



11/26/2020

Hard to believe but somehow it's already December! Our next virtual PTA meeting will be **Thursday, December 3rd** at 7pm. All are welcome to join.

Greenwood PTA is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Greenwood PTA's Monthly Meeting

Time: Dec 3, 2020 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/96028951826?pwd=UnBHTHEXt1hhK0Zidzdub2E2bTFEdz09>

Meeting ID: 960 2895 1826

Passcode: Y13fYK

Thank you to all that donated jelly to help the local food bank, Olney Help, as part of a cluster-coordinated effort this Thanksgiving. We met our goal of 40 jars of jelly and they have been delivered to a very grateful group of volunteers who will distribute them to local families this holiday season.

Also, a huge thank you to everyone who took advantage of the Thankful Thursdays and placed items in the Thank You Box for staff members. It was an encouragement to them. Many items were delivered or are waiting in the staff members' mailboxes for the next time they are at school.

Coming in December: Jingle Jam!!

Near winter break we will be hosting a virtual DJ-lead dance party. All are welcome to participate, details will be announced closer to the event.

Other Upcoming Events!?!? We want to hear from you.

We'd love to host more virtual events for the students. Fill out the attached google form to indicate what kind of event you would like and also be sure to sign up if you are willing to coordinate or virtually host. [Virtual Event Google Form](#)

Book Fair

Thanks to everyone that visited our virtual bookshop! Sales are still being processed but we've earned close to \$500 which will go towards our various annual expenses.

Teacher Appreciation

As part of the monthly PTA newsletter we'd like to offer a strategy to practice Gator Gratitude. Every month we will suggest a simple way to show appreciation to those in our Greenwood community. For December we are decking the halls with cheer! What's more cheerful than a joke? Send your teacher or any staff member something funny! Email a funny e-card, write out a joke, or record your child reciting or reading a funny joke. Let's flood their inboxes with something to smile about.

https://www.americangreetings.com/cards/ecards/brighten-someones-day/_/N-1qzuhmrZ1x91zju

<https://www.hallmarkecards.com/ecards/collections/just+because>

Or, hallmark is giving away free paper cards to be given to educators. To receive your cards, fill out the form here:

https://greetings.hallmark.com/givethanks/?icid=brws_bp_gs_ed_card_giveaway_sys&fbclid=IwAR2Ic20GqIARbVMrAw9oc7pAeJ6z60Yw4DL68QaFrQYM0zMgq9ZRJklicRM

This month we are also hoping to shower our teachers with thankfulness over the holidays. Teachers are definitely missing the day to day interactions with our kids. All those hand written notes and drawings would mean A LOT! Personal gifts are welcome too! We will have boxes outside of Greenwood December 16th. Room parents will be in contact soon to coordinate gifts.

Greenwood Gives

Introducing Greenwood Gives!

We are Greenwood's formal social outreach program. We have partnered with Bel Pre (K-2) and Strathmore (3-5) Elementary Schools to help their students in need.

Please help their students in need and give the gift of learning. We are asking for school supply donations: headphones, dry erase boards, dry erase markers, lined paper and composition books.

School supplies can be purchased on your own and dropped off at 2108 Carter Mill Way Brookeville, MD 20833 or you can purchase supplies directly through our Amazon wish list: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/38J9RUPVSVFIVZ?ref_=wl_share
The list includes various priced items to fit any budget! The drive starts on 11/25 through 12/18. Just in time for Black Friday sales!!!

If you have any questions, please email Greenwood.Gives@gmail.com

MCPS Board of Education Update

The Montgomery County Board of Education has tentatively approved Montgomery County Public Schools' (MCPS') framework for the phased return of students to in-person learning beginning January 2021. The framework was presented to the Board of Education on Nov. 6 and outlines the district's plan for a phased-in return to in-person instruction. You can watch the video of the Nov. 10 discussion here and view the PowerPoint slides here.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

- MCPS has developed a health metrics dashboard for a safe, phased-in return to in-person instruction.
- If metrics are met, the district will start to bring some students back for in-person instruction beginning Jan. 12, 2021. The initial return will focus solely on students in specific special education and Career Technology Education (CTE) programs. These families will be notified if selected.
- Larger groups of students may begin phasing in on Feb. 1, 2021.
- An exclusively virtual learning option will be available for families who do not wish to return to in-person learning..
- A survey is now open for parents to indicate if they want their child to remain exclusively in a virtual learning environment or engage in a combination of in-person and virtual instruction during the second semester.
- In-person experiences could include a combination of the three following models
 - In-person support for virtual learning. Students will receive staff support with organization, understanding, and completing virtual coursework.
 - Simultaneous learning. Students will be engaged in classrooms that combine in-person instruction with students engaging remotely.
 - Direct instruction. Students will receive in-person instruction without a remote component for that particular course.
- How instruction will be delivered once we return to buildings may be differentiated for students, given capacity restrictions and staff availability.

Parents will receive more information about their school-specific model in January. Survey responses will be used to develop each community and level-specific model. Again, all students may opt to remain fully virtual, and we know the virtual model will play a significant role in our delivery of instruction for the foreseeable future.

The survey closes on Dec. 3.

Room Parents

We are looking for parents to become virtual room parents for each class. Normally room parents are in charge of planning and overseeing the Halloween and Valentine's Day parties, as well as coordinating class gifts to teachers (such as an end of the year gift). This year is definitely different and we are working to redefine the role to fit our virtual classrooms for this semester and beyond. ***With the holidays coming up we want to make sure that each class has at least one room parent to support and show appreciation to our amazing teachers.***

We still need room parents for Mrs Cox, Mrs Andriani, and Mrs. Peters' class. If you are interested in becoming a room parent for your class please contact Micole at bklyn_girl@hotmail.com.

Dining Night Out

December's DNO will be Tuesday, December 8th, at Chick-Fil-A from 4-8pm. Take a break from trying to think of what to make for dinner and pick up some take out! A portion of the proceeds will be given to Greenwood PTA.

Yearbook

The following is a note from our yearbook coordinator Andrea Hesse:

I am excited to start planning for the 2020-2021 Greenwood Elementary yearbook. This year, I would like to celebrate our Gators' hard work in the distance learning world as well as capture special memories during this unique time in their lives.

I will be creating folders on Greenwood's Shutterfly shared site for picture uploads throughout the year. Below are some of the folders I have there currently: · Kindergarten, 1st Grade, 2nd Grade, 3rd Grade, 4th Grade, 5th Grade (Pictures captured throughout the school year that do not fit the other categories.)

· Summer 2020

- First Day of School
- Virtual Bingo Night
- Spirit Days
- Behind the Masks (Students should wear their masks in the picture) • Halloween
- Quarantine Hobbies
 - Cooking
 - Gardening
 - Outdoor activities (hiking, camping, etc.)

You may have received an email from Shutterfly titled “Picture Day: Snaps @ Home.” This email encouraged parents to capture a selfie of their child and apply a Lifetouch background. Parents were given the option to purchase those pictures as portrait packages. **If parents pursue this option, that image CANNOT be used in the yearbook.** Furthermore, if Lifetouch is able to photograph students this year and parents purchase those portraits, families will have purchased two packages at that point. I recommend holding off until we know more about this school year’s portraits.



To access Greenwood’s Shutterfly shared site:

1. Click this link: <https://greenwoodmcps.shutterfly.com/>
2. A password prompt will appear. **GreenwoodMCPS** is the password. This ensures only Greenwood parents are able to access the site.
3. Shutterfly will ask parents to create a free, Shutterfly account OR login with an existing account.
4. Once parents are logged in, folders will appear, and uploads can begin! Photo uploads are allowed and appreciated. However, photo downloads for any reason are disabled for the privacy and safety of all Greenwood families. Once the yearbook has been created, all images from the shared site will be deleted. An announcement will be posted on Greenwood’s Shutterfly shared site when this occurs at the end of the year.

If you have questions about the yearbook or Greenwood’s Shutterfly shared site, email yearbook@greenwood-pta.org for assistance. I check the inbox frequently and am happy to help.

Thank you for helping us create memories at Greenwood Elementary!

Memberhub

I'm thrilled that so many families have joined the PTA already this year. Your participation and input is invaluable. Most families have purchased their PTA memberships but in order to utilize our new communication portal we need you to complete the registration process by joining *Memberhub as well. Within our MemberHub site, you will find our e-store, newsletters, signup sheets, shared calendar events, files, photos, reminders, and much more all in one place! At the very bottom of your PTA receipt there should be a link to create a Memberhub account. However you can also join by going to <https://greenwoodpta.memberhub.com/join/5apfcc>.

MCCPTA News

Boundary Analysis

At the recent boundary analysis webinar they discussed an interactive boundary explorer. The tool has been developed by WXY Studios (WXY) as part of its ongoing work with the district to provide a comprehensive assessment of MCPS boundaries by analyzing various data points. They are asking for people to use it to explore the data pertaining to the MCPS school boundary analysis. More importantly, there is a survey included. Definitely take the time to complete the survey! The interactive boundary explorer can be found here:

<http://interactiveboundaryexplorer.com/>

Social Media:

Twitter: @GreenwoodPTA

Facebook: Greenwood Elementary School PTA

Kindergarten: [Greenwood Elementary Class of 2026 Mamas](#)

1st Grade: [Greenwood Elementary-Class of 2025](#)

2nd Grade: [Greenwood E.S. - Second Grade Parents \(class of 2024\)](#)

3rd Grade: [Greenwood Gators Third Grade Parents](#)

4th Grade: [Greenwood Elementary Class of 2022 Mamas](#)

5th Grade: [Greenwood Elementary class of 2021](#)

Important Dates

- December 2nd: 12-1:30pm Curbside Book Checkout Pick-Up and Book Return
- December 3rd: Virtual PTA Meeting 7pm
 - LAST DAY to submit Parent Survey (In-Person or Exclusively Virtual Instruction)
 - FINAL BOE Vote for Return to In Person Instruction Framework
- December 4th: Spirit Day: Wear GES gear
- December 8th: 4pm Chick-fil-A Dining Night Out

- December 16th: Teacher holiday gift drop off
- December 18th: Jingle Jam: Virtual DJ dance party
- December 24-31: School Closed for Winter Break
- January 1st: No School, Holiday
- January 7th: BOE will return to in-person meetings.
- January 12th: Phased in return to school for Special Populations (*if health metrics are met)
- February 1st: Phased in return to school for General Populations (*if health metrics are met)

Thank you for your continued understanding and patience during this extremely unique and difficult time. If you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to reach out. Be safe Gators.

Sincerely,
Mary Quirion
PTA President
President@Greenwood-PTA.org