



Waters Landing
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The Dolphin News

September 2017 Issue

www.waterslandingpta.com

A Publication of the Waters Landing Elementary School PTA
<https://www.facebook.com/WLESPTA/?fref=ts>

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Dear Waters Landing Families:

Welcome to the Waters Landing Elementary School (WLES)! My name is Ms. Srelyne Harris and I am excited to serve as the principal of WLES. Our assistant principal, Mrs. Christine Troffkin will join me again this year in serving students, staff, and families. It was great to see so many families at our Sneak Peek on Friday, September 1st. We would like to thank the PTA for providing staff with a pizza lunch during pre-service week. It was a great treat!

We hope all of your children are off to a great start for the year. We were fortunate to receive new backpacks with school supplies from the MCPS Back Pack Drive. All backpacks were distributed during Sneak Peek. If your family still needs supplies, please contact Mrs. Lauren or Mrs. Felsher, School Counselors.

MCPS Safety and Security procedures require identification from all visitors. Please enter the building through the entrance on Waters Landing Drive. You will need to use the call button on the wall next to the front doors. Once you press the button, one of the secretaries will greet you over the intercom and then buzz you into the building. Please remain in view of the camera so we can see who we are permitting into the building. The buzzer unlocks the door with a clicking sound. Once you have come in, please enter the main office through the office door and sign in at the main desk. When visiting the school, please ensure you bring your **license**.

Safety for our students at WLES is a high priority. In order to provide a safe environment for our students, staff, and community members, we are asking that families who drop off and pick up students avoid the area dedicated to bus loading and unloading. This area is along Waters Landing Dr. Parents should **NOT PARK** along **WATERS LANDING DRIVE** and walk across the bus loop, pick up, or drop off students. We also request that families **NOT MAKE A LEFT HAND TURN FROM LOCBURY DRIVE TO ENTER THE CAR LOOP** during arrival and dismissal. Cars parked in the Waterford Townhome community on Locbury Dr. are subject to towing per the community association. Please do NOT park on the Waterford Townhome property. All students who are dropped off and/or picked up by a vehicle should use the drop off area in the car loop of the school. Students can enter the building using the doors on Locbury Dr. All bus riders will enter the building using the doors on Waters Landing Dr. We also want to remind and emphasize to pedestrians, the importance of using the school crosswalks. Attached is an arrival & dismissal map showing the best routes for vehicles. Please follow these designated routes during arrival and dismissal. We strongly feel this will create a safe environment for all of our students at WLES. We thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Our Instructional Leadership Team met over the summer to analyze our data and determine next steps in our School Improvement Process. We are continuing our focus on rigor across content areas with a focus questioning.

We hope you will be able to join us on Monday, September 11th for our Back-to-School Night for grades Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, & LFI and on Wednesday, September 13th for 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades and LFI. Back-to-School Night will begin at 7:00 p.m. There will be a short general meeting followed by classroom visits. We will hold two classroom sessions in case you need to visit more than one classroom. During the classroom session, you will hear about the curriculum for your child's grade level and about different events coming up throughout the school year. You will also sign up for Parent/Teacher conferences which will be held in November.

Don't forget to join the PTA! Friday, September 15th, the PTA will hold our annual Back to School Picnic starting at 6:30 pm. The picnic will be held on the field behind the school. Bring your own picnic dinner, a blanket and your family. The PTA will provide dessert. This is a great time to get to know the other families in the school.

We look forward to working with you, your children and the staff as we focus on ensuring our students have a successful school year.
Sincerely,

Ms. Srelyne A. Harris, *Principal*

Mrs. Chris Troffkin, *Assistant Principal*

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Visit our website - www.waterslandingpta.com

From the PTA President,

Dear WLES Families,

Welcome back to school!

As the PTA President, I would like to welcome all of the new and returning families to Waters Landing Elementary School (WLES). I look forward to meeting and getting to know those of you that I have not met yet. To our wonderful teachers, staff, and administration we are looking forward to a great year and will work hard to continue to support you.

The WLES PTA is an organization that is committed to making a difference in the education, health, and safety of all of our children. We partner with our parents, teachers, staff, and community on many levels to bring fun and educational programs, events, services, and opportunities to our children to enrich their academic experience. With your support, we can continue to make WLES academically challenging and nurturing for our children. Your contributions, whether it is your time, knowledge, or resources, make a difference. We personally invite you to become an involved member of the WLES PTA.

To join the WLES PTA, all you need to do is fill out a membership form and return it with your child's teacher. You can find the form in your child's back to school folder, in the office, on our PTA website (www.waterslandingpta.com) under the "membership" tab, or in this newsletter. The membership fee is \$10 per person, which is used to fund some of the activities that we do for the children. Also, all new PTA members will receive a WLES car magnet (limit 1 per family). Joining the PTA is a way of showing you care about your child's education. Members do not have to volunteer or attend meetings, although all parents are encouraged to do both.

The first PTA meeting is September 12 at 7:00 pm in the WLES All Purpose Room. On Friday, September 15th the PTA will host a Back to School Picnic 6:30 - 8:00 pm on the WLES grounds. We hope you can all join us in kicking off our 2017-2018 school year. It is a great way to catch up with friends, find out more about the PTA and meet some new families. Plus, the PTA provides a tasty treat for all attendees.

We are looking forward to another amazing year and hope to get many more of you involved with the PTA and assisting with our mission to enrich and enhance the social and educational opportunities for the children of WLES. If you have any questions or would like to share some of your ideas and thoughts, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you,

Sheri Schully

Waters Landing Elementary School PTA President, 2016-2017

Proud mother of Madeleine (4th grade), and Corinne (1st grade)

sherischully@gmail.com

PTA[®]
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Waters Landing Elementary School PTA Membership

A few good reasons to be involved in the PTA

- ◆ **We make a difference.** Our mission is to help create a school where teachers, parents, and administrators come together to help all WLES children. We provide support for teachers in and out of the classroom and help create growth opportunities for all WLES children.
- ◆ **We pledge to honor your time constraints.** People are often reluctant to participate because they are afraid they will get pulled into a black hole of never-ending time commitment. We will not push you to commit more than you want to or are able to. An hour or two a semester really makes a difference.
- ◆ **We have fun.** We accomplish a lot, and not everything we do is easy. We do not take ourselves too seriously, and we try to enjoy ourselves.
- ◆ **Meet nice people who share your concerns.** We all have a common bond- we care about creating the best possible educational experience for our children. Many friendships have developed as a result of those connections.

WLES Back to School Picnic

Join us Friday, September 15th 6:30-8:00 pm for Back To School Picnic. Bring your dinner and a blanket. We will meet on the field to the left of the school. Rita's Ice will be provided. This is great opportunity to get together with friends and meet new Water Landing families. Look forward to seeing you there!



BOX TOP NEWS

It's time to turn in those Box Tops you've been collecting all summer!

Waters Landing Elementary participates in the Box Tops for Education program. Clipping Box Tops is an easy way to help our school. Box Tops are on the packaging of hundreds of products that you use every day and are each worth 10 cents that quickly add up to real cash for our school. Last school year we collected over \$1,000. This year our goal is to reach \$1,200. To help our school, just look for Box Tops on products, clip them, and send them to school in a baggie or collection sheet with your child's name and teacher written on it. The month of September will kick off our first Box Top contest. The object of this contest is to reward the students who collect the most Box Tops. This contest will begin immediately and end on Friday October 13th, so start collecting and send in your Box Tops today!

For more information on the Box Tops for Education program, including a list of participating products and our school's progress, visit www.boxtops4education.com. For questions, contact our Box Tops Coordinator at wlesboxtopscoordinator@gmail.com.

Hello Waters Landing Community!

Welcome back to a new school year! I would like you to welcome our school's new media assistant, Ms. Lisa Mitchel. Ms. Mitchel was our school secretary last year. She is eager to start working with students in the library! Using information from student and teacher surveys, your children will visit the library every other week at a fixed time. Teachers will send you the day and time of your child's library day.

Students will also have opportunities to ask for a library pass from their teachers to exchange books and materials whenever they can. In addition to the many print books available, our school is lucky enough to have access to many online books and online information databases. All of these resources can be accessed using the password brochure included with this newsletter. Please assist me in reminding your child to keep library books in their backpack – ready for school and any visit to the media center. I look forward to working with each child at Waters Landing!

Sincerely,
Mary Zygmunt, Media Specialist

SAVE THE DATE

- ◆ The PTA sponsored Book Fair is Monday, October 2nd - Friday, October 6th
- ◆ PTA sponsored Donuts with Dad is October 6th

Reminders of ways you can support Waters Landing ES and the PTA

Have an Amazon account? Amazon supports local schools through it's charity site simply go to <https://smile.amazon.com/> and sign in with your amazon log in information. Go to our website under the rewards tab for more information and instructions.

Giant - register your giant grocery store card and support WLES ES when you shop.

Harris Teeter - complete a designation form at the store or visit <https://www.harristeeter.com/together-in-education#/app/cms> to link your card to WLES.

Safeway - complete a designation form at the store or visit <http://www.escrip.com/>

COUNSELOR'S CORNER- MRS. LAURENO

Welcome Back to Waters Landing for all our returning families. And a huge hello to all the new students and their families joining us. I speak for the entire staff when I say we are thrilled to be working with your wonderful children.

We want this year to be a terrific learning experience. We have been working hard to ensure this!

As parents, you are your children's best advocate. **Make sure to ask your children daily how their day went.** If you have any concerns, please consult the teacher first. If you feel the need to further explore the situation, please contact me or the administration. We are partners in your children's academic growth and social/emotional development.

Our character education program is off to a good start. **We have a monthly theme which teachers focus upon and talk about during their weekly class meetings. In September our theme is Respect.** This trait is the foundation for success throughout life. Please ask your children what they have talked about regarding "Respect." **With young children, we often ask them what does the character trait look like, what does it sound like, and what does it feel like.** All our students are learning our expectations for respectful behavior here at school. You may want to emulate our model and have a family meeting at home where the family members share how they demonstrate respect at home. A good time to do this is on Sunday evenings, when family members tend to be together and getting ready for the coming week.

We are again continuing with our **Second Step program**, which is being delivered to the students weekly. This program teaches children to get along well with others, solving problems peacefully. There are four major components which are taught: **Empathy, Impulse Control, Anger Management and Conflict Resolution.** Your children are at the perfect age to learn these social skills, which will serve them well in every aspect of their lives now and in the future.

I'll be working with our students in first, half of second, third and fifth grades this year in delivering **monthly character education counseling class lessons.** Loren Felsher, my co-counselor is half time. She will be working with the kindergarten, half of second, and fourth grade classes. We are both available to work with all the students regardless of grade level, and we are here for all parents as well. We also work with Nan Iuculano, who is our half-time Parent Community Coordinator. Nan is an expert in providing resources to families. Feel free to contact any of us at any time.

Social Services News:

Smart Sacks applications for bi-weekly food packages have gone home with every student. If you have not received your application, please let me know. [Karen J. Laureno@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Karen.J.Laureno@mcpsmd.org) We have already begun to send these food sacks home with children who have enrolled.

Magnet Programs for Fifth Graders: The information will be posted online after September 24. I will disseminate information to you as soon as it is posted. All fifth grade students are eligible to apply for the highly gifted Magnet programs or the Consortium Choice programs. You may contact me any time regarding this program and process.

Holiday Basket Applications will be sent out again this year as soon as we receive the materials. The application will go home with each student. Parents fill it out and return to me. Baskets usually consist of gift cards to food stores for two holidays, Thanksgiving and December holidays. They will be sent home in English and Spanish.

Angel Tree Program: Angel Tree is a program to help Montgomery County families provide gifts for their children at Christmas. If your family needs assistance with gifts for children ages 0-12 years old, then please register at the Salvation Army, 20021 Aircraft Dr., Germantown MD 20875, 301-515-5354. The Salvation Army will be accepting applications on the following dates: October 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20 9:30 am (doors close at noon)

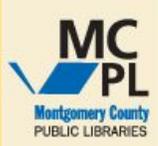
All families need to provide the following documentation: Picture ID, Proof of current household income, Proof of all Household Expenses, Proof of Montgomery County residence, Birth certificates for each child, up to age 12. ALL DOCUMENTS ARE MANDATORY DURING FACE-TO-FACE REGISTRATION. Please do not bring children. The first 80 families will be interviewed each day. First come, first served. Please note that if you sign up with the Salvation Army, you will not be able to sign up for a holiday basket here. The computer cross references applicants and removes applicants, ensuring that each family receives assistance only once. Our goal is to serve all families equitably.

Centrally Purchased Online Subscription Services- Elementary Schools

Resource and website URL	Username/Password (for Home Use)	Description
 http://school.eb.com/	mcps, search	Britannica School is an encyclopedia where you can search for articles on a variety of topics.
 http://quest.eb.com/	mcps, search	Image Quest has a collection of images that you can download and use in your school projects.
 http://www.america.eb.com/	mcps, search	Annals of American History has speeches, historical accounts, memoirs, poems, images and multimedia all about American History.
 http://escolar.eb.com/	mcps, search	Escolar Online is the Britannica School encyclopedia in Spanish. Find articles on a variety of topics written in Spanish.
 http://moderna.eb.com/	mcps, search	Enciclopedia Moderna is a Spanish language encyclopedia that has many articles plus timelines, an atlas, and a dictionary.
 http://japan.eb.com/	mcps, search	<i>Britannica Online Japan</i> offers quick access to reliable, comprehensive information, with more than 150,000 articles and 30,000 images. <i>Britannica Online Japan</i> is an essential resource for conducting thorough research for both native Japanese speakers and high school students learning Japanese.
 http://french.eb.com/junior	mcps, search	<i>Universalis Junior Online</i> provides a fresh look at a wide array of topics such as history, geography, science, and technology. In this engaging learning environment, French-language students will be challenged with progressively more complex vocabulary.

 http://world.eb.com/	<p>mcps, search</p>	<p>World Data Analyst is a database in which you can compare data on different countries.</p>
 http://online.culturegrams.com/	<p>mcps, mcps</p>	<p>Culturegrams has information on 182 countries and cultures, including history, land and climate, religion, personal appearance, gestures, language, government, and family life.</p>
 https://my.noodletools.com/logon/gaps/landing/mcpsmd.net	<p>Use your GAFE account</p>	<p>Use Noodletools to create citations, notecards, outlines and papers for your research projects.</p>
 http://decades.sirs.com/	<p>mcps, mcps</p>	<p>SIRS Decades is a database of primary and secondary source documents organized around the decades of the 20th century.</p>
 http://discoverer.sirs.com/	<p>mcps, mcps</p>	<p>SIRS Discoverer is a database of articles and images from newspapers, magazines, government documents, and websites.</p>
 http://teachingbooks.net/home/	<p>mcps, mcps</p>	<p>Teaching books has author interviews, book summaries and other information about books and authors.</p>
 http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?authtype=ip,uid&profile=ehk5	<p>mcps, search</p>	<p>Explora Primary School includes a dictionary, encyclopedia and images and videos. It also has teacher resources.</p>

Resource and Website URL	Username/Password (for Home Use)	Description
	<p>waterslanding/search</p>	<p>FactCite 1,2,3 is a collection of articles on the following subjects: Animals, Planets, Mythology, Biographies, States, Countries, Elements, and Biomes for students in elementary grades.</p>
 http://www.factcite.com/	<p>waterslanding/school</p>	<p>PebbleGo has Animals, Biographies, Dinosaurs, Social Studies and Science articles to help you with your research projects.</p>
 http://www.tumblebooks.com/library/auto_login.asp?U=mcpsmd&P=books	<p>None needed</p>	<p>TumbleBook Library has animated “talking” books. You can read a book on your own or have it read to you.</p>

 http://askusnow.info/	<p>None needed</p>	<p><i>Ask Us Now!</i> let’s you ask an online librarian questions about research and get help in using websites and online resources.</p>
 http://montgomerycountymd.libguides.com/az.php	<p>You will need your library card to login to the databases</p>	<p><i>MCPL A-Z Databases</i> has magazine articles, encyclopedias and eBooks to support your research needs.</p>
 https://www.brainpop.com/	<p>wles/brainpop</p>	<p>Website with engaging learning games, videos and activities about hundreds of subjects.</p>

FREE Annual Health Fair

Guru Gobind Singh Foundation (GGSF) - A Sikh Spiritual Center,
Greater Washington Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (GWAPI)
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and American Diversity Group

Health Fair - Sat Oct. 7, 2017 Time: **2 - 6 PM**

Location: **The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints**
20020 Montgomery Village Avenue, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20886



FREE Health Services/Advice from Leading Physicians*

*This event is primarily for advice and counseling, not for diagnosis and treatment of diseases



Register Today

<http://ggsfusa.org/healthfair.html>

Allergy/Asthma - Lung Function Test, Body Composition Screening, Bone Density Test, Bone Marrow Sign up, Heart/Cardiology, Dental Hygiene Education, Dermascan Screen, Skin/Dermatology, Diabetes, Dietitian, ENT: Ear, Nose & Throat checkup, Eye Test, Flu Vaccine, Grip Strength Test, Healthy Living Education, Infectious Diseases, Stomach/Liver/GI, Cancer/Hematology, Neurology, Bones & Joints/Orthopedics/PT, Primary Care, Psychiatry/Psychology, Thyroid, Urology/Prostate, Women's Health, Yoga Exercises Awareness, And more...

Education Sessions:

- How to eat right with Diabetes
- Taking Care of your Mental Health
- How to manage your Back/Joint Pain
- Women's Wellness

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FREE blood test for first 300 people

**Fasting for 12 hours before blood work is necessary **

**Discuss Your Test Results on Sat Oct. 7

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for the uninsured people

For more information please contact:

Ravi Singh: (240) 463-5839

Dr. Sudhir Sekhsaria: (301) 526-4402

ggsfhealthfair@gmail.com

Dr. Harminder Kaur

Dr. Rajeev Khanna

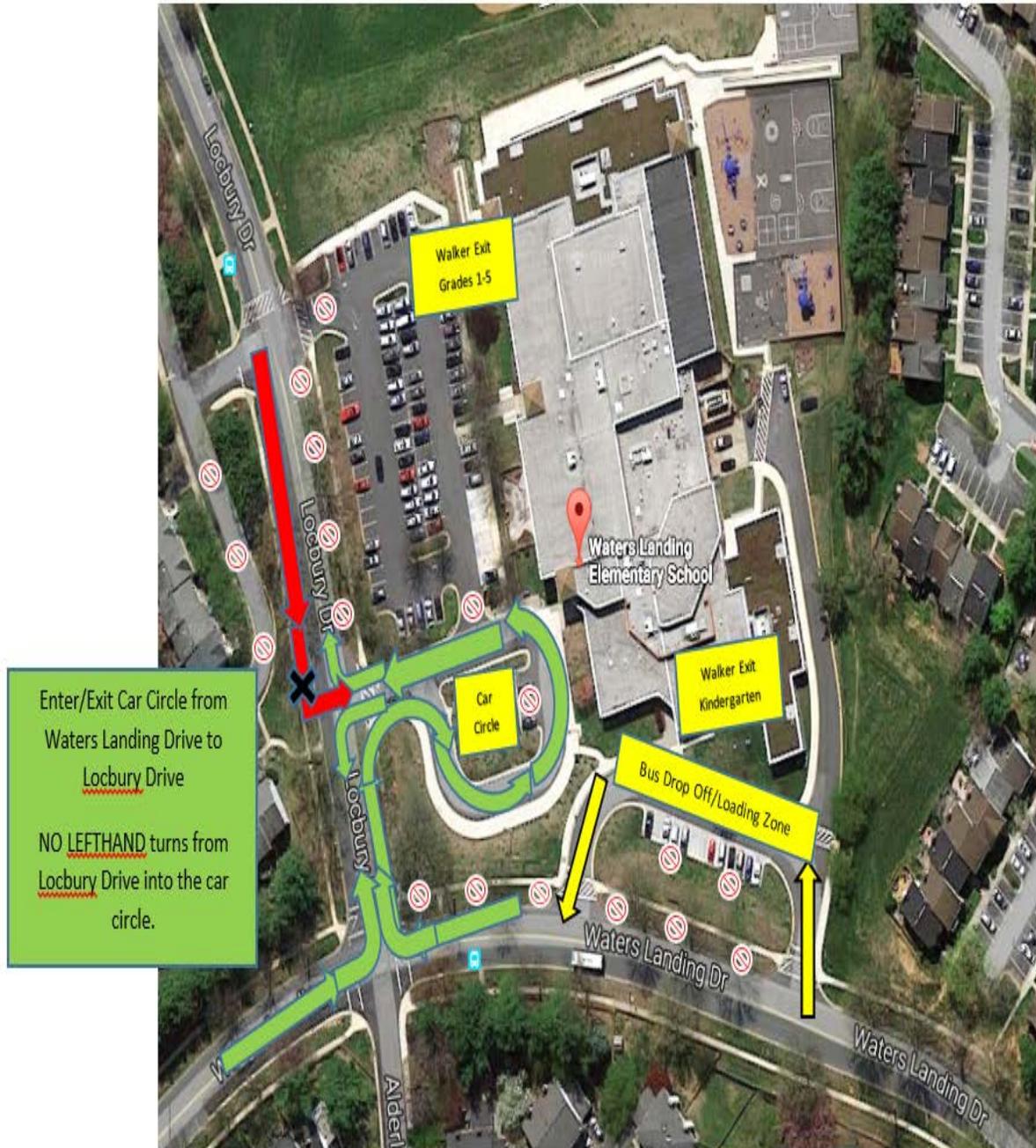
Dr. Vijay Varma

Dr. Harminder Sethi

Mayur Mody

Dr. Harvinder Singh

CAR RIDERS AND PARENT DROP OFF/PICK-UP REQUIRED TRAFFIC FLOW PROCEDURES



 NO DROP OFF/NO PARKING AREAS