

Windsor Knolls Middle School
11150 Windsor Road
LJamsville, MD 21754

Phone - 240-236-5000
Fax - 240-236-5001
Principal - Nancy Doll
Assistant Principal - Brooke Anthony

Homework Hotline: 240-236-5000 - Option 4 -
(Select 1 for 6th grade, 2 for 7th grade, 3 for 8th grade)

Check your child's grades by visiting: <http://www.fcps.org/content/pinnacle.cfm>

Windsor Knolls Middle School The Back Pocket September 4, 2009

(The Back Pocket is subsidized by the PTSA)

Is it an "A" day or a "B" day	
"A" Days	"B" Days
8, 10, 14, 16, 18	9, 11, 15, 17

Upcoming Events

9/8-11 SGA Campaign Week
9/11 Picture Day
Yearbook staff applications due
SGA Elections
9/16-18 Dance Tickets on sale during lunch shifts
9/18 Band Boosters Dance - 3-5pm
9/22 PTSA Meeting – 7-9pm

Principal's Note:

Welcome to a new school year! We had a smooth opening and can't believe that we have been in session for two weeks before the Labor Day holiday! If you visit the school, visitor parking is in the front by the flagpole. We ask that when you "buzz" in, please come to the front office and check in with our secretary, Mrs. Nightingale. If you are volunteering or visiting a classroom, please sign in and get a visitor's badge. You are more than welcome to visit a class anytime; we ask, as a courtesy, to give the teachers twenty-four hour notice.

As many of you are aware, President Obama is giving a speech to students on Tuesday, September 8. At this time, we have not planned a school wide activity to show the speech; however, individual teachers may choose to include the webcast in their lesson if it is natural and appropriate. However, if you do not wish your child to have access to the address, you may request an alternative educational activity.

When we met with the students during the first week, we encouraged them to take responsibility for their learning, demonstrate good citizenship and take active roles in leadership. As we have visited classrooms, students are focused on their learning. Throughout the day we have witnessed examples of good citizenship by students helping others and by inviting new students to sit with them or join them in a variety of activities. One way for students to get involved in leadership is to participate in the Student Government Association. SGA elections will take place on September 11 and advisement representatives will be elected September 14.

By now you should be able to access Pinnacle and course names should have been changed to course titles. Sorry for the confusion the nicknames caused! A reminder: Picture Day is September 11. We encourage you to join the PTSA and volunteer! We'd love to have you here! Sincerely, Nancy Doll

Cafeteria Prepay Information

In order to comply with Federal regulations, VISA, Master Card, Discover and American Express are required to revise the fee structure for CaféPrepay.com payments. The structure will change to a flat rate of \$2.50 per student per transaction. This change means that if you have 2 or more children and you enter money on each child's account you will be charged \$2.50 for each payment. Since \$2.50 will be charged for each individual payment, FCPS Food Service is recommending that families make one individual payment for all the family's children, and enter the payment onto one child's account. This will result in only one fee of \$2.50.

To have that payment distributed between the other child/children's accounts, the family must contact the school Complex Manager by email Frances.Wimmer@fcps.org or by written instructions on how the payment should be

divided. Once the Complex Manager receives the written instructions, the payment will be distributed to the other child/children's accounts per the family's request. This must be done each time you put money on account thru café pre pay.

Because of the revision in the fee structure, FCPS has also revised the requirements for refunding fees. Fees will be refunded by Food Service, for individual transactions of \$75.00 or more. Fees will not be refunded if the individual transaction is less than \$75.00. The refund will be added to one child's account.

If you have any questions, please contact the Food Service Accountant at 301-644-5056. FCPS Food Service greatly appreciates your participation in the Café Prepay Program.

From the Health Department:

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE FLU FOR FAMILIES, STUDENTS & STAFF:

As you may know, flu can be easily spread from person to person. Therefore, we are taking steps to reduce the spread of flu in Frederick County Public Schools. We want to keep the school open to students and functioning in a normal manner during this flu season.

We are working closely with the Frederick County Health Department and the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to monitor flu conditions and make decisions about the best steps to take concerning schools. We will keep you updated with new information as it becomes available.

We are doing everything we can to keep our schools working as usual. Here are a few things you can do to help.

- Teach your child to wash his/her hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Teach your child not to share personal items like drinks, food or unwashed utensils.
- Teach your child to cover his/her coughs and sneezes with tissues. Covering up coughs or sneezes using the elbow, arm or sleeve instead of the hand when a tissue is unavailable.
- Know the signs and symptoms of the flu. Symptoms include fever of 100°F or above, cough, sore throat, a runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, and feeling very tired. Some people may also vomit or have diarrhea.
- Keep your child at home if he/she is sick for at least 24 hours after they no longer have a fever without using fever-reducing medications. Keeping children with a fever at home will reduce the number of people who may get infected.
- Any child who exhibits flu-like symptoms as stated above while at school will be sent to the health room for evaluation and the parent/guardian will be contacted.

If the flu becomes severe county-wide, FCPS may implement one or more of the following recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control:

- Conduct active fever and flu symptom screening of students and staff as they arrive at school.
- Make changes to increase the space between people such as moving desks farther apart.
- If influenza severity increases, individuals with influenza-like illness should remain at home for at least 7 days, even if symptoms resolve sooner. Individuals who are still sick 7 days after they become ill should continue to stay home until at least 24 hours after symptoms have resolved.
- Request that students who have an ill household member stay home for five days from the day the first household member got sick. This is the period they are most likely to get sick themselves.

If you would like more information, please visit www.co.frederick.md.us/flu. Here you will find links to state and local resources as well as the latest information regarding our schools. For national information, please visit www.flu.gov or call 1-800-CDC-INFO.

Improved Options Reflect Diversity

This school year, the federal government requires schools to report ethnic and racial information for all students and staff in a new way. In the past, forms allowed selection of only 1 category. Now individuals can select more than 1 category to more accurately reflect racial and ethnic backgrounds.

FCPS is distributing the forms to families to complete and return; please contact the school if you do not receive one the first week of school. For any child whose family does not return the form, school staff must complete it. FCPS is seeking a 100% return rate.

The new form asks whether the student's ethnic background is "Hispanic or Latino" (yes/no). It then asks for the student's racial background. From 5 racial groups, 1 or more may be selected: More information is online at www.fcps.org.

- ✓ American Indian or Alaska Native
- ✓ Asian
- ✓ Black or African American
- ✓ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- ✓ White

From the Guidance Department:

As the school year begins, it is an ideal time to review your home environment and talk to your children and teens about home safety. According to the Home Safety Council, home related injuries result in nearly 20,000 deaths and 21 million medical visits on average each year. Kids who are going to be spending time at home without adult supervision need a safety plan.

You should check with your state about the laws governing when a child is old enough to be left home alone. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends adult supervision for children until about the age of 11 or 12. In our current economic reality, families may not be able to afford all of the usual camps and activities this summer. When self-care is the only option for all or part of the summer, maturity and comfort level are key factors in whether a child should be left alone. Call a family meeting this June, during Home Safety Month, to discuss a plan for a safe and productive summer. Consider the following safety tips in creating your plan:

1. **Post a list of contact numbers** including family members, trusted friends, neighbors, and emergency personnel. Provide your child with your cell phone and/or work number. Assure them that you will check messages often and return their call promptly.
2. **Make sure your child knows his/her phone number and address.** It is very easy for anyone to panic in an emergency. Write the home information on the contact list so your child can easily read it aloud to a 911 operator.
3. **Brainstorm about fun, safe activities.** Some contact games and sibling "rough-housing" put kids at higher risk for injury. Your kids might enjoy working together to create a play for the family during Fourth of July weekend. Encourage other safe activities, such as reading and word puzzles. The Internet is not always safe for kids to use unsupervised; remind them that the regular house rules about the computer apply.
4. **Enlist your kids help in special projects** such as writing a grocery list for a new recipe from a magazine, planning a reunion, or organizing family photos.
5. **Prepare snacks ahead of time** so your child is not tempted to use the stove or microwave without supervision.
6. **Make sure that a first aid kit is accessible** to perform simple first aid. Teach basic first aid in advance. Show your child where there is a flashlight and batteries in case of a power outage.
7. **Make sure there are working smoke detectors.** Practice fire evacuation routes.
8. **Teach your children to survey the scene.** If coming home to an empty house, instruct them to never enter the house if there are open or broken windows or doors, or other signs of forced entry. Leave and get help from a trusted neighbor.
9. **Practice door and phone safety.** Keep all doors and windows locked. Remind your child never to open the door to strangers. Never tell someone at the door or on the phone that you are home alone. Use the Caller ID or an answering machine to screen calls.
10. **Plan an occasional "field trip" or outdoor activity to socialize with other kids.** Take turns with other parents to provide supervision. Kids should not invite friends to the house.
11. **Call and check on your child.** Always let them know if you are running late.

Renzulli News and Information:

Yearbook Staff: If you are interested in being on the WKMS 2009-10 yearbook staff, you may pick up an application from Mrs. Main's door (Room 202). Applications must be completed and returned to Mrs. Main by Friday, September 11.

PTSA News and Information

Open Positions: There are still several open positions on the PTSA including Committee Chair positions for Volunteer Coordinator, Reflections, PTSA Liaison with Green Valley Elementary, and Redemption Programs. As part of the Board, there is also a second County Council Representative needed. If you have an interest in any of these positions or just want more information, please send an e-mail or call Greg Hall at gregmhall@aol.com or 301-865-4454.

Reflections: WKMS Students: The National PTA Reflections Contest has begun and this year's theme is "**Beauty is...**" Please visit www.pta.org Programs-Reflections for more information and to see the contest rules. Parents please contact Joey Punturiero of the PTSA if you are interested chairing this worthwhile creative artistic contest for our students or just want additional information. Joey's contact information is gajfm@verizon.net and 301-829-3287.

Membership: We encourage each WKMS parent, teacher, and student to join the PTSA this year. There are PTSA Membership forms available on the school's website within the PTSA section, and forms can be found in the school's mailroom in the PTSA box.

PTSA Board Mtg.: Our next PTSA meeting will be a Board Meeting scheduled for September 22nd, at 7:00 pm in the Media Center. Anyone is welcome to attend!

Fundraising: The WKMS PTSA fundraising campaign was kicked off this week. Every student received a fundraising packet during their Advisory period on Monday. An instruction sheet along with order forms for each fundraiser were included in the packet.

The selling period begins Sept 1st and runs thru Oct 19th. Payment should be collected at the time of the orders. All checks should be made **payable to WKMS PTSA**. **Please remember to collect 6% sales tax on chocolate covered popcorn and nut orders**, no sales tax on any other items. Orders for the citrus can also be placed online using a credit or debit card at: https://www.fruitorder.com/orderFundraising_pre3.asp?orgId=752103 If placing citrus on-line orders please ask your customers to put the student's name in the 'comment' box on the checkout screen. Students are encouraged to keep all fundraising material and money in their envelope, including direct donations. Orders can be turned in to the Advisory teacher indicated on their envelope or to the front office. Please return all fundraising envelopes, even if you choose not to participate, so they can be recycled. Prizes will be awarded to the overall top seller, top seller in each of the three fundraisers as well as the top selling class in each grade!

**WINDSOR KNOLLS MIDDLE SCHOOL FAMILY DIRECTORY
WKMS PARENT-TEACHER-STUDENT ASSOCIATION (PTSA)**

Use this form to join the WKMS PTSA and/or sign up for the WKMS Family Directory. The WKMS Family Directory is the student/family directory, with names, addresses, and other contact information for all who wish to be included. You must check **ONE** of the following categories below for your form to be processed:

_____ **\$5 BEST DEAL = MEMBERSHIP AND DIRECTORY:** Join the WKMS PTSA, include information in WKMS Family Directory, and receive a complimentary copy of directory.

_____ **\$3 ADDITIONAL DIRECTORIES**

_____ **\$5 = MEMBERSHIP ONLY:** Join PTSA only, not listed in directory, not receive copy of directory.

_____ **FREE = LISTING ONLY:** Listed in directory ONLY, not join WKMS PTSA, not receive copy of directory.

Only include information that you want to be listed in the directory:

Parent Name #1 _____ Member?

Parent Name #2 _____ Member?

Address: _____

Home Phone# _____ Cell Phone# _____

Home Phone# _____ Cell Phone# _____

Home Phone# _____ Cell Phone# _____

Email #1: _____ Email #2: _____

Email #3: _____

Student name(s) _____ Grade _____

1. _____ Member? _____

2. _____ Member? _____

3. _____ Member? _____

Total # of memberships _____ X \$5.00 per member = total \$ _____

Total # of additional directories _____ X \$3.00 = total \$ _____

Total Amount Enclosed = \$ _____

I want to be on the email distribution list for the WKMS PTSA e-newsletter.

Make checks payable to: **WKMS PTSA.**

Please return to school in envelope labeled: **PTSA Membership / Family Directory.**

*Only one WKMS Family Directory will be distributed per household for those who either join the PTSA or purchase a directory.

Pesticide/Herbicide Information:

Pesticide/Herbicide Request List Form
(Note: this procedure applies only to Secondary Schools)

House Bill #286, enacted in the 1998 session of the Maryland Legislature, requires that secondary schools maintain a list of parents, guardians and staff who desire notification of pesticide/herbicide application in their child's school. All individuals that request placement on the list will be notified 24 hours prior to a regular application and within 24 hours following an emergency application.

Windsor Knolls Middle School will maintain such a list for the 2009-2010 school year and will make notifications as requested. If you wish to be placed on the notification list, provide the information requested below and return to the school by September 30, 2009.

PARENT / GUARDIAN / STAFF MEMBER INFORMATION:

(Circle one above)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE (DAY) _____

PHONE (EVENING) _____

STUDENT INFORMATION:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Parents/guardians: In order to assist us in keeping your child's health information card current, please provide us with the specific information below:

1. Does the student have allergies or reaction to a specific pesticide/herbicide? _____(Yes or No)

If yes, what pesticide/herbicide(s)? _____

2. Did you list this information on your student's health card? _____(Yes or No)

Parent/Guardian/Staff Member Signature: _____

Date _____

PERMISSION SLIP FOR THE WKMS BAND BOOSTERS BACK TO SCHOOL DANCE - GRADES 6-8

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The Windsor Knolls Middle School Band Boosters cordially invites your son/daughter to attend our Back to School Dance scheduled for Friday, September 18, 2009, 3:00 - 5:00 pm.

To attend our dance your child must bring this permission slip, along with \$3.00, to the sales table at lunch Wednesday, September 16th, through Friday, September 18, 2009.

No tickets will be sold without signed permission slip. No tickets will be sold at the door. Food and Drink will be on sale at the dance.

**PLEASE NOTE THE DANCE RULES BELOW. YOUR SIGNATURE INDICATES
THAT YOU HAVE READ THESE RULES AND AGREE TO ABIDE BY THEM**

WKMS DANCE RULES

1. Any student having 10 discipline points or more will not be allowed to attend the dance. This is a WKMS discipline code as noted in your child's planner.
2. Students not entering the dance by 3:15 will not be admitted.
3. Students who leave the dance will not be permitted to reenter. A student may NOT leave before 5:00 unless this has been noted on the permission slip and/or a parent guardian comes to get him/her in person.
4. Students must go to their lockers before the dance. No one will be readmitted to the hallways after the dance.
5. All students must be off WKMS property by 5:15 PM. Any student still here after this time will not be permitted to attend the next WKMS dance.
6. Only **CURRENT** WKMS students will be allowed into the dance.
7. Students acting inappropriately will be asked to leave the dance by a teacher or administrator. This may result in suspension of future dance privileges.

My son/daughter _____, has my permission to attend the WKMS Band Boosters Back to School Dance on Friday, September 18, 2009. I agree to support the school in enforcing the dance rules.

I understand that WKMS is NOT responsible for transportation home from the dance.

PARENT SIGNATURE _____ Date _____

I have read the dance rules and agree to abide by them.

STUDENT SIGNATURE _____ Date _____

Emergency Phone Number: _____

Alternate Emergency Phone Number: _____