Shining Through the Decades. It was a day-long celebration of all of the hard work that students have put in through the month of February to learn about notable African Americans from long ago and today. The student artwork, presentations and costumes were unforgettable. Performances from the Jazz Band and Grade 5 student swing dancers were also spectacular. Students and parents enjoyed our Special Area presentations, especially comparing the dance moves of the Nicholas Brothers from 1930 and Les Twins from 2017. The highlight for everyone was learning about the 1970s TV Hit Soul Train and getting to show off their dance moves in a Soul Train of their own!



Multi-Cultural Night



LYONS MILL ELEMENTARY

Multi Cultural Night

**Come celebrate the beautiful diversity
@ Lyons Mill Elementary**

6PM-730PM | March 24, 2020 | LMES Library

VISIT WWW.LYONSMILLES.BCPS.ORG