

THE WEEKLY REDLAND MS BULLDOG BLAST 2025-2026

Please read this entire newsletter for important information and updates

Below are important reminders to help you stay involved and engaged with your student's upcoming events at Redland Middle School. The main office is open from 7:45am – 3:45pm (4:30pm on after school activity days).

As a reminder, we require the scanning of all IDs when a parent visits Redland MS. All visitors with an appointment who are attending meetings are required to check in at the main office with an ID. Thank you for your patience and cooperation.

First: **Bookmark our website:** <https://www2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/redlandms/>

Dropping Off and Picking Up Your Students - FOLLOW THE TRAFFIC CONES

Morning Drop Off Information: Here is the map to show how to navigate our lot in the morning.

CLICK THE LINK: Car Rider Drop-Off Map

When you approach Redland MS, you MUST enter at the large lot entrance. DO NOT ENTER BY THE SIGN BOARD. This is for staff and buses only. You will follow the traffic cones around to the DROP ZONE. Please make certain your student is ready to be dropped off. The speed limit is 5 MPH in the lot and DO NOT PASS a car in the drop zone. Students exit cars on both sides.

If you need to park to get ready or take a minute to say goodbye, you should park in the first spaces to the right when you ENTER the large lot. Please do not park in the visitor spaces or the Staff Only parking in the first row to wait. This creates a traffic jam when you prepare to leave.

Afternoon Pick Up Information: Here is the map to show how to navigate our lot in the afternoon.

CLICK THE LINK: Car Rider Pick Up Map

When you enter the lot, you will proceed to the front of the first lane. The line starts there. You will form TWO LINES, leaving the middle of the lane open. You must pull forward to fill the gaps. If you wish to park, this year you will park in the last line of space in the lot. DO NOT park in the visitor spaces.

When students are dismissed, please be patient. DO NOT LEAVE YOUR CAR. As the students cross into the lot using the crosswalk, they will begin to walk to your car. This takes about two minutes. Once you have your student, you may begin to exit the lot. Take your time and watch for students.

When the car in front of you leaves, please pull forward. This allows the line to continually move forward and for cars to exit efficiently. Again, DO NOT LEAVE YOUR CAR. Please wait in your car or you may stand at the driver's door to make sure your student sees you. If you wish to walk up and wait by the crosswalk, you MUST PARK in the rear of the lot.

Review: All the summer resources and information are available on our website.

Attendance – Reporting and Excusing:

Attendance is important!! Please make sure you report and excuse your child's absence.

Reporting Absences - You can report daily absences in two ways:

1. Call the main office attendance line at 240-740-0905
2. Email our attendance secretary: Ms. Neidy P. Juarez: Neidy_P_Juarez@mcpsmd.org

Excusing Absences - Per the MCPS Student Code of Conduct absences can only be excused with a written form of communication.

You can excuse daily absences two ways:

1. Email an excuse note to our attendance secretary: Ms. Neidy P. Juarez:
Neidy_P_Juarez@mcpsmd.org OR
2. Students can bring the excuse note to the main office when they return to school. Here is a template you can use [ABSENCE NOTE](#)

We want to remind all our families to **PLEASE** keep your student home if they are not feeling well or exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 or illness. Please follow this [link](#) to learn more specific information about when to keep your child home.

Our weekly blast has six sections:

RMS Information and Weekly Calendar

Student Recognitions

RMS Reminders

Counseling Corner Updates

PTA News and Updates

MCPS Community News and Information

1. REDLAND INFORMATION and WEEKLY CALENDAR

After School Activities Site: Coming Soon!

Monday: 8/25

Transition Day for all 6th grade students and new students

- Bus service is available on the regular schedule
- Breakfast and Lunch will be served

Tuesday: 8/26

First Day of School - Classes start at 8:15am

Clap In at 7:30am - FLYER

Wednesday: 8/27

Thursday: 8/28

Friday: 8/29

August Dates/Events:

Tuesday, August 26, 2025 - First Day of School - Morning Clap-In Event

September Dates/Events:

Monday, September 1, 2025 - No School - Holiday

Thursday, September 11, 2025 - Back to School Night (5:30 pm - 8:30 pm)

Monday - Friday, September 15 - 19, 2025 - 6th Grade Outdoor Ed Week

Tuesday, September 23, 2025 - No School for Students

Friday, September 26, 2025 - Early Release Day (12:30pm)

Friday, September 26, 2025 - MHS Cluster Night

2. Student Recognitions/Advisory:

3. Reminders:

Upcoming Fundraiser:

We will hold our annual popcorn fundraiser starting soon. Stay Tuned!

Cafeteria Information:

Menus and Special Dietary Needs

Menus, including nutrition and allergen information, can be viewed on the [DFNS website](#) through [MealViewer](#).

MCPS Form 240-23, Special Dietary Needs Form, may be used to request meal accommodations for students eating in the cafeteria.

Free and Reduced-price Meals (FARMS) Applications

[APPLY HERE!](#) Apply online NOW so students receive free meals on the first day of school!

Households meeting federal income standards are eligible for free school meals, and students who qualify for reduced-price meals will continue to receive meals at no cost. To receive this benefit, a new FARMS application must be completed every school year. Please submit the online FARMS application through www.MySchoolApps.com. Only one application is needed for all students in a household.

Meal Prices, Payment Policy, and Procedures

There are no changes in meal prices this school year. Funds can be added to student meal accounts at no charge by bringing cash, check, or money order directly to school cafeteria managers. Payments to student meal accounts can be made through www.MySchoolBucks.com.

Breakfast: \$1.30 (All levels), Lunch: \$2.55 (Elementary), \$2.80 (Middle and High)

Parents/guardians are responsible for school cafeteria account balances incurred by their student(s), and MCPS must collect unpaid school cafeteria charges. [The Meal Payment Policy details payment responsibilities.](#)

For more FARMS information and How-To videos, visit the [Department of Food and Nutrition Services \(DFNS\) website](#)

Summer Reading and Math Information:

All students should access the summer links and complete the packets.

[Link To Resources](#)

Back to School Night: Thursday, September 11, 2025

A flier will be sent home with students the first week of school.

[Back to School Flier](#) (Link)

Family Life and Human Sexuality Curriculum Review - Room 168

Before Back-to-School Night, parents are invited to attend a brief meeting to review the Family Life and Human Sexuality curriculum. This session will provide an overview of the content, answer questions, and give families the opportunity to understand how the material will be presented to students.

Chromebooks: Redland has BRAND NEW Chromebooks!

This year, students will be using school issued chromebooks during the school day. These Chromebooks will be picked up before the first period begins and returned to the seventh period class carts at the end of the day.

Each student is financially responsible for damage or loss to any Chromebook and charger that is checked out to the student. The device is loaned to the student to be used for instructional purposes only and in accordance with [Montgomery County Public Schools \(MCPS\) Regulation IGT-RA, User Responsibilities for Computer Systems](#), Electronic Information, and Network Security. No cost is associated for a student to borrow, possess, or use a Chromebook. A family is only financially responsible when there is avoidable damage to the device. If the device is faulty, there is no charge to the family; however, if the damage is considered avoidable or the device or charger is lost, the family will be charged according to [MCPS current parts and replacement costs](#).

MCPS Use Policy: [LINK](#)

FAQs: [LINK](#)

Chromebook bags have been requested from MCPS. If you wish, you MAY purchase a chromebook bag to assist in carrying their devices. [Possible Bag Options](#)

Current 7th and 8th grade students can use their school issued bag from last year.

Chromebook - Home Use

This school year we will be providing Chromebooks for students in each classroom using charging carts. This means students WILL NOT have a chromebook to bring home that is provided by the school.

Students should have a device available for their home use OR complete the form below to have MCPS assign them a take home device.

[Student Home Use Chromebook Request Form \(LINK\)](#)

Personal Mobile Device Policy:

Students are expected to demonstrate Redland Respect regarding the use of their personal mobile devices. This includes cell phones, wireless earbuds (air pods), and smart watches.

At 8:15am, all devices MUST be silenced and out of sight. We are encouraging all students to place their devices in their lockers for the day. Headphones (wired only) are permitted for use throughout the school day on Chromebooks for instructional purposes.

Students should refrain from taking photographs or videos of other students AT ALL TIMES at Redland MS. Redland MS is not responsible for any lost or damaged personal mobile devices.

Students are permitted to use their personal mobile devices:

1. School bus to and from school,
2. Between 7:45am – 8:15am,
3. After the 3:00pm dismissal bell.

Students **ARE NOT** permitted to use cell phones, wireless earbuds, and cellular watches during the day. MCPS Regulation COG-RA was recently amended to reflect this change.

For safety purposes, students should remove headphones while in the hallways when traveling between classes.

Students who violate MCPS Regulation COG-RA and use personal mobile devices (PMDs) during the school day without permission, will be subject to disciplinary action and will have the device secured in the main office for a caregiver to pick up after 3:00pm.

Dress Code Reminder:

Because the building is a learning-focused environment, students should express themselves through their wardrobe within these guidelines:

- No hoods, hats, or headwear inside the building (Religious headwear is welcomed)
- Clothing should be comfortable for learning and appropriate for the school environment:
 - Tops and bottom must cover all undergarments
 - Explicit content cannot be displayed on garments

This is also a reminder that students should dress in layers as the temperatures do vary from room to room and from morning to afternoon. Jackets and heavy clothing should be placed in lockers.

NEW: Fall 2025 middle school interscholastic Athletics (coed cross country, boys and girls softball)

The Middle School Fall Athletics Registration is now open!

Tryout Registration DUE Monday September 8th .

Fall Sports tryouts begin TUESDAY September 9th.

If your 7th or 8th grade child is interested in trying out for either Girls Softball, Boys Softball or Co-ed Cross Country, you may register your child for tryouts through the [ParentVUE Portal](#).

The ParentVUE online registration portal, available in English and Spanish, incorporates all required paper forms and documents into an internet-based platform that you can access using your secure ParentVUE Portal login. Parents/guardians should also be able to scan and upload their student's physical as part of the registration process.

Students should complete their [pre-participation physical \(MCPS Form SR-8\)](#) so that the medical eligibility form (the last page) is ready for online submission via the ParentVue Portal or for email submission to me, **before tryouts/practices begin**. This form is valid for two years from the date of the exam and covers participation for all sports within that time period.

Thank you in advance for your support, as we strive to provide a smooth registration experience. If you have any questions please contact Ms. Rashanda Jack, Redland Athletic Coordinator, at Rashanda_Jack@mcpsmd.org

3. Counseling Corner Updates:

Counselor Contact Information- Office phone (240)740-0910

Mr. Megary- 6th grade and Department Head

Jay_Megary@mcpsmd.org

Mrs. Pulver- 7th grade

Caitlin_Pulver@mcpsmd.org

Mrs. Finch- 8th grade

Melissa_S_Finch@mcpsmd.org

4. PTA Notes:

Welcome Back Bulldogs! This year the PTA is hoping you can help in whatever way works for you - from home, during an event, or just by joining. It's truly the best way to stay in the loop about what's going on with your kids at school.

And our **first PTA meeting of the year is September 9th at 7pm**, both in the media center and on zoom.

PTA Membership: Please sign up for membership here: <https://redland.givebacks.com/shop/items/709712>

Stay in the know with the PTA:

1) Look for the [PTA link](#) at the top of the RMS website

2) Find and like us on Facebook! - @RedlandPTA

5. MCPS Communication and Information:

ONLINE FARMS APPS ARE AVAILABLE NOW!

All You Need to Know for Lunch

The [Free and Reduced-price Meals \(FARMS\) application](#) is available for the 2025–2026 school year. A new FARMS application must be completed every school year. Meals are free for students who qualify for the program. Only one application is needed for all students in a household. [Learn more.](#)

Visit the Department of Food and Nutrition and Services webpage for information on [breakfast and lunch menus](#) and how to add money to your child's account through [MySchoolBucks](#).

SchoolCash Online

Montgomery County Public Schools uses the online payment system called **SchoolCash Online** as its preferred method of payment for school-related fees such as fundraisers, field trips, obligations, etc. (Please note that the new payment system is NOT related to school cafeteria accounts)

SchoolCash Online helps parents/guardians and community members pay school-related fees safely, quickly, and easily. SchoolCash Online will help increase efficiency and security at schools by making payments directly into schools' bank accounts and eliminating the need for teachers to handle money. In addition, once registered, you will be immediately informed about school activities!

Powered by KEV Group, SchoolCash Online is the industry leader in the management of school fees. The new system puts all of the school-related fees online for purchase so users can make purchases online using a credit card or e-check. A processing fee will be included on all items available for purchase, regardless of the type of payment used on SchoolCash Online or at the school.

Parents/guardians can register now at - <https://mcpsmd.schoolcashionline.com/>

Remind, ParentSquare, ParentVUE—What's the Difference? Here's What You Need to Know

Families often hear about different platforms for school communication, and it can get confusing. Here's a quick guide:

- **Remind & ParentSquare**

Both are messaging platforms used by MCPS schools, teachers, students, and parents. Over the next few months, schools will transition from Remind to ParentSquare (by January 2026) because ParentSquare has acquired Remind. Here at **Redland MS** we are currently using **ParentSquare**.

- **ParentVUE**

ParentVUE is the **parent portal** for MCPS. It's your secure window into important information about your child's education—attendance, class schedules, grades, report cards, enrollment, athletic registration, and more. ParentVUE also links to **MyMCPSClassroom**, where you can see class materials. Available online and as a mobile app, ParentVUE is the Parent Portal that serves as the primary home-to-school communication vehicle.

Remind Quick Guides	ParentSquare Quick Guides	ParentVUE Quick Guides
· English	· English	· English
· Spanish	· Spanish	· Spanish
· French	· French	· Korean
· Korean	· Chinese	· Chinese
· Chinese	· Vietnamese	· Amharic
· Vietnamese	· Portuguese	· Portuguese
· Portuguese	· Amharic	· French
· Amharic	· Korean	· Vietnamese

What's New This Year and Why It's Important

NEW–MCPS “Now You Know” Video Series

Quick, vertical videos with “just-in-time” info for our community—perfect for social media and on the go and recorded in multiple languages.

- First up: How to Find Your Bus Route
- Next week: School Immunization Information

To Do: Take a look at the videos, share with your friends, and stay tuned—because now you know!

Links to the Videos: [English](#) / [español](#) / [中文](#) / [français](#) / [Português](#) / [한국어](#) / [tiếng Việt](#) / [አማርኛ](#)

Ensuring Students Feel Safe, Included and Supported at School

The [MCPS Student Code of Conduct](#) has been revised for the 2025–2026 school year. Changes include making behavior rules easier to understand and establishing a standard process across the district to investigate incidents. This document outlines expectations for student behavior and the consequences for violating various policies, regulations, and rules. The focus is on helping students learn from mistakes, repair harm and rebuild trust. [Learn more.](#)

[2025–2026 Code of Conduct One Pager](#)

Changes Coming to Grade Calculations

[Important revisions to grading and reporting](#) at the secondary level take effect this school year. Final grades for students in grades 6 through 12 will be calculated using the average of the four marking period grades. This change, among others, is designed to increase consistency, strengthen expectations for student learning and truly measure actual student learning in school.

[Learn more.](#)

Less Phone Time = More Learning Time

For the 2025–2026 school year, MCPS will limit how personal mobile devices can be used during the school day. Limiting phone use during class helps students stay focused, engaged and better able to retain information. [Away All Day flyer](#)

[Learn more.](#)

Student Safety Is Our Top Priority: Here's What We Are Doing

Recent findings from the Montgomery County Office of the Inspector General identified areas for improvement in how background checks are processed and monitored for school-based employees, contractors and volunteers. Your children are safe at school, and we are taking immediate and sustained action to make sure it stays that way.

[Read more.](#)

Maintaining a Safe and Healthy Environment in Schools

Vaping devices, tobacco products and illegal drugs are prohibited on school grounds. Students found in possession of or using these items [may be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the MCPS Student Code of Conduct](#). MCPS has installed vape detection systems in all student bathrooms. The sensors provide school administrators with an important tool to address the issue of vape device use in schools and to maintain a safe and healthy learning environment for students, staff and visitors. These sensors detect vape emissions, including those from nicotine and THC (the active ingredient in marijuana). [VAPE Frequently Asked Questions](#)

What is Your Child Learning in the Classroom? Here's What to Know

MCPS is rolling out a new initiative to make the curriculum more transparent and family-friendly. Starting this school year, families will receive a simple, one-page overview of the main themes and texts

students will study each marking period—nicknamed the “Refrigerator Curriculum” because it’s designed to be easy to post on the fridge at home. [Learn more.](#)

Don’t Forget Your Immunizations!

The Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is offering free back-to-school vaccinations for Montgomery County school-aged children at county locations through September.

[More information](#)

AskMCPS Phone: CALL 240-740-3000. Staff take calls from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, in English and Spanish (240-740-2845)

FOLLOW the MCPS social media pages on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram in English and Spanish.

[x.com/mcps](#) / [facebook.com/mcpsmd](#) / [instagram.com/mcps_md](#)

[facebook.com/mcpsespanol](#) / [x.com/MCPSEspanol](#) / [instagram.com/mcpsenespanol](#)

More From MCPS

- [School calendar](#)
- [Parent resource page](#)
- [News and Information page](#) / [Noticias en Español](#)
- [Latest photo galleries](#)
- [MCPS TV videos](#)
- [MCPS TV español](#)