

Maryvale Cougar



Maryvale Elementary School



September 2023

Susie Prin, Principal
Melanie Knight, Assistant Principal

Upcoming Events

- 8/28 First Day of School
Boohoo Yahoo (Café) 9:25 am
- 9/4 HOL—No School
- 9/6 Back-to-School Night 6:30—8:00 pm
- 9/13 Cougar Story Time (Grade 5)
- 9/22 Early Release for Students 1:20 pm
- 9/25 No School for Students and Teachers



Boohoo Yahoo

Kindergarten parents, please join the PTA and other Kindergarten parents on the first day of school for our Boohoo Yahoo meet and greet. Once you drop off your child please come to the Café to share in donuts and coffee and meet other parents.

SchoolCash Online

Beginning last school year, parents/guardians of Maryvale students began paying for school field trips via SchoolCash Online.

Families new to MCPS should have received information from MCPS regarding this program.

Please refer to the attached flyers (English and Spanish) for information about registering your children for this convenient way to pay for field trips.



Change of PM Transportation

As we start the school year, we would like to remind parents of Maryvale's transportation change policy. While we are aware that there are unavoidable transportation changes during the school year, we are asking parents to change PM transportation **only in an emergency**. If you need to change your child's transportation for the afternoon, and you know this in the morning, please go over this with your child/ren before they go to school. Frequent afternoon changes in transportation interrupt instruction as the front office must call into the class to let the child know. We appreciate your cooperation. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the front office. Thank you.

Welcome Assistant Principal Melanie Knight

Hello, Bonjour, Hola, Guten tag! My name is Melanie Knight, and I am your new assistant principal. I come to Maryvale Elementary with several decades of MCPS experience as a teacher and administrator, in elementary, middle, and high schools. In my career, I have been a classroom teacher and a staff development teacher. As an administrator, I still enjoy planning for instruction with teachers and spending time in the classroom with students.

Growing up, I lived on two continents in five countries with three of them being French speaking. I have studied Spanish, French, and German, yet my linguistic skills are mainly English with some understanding of German. I enjoy engaging with different cultures and languages. Now that I am an official Maryvale Cougar, I hope to increase my Spanish and French vocabulary. I have a passion for supporting children and families through my volunteer work with Children's National Medical Center and the NAACP Montgomery County Parents' Council. Proudly, my husband and I raised two sons. I enjoy watching sports with my family; I am a Steeler's fan. My husband and I are empty-nesters and enjoy rediscovering our Nation's capital and the surrounding areas.

Two of my summer highlights were being announced as Maryvale's new assistant principal and a trip to Buc-ee's, in Tennessee. I look forward to welcoming students and their families back to Maryvale for the upcoming school year. I invite you to introduce yourself, and please tell me an interesting fact about yourself to help me remember your name. Goodbye, Au Revoir, Adiós, Tschüss!

School Meals

Meal Prices: There are no changes in meal prices this school year. • Breakfast: regular price: \$1.30 (all levels); reduced price (all levels): no cost; Lunch: regular price: \$2.55 (elementary), \$2.80 (middle and high); reduced price (all levels): no cost Applications:

Free and Reduced-price Meals Sytem (FARMS) applications have been updated for the new school year, and are now available online at www.MySchoolApps.com; this is the preferred application method.

All interested families must reapply each school year.

Please refer to attachment A for additional application process details. • Please share application information in your school's Connect Ed, newsletters and website; a sample is provided in Attachment B.



Back-to-School Night

Back-to-School Night is Wednesday, September 6 (6:30 - 8:00 p.m.). This year we will combine the classroom presentations and a resource fair. You will be able to sign up for ParentVue, join the PTA, engage with the specialist teachers, learn about childcare options, and so much more. To accommodate families with more than one child and home/work schedules, we will provide two presentation times that include the same content. Please select which time best meets your family's needs. If you cannot attend in person, we will send a recording of the classroom presentation.

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| 6:30 – 8:00 | Resource Fair |
| 6:45-7:00 | 1 st classroom presentation session |
| 7:30-7:45 | 2 nd classroom presentation session |

**There will be a recording of classroom presentations.*



PTA Wants You!

How do you want to help the PTA?

Many hands make light work, and the PTA is looking for many hands to help this year. Beyond the 4 elected positions, the PTA has many other Board and volunteer positions that do everything from organize events (e.g. Science Fair), to fundraising, to advocacy, to staff appreciation. Please consider helping the PTA by browsing the positions and descriptions in the sign-up genius and volunteering for a slot.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090b4daaad23aaf85-maryvale5/33917312#/>



Parent Volunteers

Calling all parents!

Maryvale loves parent volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering in your child's classroom, you will need to take the MCPS Volunteer Training. To complete this training, please go to the MCPS website and search for Volunteer Training. This should take you directly to the webpage with the training link. Once you have completed the training, your name will show on Maryvale's Volunteer Report (this usually takes a few days). You can also email Mrs. Nolte your training completion confirmation email. Once one of the two tasks have been completed, you may schedule a volunteer date with your child's teacher.

Additionally, you may also access the training link through Maryvale's webpage (under Back-to-School).

Please join us! We are looking forward to a great year.