

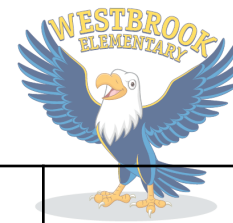


Weekly Community Updates

April 20, 2025

<u>Calendar</u>	Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
<i>This week:</i>	20	21  No School- Office Closed	22 5th Grade AIR Rehearsal 9:10-10:30 Bus Driver Appreciation Day	23 5th Grade Math MCAP 10-11:30 4th Grade ELA MCAP 12-2:30 Green Team Meeting 3:30-4:30 Administrative Professionals Appreciation Day	24 Take Your Child To Work Day *Please notify the office *before 4:00 on Wednesday, 4.23, to have your child's absence excused for Take Your Child to Work Day.	25 5th Grade Math MCAP 10-11:30 4th Grade ELA MCAP 12-2:30	26
<i>Next Week:</i>	27	28 4th Grade MCAP 9-10:30 3rd Grade ELA MCAP 12-2:30	29 Countywide Art Show 4/29 - 5/3 5th Grade AIR 9:15-10:20	30 4th Grade Math MCAP 9-10:30 5th Grade ELA MCAP 10-12:30	1 4th Grade Math MCAP 9-10:30 5th Grade UMD Trip 9:20-2:00 Principals Appreciation Day	2 3rd Grade Math MCAP 9-10:30 5th Grade ELA MCAP 10-12:30 4th Grade Rainbow Club 11-11:30	3

Weekly Community Updates



**** The school year has been extended by one day.**

- Friday, June 13th- early release day (students dismissed at 12:50)
- Monday, June 16th- early release day (students dismissed at 12:50)
- Tuesday, June 17th- early release day (students dismissed at 12:50) **LAST DAY**

**** Staffing Updates-**

- We have hired a long-term substitute school counselor to finish the school year. Please welcome Josephine "Jo" Pittman! Ms. Pitman will be at Westbrook on 4/22! Please be sure to give her a big **Westbrook welcome!**
- We are also working through staff allocations for next year and will present to the community during the June 3rd PTA meeting.

Westbrook NEWS, INFORMATION, REMINDERS

MCAP Schedule Change - Please Note

4th Grade ELA MCAP Schedule Change

Wednesday April 9, 12:00-2:00

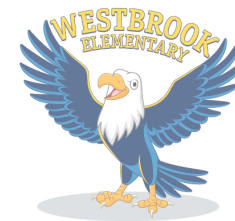
~~Thursday April 10, 12:00-2:00~~

Wednesday April 23, 12:00-2:00

Friday April 25, 12:00-2:00

Thursday May 8, 12:00-2:00

Weekly Community Updates



MESSAGE ON PERSONAL MOBILE DEVICES

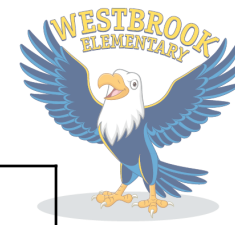
- ★ **UPDATE:** We continue to experience students having smart watches and PMDs at Westbrook. We have encouraged parents and students to leave these devices at home, completely off, and in their backpacks during the school day.
- ★ Usage on the bus is permitted as allowed by the bus driver. All devices should be silenced while on the bus, or headphones may be used.
- ★ It is against MCPS policy and the Code of Conduct to record or distribute images of other children.
- ★ This policy extends beyond just testing days!
- ★ Any student who violates this policy will have the device confiscated by administration. **Confiscated devices will be available for pickup in the front office by an adult.**

We value the needs of all our students and strive to support them. We can help facilitate communication while students are at school. However, we must adhere to the MCPS policy regarding PMD usage, which states that PMDs may be confiscated if not used following these guidelines. Any confiscated device may be picked up will by a parent or caregiver. **Contact administration if you have any questions.**

Monthly Grade-Level Newsletters

K	Kinder
1st	First Grade
2nd	 FY25 April Newsletter
3rd	G3 April

Weekly Community Updates



4th	Contact teacher
5th	Contact Teacher
Art	Art April
Music	 April Music Newsletter
P.E.	APRIL PE
Media	Contact Ms. Wellen
EML	Contact Ms. Razzaghi and Mrs. Garagusi

MCPS News

Check out the MCPS Parents' Resource page

Digital Learning Information and Support for Parents- **hot linked!**

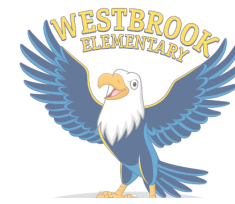
- [ParentVue login Portal](#)
- [Every MCPS Parent Should have a ParentVue Account - FAQs & Activation Information](#)
- [Community Tech Support Center Information](#)
- [Free, On-Demand Online/Virtual Tutoring](#)
- [Cybersafety](#)

PTA NEWS

Possible Next Steps from March PTA Meeting

Several parents have reached out to suggest next steps following the March PTA meeting. Please email the PTA to let us know if you would be interested in participating in and/or exploring any of these as a school community.

Weekly Community Updates



- **Wait Til 8th pledge:** [Wait Til 8th](#) offers a place for parents to pledge, alongside other parents at their kids' school, not to give their children a smartphone until at least the 8th grade. By signing the online pledge, you promise not to give your child a smartphone until at least the end of 8th grade as long as at least 10 families total from your child's grade and school pledge. Once 10 families from a grade have pledged to delay the smartphone, you will be notified that the pledge is active and receive a list of families who are delaying from your child's grade and emails for the parents. If this feels aligned for your family, we encourage you to sign up and help make Westbrook a Wait Til 8th school!
- **Parent book club: *The Anxious Generation* by Jonathan Haight.** Many of you have likely already read or heard of [this book](#), which connects the current mental health crisis among youth and young adults to the rise of smartphones and the decline of independent play in childhood. If you would be interested in reading the book alongside other parents and discussing it before the end of the year, please let us know. If 10 parents sign up, the PTA will work to coordinate a book group and discussion.
- **Let Grow:** More resources about supporting independent play for our kids is available on the [Let Grow](#) website.

Membership Update

The PTA has opened up multiple membership levels (\$25 to \$150) to make membership more accessible for all Westbrook families. If you haven't already become a member, we encourage you to do so by clicking [here](#).

Upcoming Events

Here are the upcoming PTA events this spring!

- Friday, May 16: **Carnival!**
- Tuesday, June 3: Last **PTA Meeting** of the Year

FOWS (Friends of Westbrook School Foundation) NEWS

Mom's Night - May 10th!

Weekly Community Updates



Join us for a fun and festive iMoms Unwined! as we celebrate Cinco de Mayo — Westbrook style!



Friday, May 10th | 5-8 PM



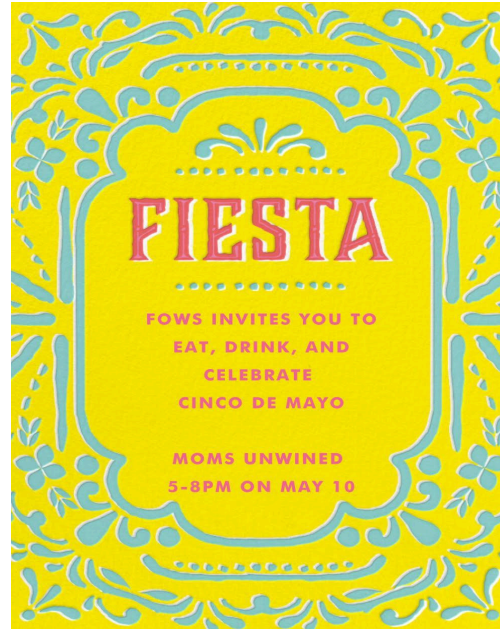
Delicious bites, margaritas, and mom-worthy



\$55 per person- buy tickets [here](#)



Location will be announced after ticket



fun

purchase

Grab your amigas and unwind with us — don't miss out!

Reminder that all sales benefit projects undertaken by the Friends of Westbrook School Foundation. We hope to see you there!

From your co-hosts: Casey Florance, Erin Clinton, Rynnie Cotter, Lizzie Holtan, Jessica Keeley, Ariel Moyer, Becki Nelson, Christine Roddy, Sarah Towles, Catherine Zuckerman

Westbrook Pantry

The Westbrook Pantry is here to provide support to any family facing food insecurity. For families interested in using the pantry, please email Ms. Bell at Nicole.Bell@mcpsmd.org with the subject line "PANTRY REQUEST." You



Weekly Community Updates

are also welcome to contact friendsofwestbrook@gmail.com to learn more about available support. Correspondence with Ms. Bell and FOWS will be kept confidential.

QUICK LINKS!

- [PARENT DASHBOARD](#) (Parent Handbook)
- [Parent Resources](#) from MCPS
- Our school [website](#)
- [Staff Directory](#)

****New Westbrook ES Amazon Wish List**

Bullying, harassment (including sexual misconduct and sexual harassment), intimidation, hazing, incidents of hate bias, and concerning issues involving student gender identity are **not tolerated in MCPS. We are committed to ensuring our students feel safe, valued, and respected in our schools. Please see the multiple ways you can file a report by clicking [here](#).

Please contact us directly with any questions or concerns. We have an open-door policy and desire to support our school/home community partnership.

Proudly serving the Westbrook Community,
Principal Cox and Assistant Principal Johnson