

Lois P. Rockwell Elementary School

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November 11, 2022



Rockwell Register

Dear Rockwell School Community,

We know many of our families will spend time over the Thanksgiving break traveling, visiting with friends and family, and engaging in fun community activities. As these activities possibly involve a higher risk of exposure to COVID-19, MCPS is distributing at-home rapid test kits to students and staff prior to the break.

Testing is an important way to identify individuals actively positive for COVID-19 who should temporarily isolate in order to prevent further transmission and keep our school community as healthy as possible. Testing is not mandatory. We are depending on our staff and families to consider their exposure risk, and test and report positive results accordingly.

Please note that schools will receive a new type of test kit, made by InteliSwab. Video instructions for InteliSwab can be found here in [English](#) and [Spanish](#) and here for [other test kit types](#). Please note that the InteliSwab test takes 30 minutes for results. Test kits should be used for staff and students. For other family members, free rapid test kits are also available at most [public library locations](#).

What do I do if the rapid test is positive?

Please report positive tests for staff or students on the [MCPS COVID-19 Reporting Form](#). Individuals who have a positive COVID-19 test will need to follow [CDC guidelines for isolation](#).

What do I do if the rapid test is negative?

Negative test results do not need to be reported.

Please remember that non-COVID respiratory infections like influenza and RSV are also circulating in our community. Healthy habits include isolating when sick, good handwashing and covering coughs and sneezes help prevent illness. [COVID-19](#) and [influenza](#) vaccination are available for free for Montgomery County residents.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Clark

Principal





Honoring Veterans at Rockwell Elementary School

We had a wonderful *indoor* school gathering on November 11th to conduct a morning flag-raising to honor Veterans. We had 11 members of American Legion Post 171- Damascus join us in our All-Purpose Room for the brief, but memorable ceremony. Please ask your children about the message that was conveyed and the experience that we all enjoyed. Due to the rain, we moved our ceremony indoors.

We are looking at a Memorial Day flag-raising ceremony in May to which parents will be invited. We will send an invitation closer to the event.



Open House at Rockwell!

We had over 130 parents visit classrooms today during the morning hours. It was terrific to have parents in the building witnessing and being a part of what we do every day to make the best possible days for our children. We hope you enjoyed coming in and seeing first hand how your child's time is spent in their classroom. If you have any questions about your child's class experiences, please be in contact with the teacher. We want all parents to be confident in the work that their children

are doing under the supervision of the expert staff at Rockwell.



Parent & Staff Curriculum & School Updates

Mrs. Clark and Mr. Isabell together with our Core Team members, Mrs. Hinkelman, Reading Specialist, and Mrs. Bell, Staff Development Teacher will offer an overview and highlight some curriculum and school news and updates for parents on Wednesday, November 30, 2022. At this meeting we will share news on Safety and Security,

Structured Literacy, Inclusive Texts, Remembrance and Reconciliation Month Lessons, and Eureka Math common strategies and tools. We will meet in the media center from 7-8 PM.

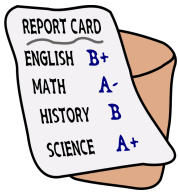


Parent-Teacher Conferences

Teachers have been in touch with parents via email and phone calls to set up conferences for each of their students. It's important for all parents to be informed about how their child is performing and what parents can do at home to partner with teachers for student success. If you have not yet set up a parent/teacher conference with your child's teacher,

please be in touch with him/her right away. You can email all Rockwell staff using the [Staff Directory](#) on our website.

In preparation for a conference with your child's teacher, consider reviewing a helpful publication from MCPS: [Preparing for Parent-Teacher Conferences](#). We look forward to sharing all of the good news of your child's growth in academics and in their social emotional development as well.



Report Cards Are Coming Home Next Week!

Students will bring home report cards the week of Monday, November 14th. Your child will bring home his/her report card in a manilla envelope. Please sign the envelope and send it back to your child's teacher. Thank you!



It's back and better than ever! The **PTA Sponsored Book Fair** is next week 11/14-11/18. Check out our website for details on hours, wish lists, and how to set up an e-wallet for your child to purchase items from the fair. [Rockwell PTA Website](#)

If you're interested in volunteering, you can sign up here: [Rockwell PTA Book Fair Volunteer Sign Up](#)

Do you want to show your Rockwell pride? Our PTA store has Rockwell magnets available for a donation of \$10: [Rockwell PTA Online Store](#)



...PTA for your service & support and for making Rockwell a great place to be!



**MCPS Calendar
2023-24: Give your
input!**

Please share your input for next year's school calendar. This quick survey seeks to gauge the community's opinions on the calendar scenarios developed for the 2023-2024 school year. Staff will use your feedback to develop a final recommendation to be presented at the Board of Education meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 6. Let your voice be heard [MCPS 2023-24 Calendar Survey](#)

Is Your Child Missing Any Clothing?!

Our lost and found rack is located directly beside the doors to the All-Purpose Room. We have a collection of sweaters, sweatshirts, jackets and water bottles unclaimed. Some are new winter coats! Please ask your child to check for any missing items at their lunch and recess time. We will be clearing out the lost and found approximately every six weeks so that it does not build to an unmanageable number of items.



November Dates to Note

November 14- Report Card Day

November 14-18- PTA Sponsored Book Fair @ Rockwell

November 21-22 Early Release Days for Parent Conferences- Dismissal at 12:55 PM (No PEP Program)

November 23, 24 & 25- School Closed- **Happy Thanksgiving!**

November 30- Parent Curriculum Update & School News Session- 7-8 PM @ Media Center



Have you considered becoming an MCPS Substitute?

MCPS is seeking substitute teachers! Substitute teaching is an excellent way to learn about our schools while allowing principals and teachers to get to know you. To qualify as a substitute teacher, each applicant must present proof of the completion of the minimum of an associate's degree or 60 college credits from an accredited institution.

Substitute teachers are temporary employees and are on an on call basis. An automated substitute calling system helps you manage your work schedule by allowing you to call at any time, day or night, to find jobs. This system is telephone and internet accessible. The system uses your subject area and location preferences to offer you jobs on the days you have selected and allows you to change the days you work.

Substitute Teacher Rates: Daily hourly rate of pay \$18.79- Long Term rate \$26.81.

If you hold a valid Maryland professional eligibility certificate or standard advanced professional certificate, the daily hourly rate of pay is \$19.97-Long Term rate \$28.45. In order to qualify for this higher rate of pay, you must submit a copy of your valid Maryland certificate.

[Apply now!](https://mcps.taleo.net/careersection/2/jobdetail.ftl?job=200051E) <https://mcps.taleo.net/careersection/2/jobdetail.ftl?job=200051E>