

Twinbrook Parent News!

October 2022

*One School...Our Collective Impact!
Preparing to be Future RM Rockets*



Greetings Twinbrook Families,

The first month of school has been full of curiosity, learning, routines, structure, and academic growth for our students and communities. Our students are diving into Eureka and Benchmark materials in the classroom. Our students are participating in academic interventions and enrichment opportunities throughout the campus. This month Interims will be distributed to our families to provide a checkpoint regarding the academic success of our students.

Congratulations to our Parent Community! We had close to ONE HUNDRED parents participate in our September PTA meeting. Please continue to stay engaged with our teachers and our staff!! Also save the dates for October 27, 2022 Parent Coffee and Chat @ 9:30 am. It is wonderful to see our parents in the school and engaged in the academic learning of our students! We had close to twenty parents in September 2022 attend the Coffee and Chat and we hope to have more participants this month. You are important and Your voice matters! Stay tuned for the Parent Feedback Link on our Twinbrook website from our September 2022 Coffee and Chat.

Remember to always share with our students - we are a SAFE School, we are NICE School and we are HARDWORKING School , and everyday is a DAY of LEARNING! Stay connected to our Twinbrook website for the latest news and stay connected with our teachers, staff, and PTA. Link [here](#).

Giving you our best,
Matt Devan, Principal & DeAngela Hill, Assistant Principal

October Twinbrook Elementary Important Dates & Details:

Tuesday, Oct. 4	7:00pm – PTA Meeting Hybrid In Person Twinbrook Media Center or on Zoom Mtg ID: 864 4435 7351- Passcode: kq70vU https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86444357351?pwd=U3dUWlU1TmNWRkhpQVN5TzhpSWw2UT09
Wednesday, Oct. 5	No School for Students or Staff
Tuesday, Oct. 11	Fourth Grade Field Trip
Wednesday, Oct. 12	PTA Restaurant Day- Jersey Mike's – Tell them you are a “Twinbrook Tiger!”
Thursday, Oct. 13	Interim Reports Distributed
Wednesday, Oct. 19	PJ Day! Fun Run Spirit Day!
Thursday, Oct. 20	Sports Day! Fun Run Spirit Day!
Friday, Oct. 21	Blue & Gold Day! Fun Run Spirit Day! Twinbrook Annual Fun Run!
Monday, Oct. 24	No School for Students
Wednesday, Oct. 26	Fifth Grade Field Trip
Thursday, Oct. 27	Parent Meet- Coffee and Chat with Administration and Staff 9:30am – 10:30am
Friday, Oct. 28	Rain Date Twinbrook Annual Fun Run

MCPS Central Calendar Link [here](#)

Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Meeting Tuesday, October 4, 2022

On Behalf of the Parents and Twinbrook Staff please participate in the PTA this year 😊.

October 4, 2022 @ 7pm.

In Person option @ Twinbrook Media Center child care will be provided by the City of Rockville for children 5 and older and Spanish translation will be available for the PTA meeting.

For this meeting, PTA meeting will be - In person and Zoom

- In -Person session come to Twinbrook Main Entrance at the bus loop doors. Meet in Media Center.
- Zoom virtual see details below:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86444357351?pwd=U3dUWlU1TmNWRkhpQVN5TzhpSWw2UT09>

Meeting ID: 864 4435 7351

Passcode: kq70vU

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,86444357351#,,,,*246232# US (Washington DC)

+13126266799,,86444357351#,,,,*246232# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 931 3860 US

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 309 205 3325 US

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 719 359 4580 US

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 386 347 5053 US

+1 564 217 2000 US

+1 669 444 9171 US

Meeting ID: 864 4435 7351

Passcode: 246232

Find your local number: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/kdsw7aQ7WU>

MEALS

Free and Reduced Meals - We are reaching out to make sure that every Twinbrook Family has had an opportunity to fill out the on-line free meal form. Do you need help filling out the form? You can stop by the office or call us at 240-740-3450 and a staff member will assist you with this process. These benefits help you as well as providing benefits for all the students at school. When we qualify for Title I, Twinbrook receives extra funding to hire more teachers. This enables us to provide smaller class sizes. The extra funding also provides reading support, math support, extra materials and other assistance. Thank you for your continued support for our Twinbrook Family. Apply NOW for Free and Reduced-Price Meals! If you would like to pick up a FARM paper form to complete, please stop by Twinbrook's main office. The online application is open for parents to complete and submit the 2022— 2023 application! www.MySchoolApps.com

MEALS Important Changes this year - There is a major change in the cafeteria this year! Students who do not qualify for free/reduced meals will have to pay for their lunch. This is a major change as breakfast and lunches were free for all students for the past two years. (All breakfast will remain free this year). MCPS cafeterias utilize a computerized Point of Sale (POS) system. Students utilize an ID Card with a specialized barcode at mealtime. A student's Free and Reduced Meal (FARM) status is always confidential, to learn more and apply for FARMs [click here](#). Beginning this school year 2022-2023, students who qualify for reduced-price meals will not be charged that cost - meaning that reduced-price students will eat for free! Deposits into the account can be made by any student and can be made ahead of time on our online payment system, My School Bucks. See more information [here](#). Daily Lunch: \$2.55 See more information [here](#). Click [here](#) to apply for free or reduced meals, pay online, read the [menu](#), and learn other information about School Meals.

ACADEMIC

Twinbrook Media Center - Students have time in the Media Center every week. Please support your students by reminding them to put their Library books in their backpacks and return them on Media day! Thank you, Ms. Shelton. I can be reached at Natalie_B_Shelton@mcpsmd.org

Twinbrook Music Department - Twinbrook families are invited to attend Richard Montgomery High School's Masterworks concert! This is a free performance by RMHS choral and instrumental students. Come see former Twinbrook Tigers perform, get an idea of what your students will be able to do when they reach high school, and enjoy an evening of beautiful music together! October 27th starting at 7:00PM in the RMHS auditorium. More information can be sought from Ms. Riley. Laura_E_Riley@mcpsmd.org

Twinbrook Special Education Team Get to Know – Meet the Special Education Team! We support students with diverse learning needs 😊 Get to know us!

1. Ms. Erica Guth (speech pathologist): I am a chickatarian- I only eat chicken; no beef, no pork, no fish, no nonsense. Except for hot dogs, I will eat a hot dog.
2. Ms. Maria Carias (student intern) : I really dislike the color orange, but I do like blue!
3. Ms. Rebecca Broyles (k/1 support): I have been to 25 escape rooms in 4 different states.
4. Ms. Rachel Rogers (3rd/4th support): I have eaten kangaroo, twice.

5. Ms. Allison Leaver (5th grade support): I've been hot air ballooning in the Taos Gorge in New Mexico.
 6. Ms. Julie Nicholas (2nd grade support): When I was in middle school I saw the Cheetah Girls live.
 7. Ms. Estefani Reyes (4th grade support): My favorite fruit is rambutan, which many people are afraid to eat.
 8. Ms. Mallory Turecky (student intern): I love to play soccer and used to play on teams.
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NON-ACADEMIC INFORMATION

MCPS Virtual Rainbow Club A Rainbow Club is an affirming space for LGBTQ+ students, families and allies. Please see [this flyer](#) for more details and feel free to share with anyone who may be interested. FYI: Rainbow Clubs exist in at least three MCPS elementary schools at this time and more are being added to the list this year. Remember individual families/students join the virtual Rainbow club; this is a centralized MCPS effort.

MCPS Recognizes Mental Health Awareness Week - MCPS and the Montgomery County School Psychologists' Association (MCSPA) will host a free virtual event October 10–15 to give youth and families the opportunity to hear from mental health experts on issues that are important to them. The weeklong expo will feature daily themes, dynamic speakers and informational videos, as well as two live events: a Waymaking Special on Student Mental Health, and a Resource Fair and Q&A session on Saturday, October 15, 2022. Sessions will be available in multiple languages. See MCPS Link [here](#)

Twinbrook Parents Trip to Twinbrook Library - Parents are invited to a walking field trip from Twinbrook Elementary School to the Twinbrook Library at 9:45 am on Thursday, October 13 (Spanish Presentation) and 9:45 am Wednesday, October 26 (English Presentation). The staff at the library will lead a tour of the stacks and resources available to families. Parents will also be able to get a library card and learn the checkout process. If you have any questions, please call or text Ms. Aguilar at 240-506-5352 or email at Tanya_Y_Aguilar@mcpsmd.org.

PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION (PTA)

Join the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) – Stay connected. Be informed. Become active at Twinbrook Elementary School. Be a role model for your children and get involved by helping the school. At PTA Meetings, you can raise concerns, suggest ideas, and have input on how funds are spent. You can play an important role in helping the school acquire resources and reward children. Find out more and sign up at <https://bit.ly/JoinTESPTA>

PTA Directory- If you do not want your information (phone, address, etc) added to the PTA directory please contact Ellen Miller, registrar at 240-740-3450 and let her know what information you do not want to be shared with the PTA.

Twinbrook Elementary School Spirit Wear - Show your school spirit! Spirit wear is available for purchase online. Link [here](#)

Treat Yourself for Twinbrook Restaurant Nights - It is Wednesday, October 12, 2022. PTA Restaurant Day- Jersey Mike's – Tell them you are a “Twinbrook Tiger!” Keep connected on Twinbrook PTA website. Link [here](#)

Twinbrook Fun Run for Field Trips – The PTA will have the Twinbrook fun run this month. October 21, 2022. Keep connected on Twinbrook PTA website. Link [here](#)

PARENT CONNECTIONS, EVENTS, PROGRAMS

Parent Conferences- Will occur from November 1- December 16, 2022 from 8:30am - 4:30pm. Each parent conference will be scheduled for 15-20 minutes. Translation services will be available for parents

Community Resources – If your child or family have any needs for school supplies, food, clothing, or other assistance please don't hesitate to ask. We have resources to offer. Please contact Tanya Aguilar, Community School Liaison. Tanya_Y_Aguilar@mcpsmd.org

Twinbrook Team Coffee with Administrators- All family members are invited to attend our initial “But first, Cafecito” a *Coffee and Chat* on Thursday, October 27, 2022 at 9:30 am. It will be held every last Thursday of each month. It is an opportunity to engage in informal conversations about our school and community. Information is shared by the Twinbrook Administrative Team and/or Community Partners regarding resources and upcoming activities. It is also an opportunity to ask questions, share ideas about improving student achievement, and get involved in our school. Please join us!

MCPS Partners with Literacy Council Offers Free ESL Classes for MCPS Parents- In collaboration with MCPS, the Literacy Council of Montgomery County (LCMC) is offering free English as a Second Language classes for MCPS parents. The classes will be held virtually and in-person, and there are options for all levels of English speakers. They are available to any MCPS parent for whom English is not their first language. Parents can complete [this interest form](#) to receive a placement test.

Substitutes Needed for Immediate Hire- 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. 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! Click [here](#)

Twinbrook After School Club- Join us for afterschool activities that focus on sports, games, art and active play. Homework help and a healthy snack is provided daily. The club meets everyday after school (including Early Release Days) and is open until 6:30 pm. The next session starts on Monday, October 10th that goes through November 18th. Interested families can [register online](#) or email stayandplay@rockvillemd.gov for more information.

REMINDERS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Student Verification Emergency Cards -As another new year begins, it is time to make sure we have all the correct phone numbers and emergency contacts on your child's emergency card. Do you have a new cell phone number? Do you want to add more contacts? Has your work place

changed? Would you like to add your email address? To best serve your child's needs we must have the latest information. Please Note...students are only released to the adults listed on their emergency card. Forms are going out this week that you will be able to update and send back to the office. Please contact the main office at 240-740-3450 or email Ellen_M_Miller@mcpsmd.org if you have any questions.

ParentVUE Accounts- Starting Fall 2020, all report cards are being posted in ParentVUE. If parents have an active ParentVUE account, they will not receive a mailed copy. If they do not have an active account, they will receive a mailed copy. Please make sure to look at your child's grade from quarter one of this school year. For information on ParentVue, please click [HERE](#). For more information about grading and reporting, [visit this website](#). [Elementary Report Card Information](#)

PTA Directory- If you do not want your information (phone, address, etc) added to the PTA directory please contact Ellen Miller, registrar at 240-740-3450 and let her know what information you do not want to be shared with the PTA.

Walker and Student Drop Off - Please remember that students can be dropped off at the walker door at 9:10 AM. Students SHOULD NOT be dropped off unattended at any time. Students will not be permitted in the building before 9:10 AM as there will be no adult supervision. Any questions or concerns, please contact the office. Thank you for your cooperation.

Early Dismissal and Emergency student pick up plan - If you plan to pick up your child before the end of the day; please be sure to send a note in the morning which is preferable or call before 3:00pm so your child can be dismissed promptly. Do you have a plan in place in the event that there is an early dismissal? All students should know where to go and what to do if an adult is not home when the child arrives home. Please take time to review your family's plan with your child.

Cell Phones, SMART Watches, Fitness Bands, Trading Cards (Pokemon), Sports Equipment (soccer balls, footballs, cleats) – These are expensive items and can also be very distracting from our instruction. Students are not allowed to have these items at school. If there is a family emergency or urgent unique need, please communicate with Mr. Devan or Ms. Hill.

Birthday Policy - Simple, low key birthday celebrations are held during your child's lunch period. If you would like, you may bring a small store bought treat such as a cookie or a cupcake for each child in their class, not grade level. The original label including ingredients label should be attached. In addition, all foods must be "peanut-free" ("peanut-oil free"). Lunch room staff members will facilitate the distribution of the birthday treat and the class will sing "Happy Birthday".**PERSONAL BIRTHDAY INVITATIONS ARE NOT TO BE DISTRIBUTED IN SCHOOL!

Twinbrook is a Title I School – Information & Details:

If you wish to request certification information about your child's teacher, paraeducator, or long-term substitute teacher, please submit a written request to the principal at your school.

Your written inquiry may include information about the following qualifications:

- Degree status and subject area of certification.
- State of Maryland certification status, including conditional certification status.
- Qualifications of paraeducators or long-term substitute teachers who may be working with your student.

Your request will be forwarded to the Office of Human Resources and Development and you will receive a written response from that office within thirty (30) business days. Please contact the principal if you have any questions.

Our school is fortunate to receive supplemental funding through Title I, a federal grant program for schools that serve communities with students who have high economic needs. The federal legislation that establishes Title I regulations is known as, *Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015* (ESSA). ESSA requires Montgomery County Public Schools to inform you that you have the right to request information about the professional certification qualifications of your child's teacher, long-term substitute teacher, or paraeducator (formerly titled instructional assistant).

Check out updates on our Twinbrook school website for updates and staff contact information <https://www2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/twinbrookes/>

Contact your Twinbrook ES PTA
Twinbrook Elementary School PTA
5911 Ridgway Avenue, Rockville, MD 20851

Jenny Hardesty, **President**
president@twinbrookpta.org

Julie Wallace, **VP Membership**
membership@twinbrookpta.org

Barbara Sitton, **VP Fundraising**
fundraising@twinbrookpta.org

Jessica Reynolds, **Secretary**
secretary@twinbrookpta.org

Laura Steichen, **Treasurer**
treasurer@twinbrookpta.org

Anthony Downs, **Communications**
communications@twinbrookpta.org

Appointed Positions

Tiffany Barnes, Steve Andrews
MCCPTA Representatives

Melissa Downs, **Fun Run Coordinator**
funrun@twinbrookpta.org