Westowne Elementary School’s Opening Information

Doors Open at 9 A.M. Late Bell 9:15 A.M. Dismissal at 3:55 P.M.

A big welcome to you and your children as we begin the 2021-2022 school year! We hope the school year brings a sense of routine, stability, and normalcy for you and your family. Instruction will be in-person and 5 days a week for all students. Also, to note, BCPS has lengthened the school day for all students in elementary through high school. An additional 15 minutes has been added to the schedule for mathematics. This will result in dismissal beginning at 3:55 p.m. and concluding at 4:15 p.m.

This year we are devoted to leading the rebound for our students, yet we are still rooted in our vision, mission, and core beliefs. These principles are the foundation upon which we continue to build each year:

**Westowne Elementary Vision**
Westowne envisions a safe, nurturing, and personalized learning environment that is student-centered, collaborative, and enhanced by digital resources which engages and empowers all students to become lifelong learners and achieve within a globally competitive society.

**Mission Statement**
Westowne Elementary School is committed to educating the whole child, while providing a safe and nurturing environment that promotes a passion for lifelong learning, respect for self, others, the learning environment, and an appreciation for individual differences.

As students return to the school building, many families remain concerned about COVID. BCPS mitigation practices will continue to be implemented in accordance with CDC Guidelines. Use this [site](#) to find all resources related to COVID for Baltimore County Public Schools.

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<tr>
<th>Arrival &amp; Dismissal Procedures</th>
<th>Screening &amp; Testing <em>(Safety is Our True North)</em></th>
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<tr>
<td>Walkers will come to the front door by the flagpole and enter the door at 9 am. when the morning bell rings. Parents will ring the doorbell if a student is arriving after 9:15am and staff member will come and get your child at the door to take them to class. Students will that are walkers will be dismissed at the same door. Car riders will be dropped off an picked up at the entrance that is opposite of the front door by the library courtyard. Students must arrive to school by 9am and be picked up before 4:10 pm. Any student that is a car rider that arrives after 9am or is not picked up by 4:10pm, must come to the front entrance. The bus riders arrive and are dismissed at the entrance that is closest to Harlem Lane.</td>
<td>All families should screen students for symptoms prior to leaving home. Please use this <a href="#">checklist</a> to determine if a student should or should not go to school. Persons with COVID-19 symptoms in school will be required to be tested or will be placed on quarantine, in alignment with guidance from the Maryland Department of Health.</td>
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<td><strong>Face Covering (Safety is Our True North)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Social Distancing (Safety is Our True North)</strong></td>
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| **Requirements:** All persons, regardless of vaccination status, must wear a face covering while inside a school. Exceptions to this requirement are:  
  • The person is alone in a private space.  
  • The person is eating or drinking.  
  • The person has a documented physical or developmental disability that makes wearing a mask unsafe.  
  • The person is under the age of two.  
The person is a student athlete engaged in the sport in the field of play. | **Requirements:** Physical distancing of students from each other and between students and adults will be provided to the greatest extent possible, considering school enrollment and facility constraints. Strategies include:  
  • Use of classroom and cafeteria configurations that provide maximal separation between students.  
  • Plans for arrival, dismissal and change of classes to reduce gathering of students in any area.  
  • Restriction of field trips to day trips only, with plans to reduce exposure to large crowds.  
  • Plans for supervision of restrooms, locker rooms, and school lockers to prevent congregation of students. |

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<th><strong>Hand Hygiene (Safety is Our True North)</strong></th>
<th><strong>Breakfast &amp; Lunch</strong></th>
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| **Requirements:** Employees and students have been instructed to adhere to best practices in hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette.  
Times for handwashing or use of hand sanitizer to include before and after meals, upon arrival to schools’ offices and home, before and after use of any shared items, after use of the restroom, after sneezing/coughing and other time hands are contaminated. | **We are excited to inform you that Westowne students will receive breakfast in the classroom. This is a breakfast program where all students receive breakfast free of charge. These meals will be delivered to homerooms before school starts so that students can have breakfast during the homeroom, to start their day. In addition to the Universal Breakfast Program, the Office of Food and Nutrition will be offering free lunch for all students in BCPS.** |

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<th><strong>Supplies &amp; Devices:</strong></th>
<th><strong>Visitors (Safety is Our True North)</strong></th>
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| **Parents have received a supply list at the end of the last school year, on the Westowne Elementary Community Forum Facebook page, and via the summer mailing**  
**Students should be bringing their devices to school.**  
The newly enrolled students will be receiving devices within the first few weeks of school.  
The teachers will be able to assist the students with obtaining their user id and password. | **To visit a BCPS school, visitors must have an appointment.**  
**Visits will be conducted remotely or outside, whenever possible.**  
**If an indoor visit is required, visitors will be required to wear a face coverings and practice social distancing.**  
**The number of people admitted to the building will be limited.** |
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<th>Any password reset; broken devices need to go through our Help Desk. The phone number is 443-809-4672 Monday – Friday 7:00 am – 4:15 pm</th>
<th>Parents Access to Focus and Schoology can be found on BCPS.org 082021-Creating a Parent Account in B2C (1).pdf (sharpschool.com)</th>
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| Cleaning/Disinfecting *(Safety is Our True North)* Requirements: BCPS staff will continue to provide safe and clean school environments by ensuring daily cleaning of buildings using Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved germicidal agents that kill coronavirus. BCPS staff will:  
- Perform frequent cleaning and disinfection of high-contact surfaces and any shared items, at least daily.  
- Promote hand washing before and after touch of shared use items.  
- Maintain sufficient supplies of soap, paper towels, and hand sanitizer. |