

Important Dates to Remember

- September 12:
Back to School Night
- September 15:
Ravens Spirit Day
- September 19:
PTO Meeting
- September 21:
Schools closed for Rosh Hashanah
- September 25:
Ice Cream Social
- September 26
Picture Day



Scott Audlin
Principal
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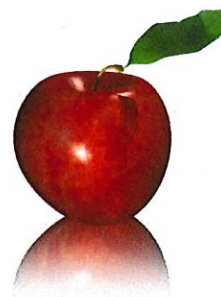
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Timber Talk



Principal's Message

Welcome back to a brand new year! The students are excited and the teachers are filled with enthusiasm for the 2017-18 school year. This enthusiasm was most evident during our first day of classes as the halls were filled with students, parents, teachers and energy for an exciting new year! Our students are quickly learning new routines and instruction is in full swing. I have enjoyed meeting many members of the community at the two meet and greet sessions held in August as well as the numerous community members I have met during the first week of school. The outpouring of support has been heartwarming and is greatly appreciated. Please remember my door is always open to the Timber Grove community.

Our School Progress Planning team met multiple times over the summer to refine how Timber Grove would continue to move forward and meet the needs of all learners. To that end, we will have two main focuses this upcoming school year. We will continue to refine our restorative practices so that we can build a stronger community within each classroom and the school as a whole. Additionally, we will further refine our data-driven responsive instruction, customizing our approaches so that each student has an opportunity to achieve their fullest potential. For example, our continued focus on guided reading will help us to design a more personalized approach to our students' learning.

The Timber Talk will be published on the first Tuesday of each month excluding January. As the school year progresses I welcome your feedback. Our collaboration is an essential component of our success.

I am very excited to be on this journey with you this school year. It has truly been a pleasure to meet so many new faces as well as reconnecting with some familiar ones. I look forward to being a part of the great successes that are in Timber Grove's future!

Best regards,

Scott Audlin, Principal

Timber Grove Elementary

@saudlin1

#RestoreTheRoar

Morning Arrival Reminders

Student Safety is our Priority!

Students who are dropped off by car, should not arrive before 8:00 a.m. Teachers are on duty to supervise at 8:05 a.m. The school cannot assume responsibility for the supervision of your child prior to the start of the school day or once the school day has ended. Students enter the building at 8:05 a.m. when the bell rings. **Students dropped off prior to 8:00 are not supervised.**

MORNING CARPOOL DROP-OFF

The carpool loop, in front of the building, will be open at 8:05 a.m. for you to drop off students. After being dropped off students will need to wait patiently on the designated grade level lines. Students entering the building after 8:20 a.m. will be considered late and need to be signed in at the office by his/her parent.

When you enter the carpool loop, please pull down as far as possible, to the designated station. The staff assigned will direct you where to stop.

It is very important that we demonstrate patience and courtesy as we wait in turn for the cars ahead of us to drop off their children.

Pulling out of line and around other cars and walking across the car pool lane is very dangerous and will not be allowed. Please use the crosswalk.

We also ask parents to be sure all backpacks and hugs are taken care of before you pull up to the drop off area. This will ensure smooth and continuous movement of the carpool line. If you can't let your child out on the right side of the car, due to any problems with your car doors, you must drive to the teacher parking lot area. Letting a child out of the car on the driver's side is very dangerous due to potential passing cars

If for any reason, there are unusual delays due to weather, or unexpected traffic problems in the loop, your child will not be marked as late. They will be given a pass by the staff member on duty.

DISMISSAL CHANGES

Please put all dismissal changes in writing to the homeroom teacher (signed and dated by a parent).

You if are emailing the change, please cc the office at trodriguez@bcps.org or plindenbaum@bcps.org

Timber Grove Mission and Vision

Our mission is to provide *all* students with outstanding teaching and learning in order for *all of our children* to become globally competitive graduates.

Our vision is to work collaboratively with all Timber Grove Elementary families to improve student growth and achievement by:

- Ensuring a safe, orderly and caring learning environment.
- Teaching, modeling, and promoting positive character traits.
- Preparing *all* students to think critically, problem solve, create, and use technology to enhance knowledge and skills.
- Providing a personalized learning environment that is student centered, and collaborative.
- Offering frequent academic and self-development feedback to students.
- Communicating effectively in a timely manner.

Please make sure you have returned all forms to your child(s) teacher if you have not already done so.

- The Emergency Contact Information Form for School Year 2016-2017
- The Parental Privacy Preference Opt-Out Form
- Consent for Administration of Approved Discretionary Medications and Health Contact Information

Please be sure to follow Timber Grove Elementary on Twitter.

Grading Memo

Dear Parents/Guardians:

In 2014, Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS) established a grading and reporting committee to review and update *Policy 5210 – Factors Involved in Student Evaluation*. The grading and reporting committee began their work by collecting and reading the most recent and relevant research which included books, articles, and current available research. The committee, comprised of parents, teachers, and administrators reviewed grading and reporting practices from across the state and the nation. Based on the information gathered, the committee determined the policy needed to be rewritten to reflect more current research-based practices to better align your child's grades with his/her achievement of grade-level standards.

To that end, **Policy 5210 Grading and Reporting** was approved in June of 2015 for full implementation beginning August, 2016. A copy of the Policy and Rule 5210 are available on the BCPS Web site accessing the following links: http://www.bcps.org/system/policies_rules/policies/5000Series/POL5210a.pdf and http://www.bcps.org/system/policies_rules/rules/5000Series/RULE5210a.pdf.

As outlined in the policy, all student grades will align to identified course or grade-level standards and be based on a "body of evidence." A body of evidence is simply the information a teacher collects to determine a student's level of performance. In addition to making sure all grades are based on evidence aligned to standards, (BCPS) wants to ensure that the purpose for assigning grades is clear and consistent across all schools. To do this, BCPS established that the primary purpose for determining marking period grades is to accurately communicate a student's level of achievement in relation to the course expectations at a given point in time.

The school system commits to providing ***equitable, accurate, specific, and timely*** information regarding student progress towards course expectations which includes feedback to you and your child in order to guide next steps and indicate areas growth areas.

To promote alignment to research-based practices and stakeholder input, the committee oversaw the creation of a procedures manual, which is broken down into six guiding practices:

- Grading practices must be supportive of student learning.
- Marking-period grades will be based solely on achievement of course of grade-level standards.
- Students will have multiple opportunities to demonstrate proficiency.
- Grades will be based on a body of evidence aligned to standards.
- A consistent grading scale will be used to score assignments and assessments.
- Accommodations and modifications will be provided for exceptional learners.

At the end of each section, a chart summarizes the “recommended” and “not recommended” grading practices.

In the second half of the manual, you will see a section called Reporting, Grade Calculation, and Codes. This section of the manual brings together important information about grading codes, calculations, and procedures into one location. The *Grading and Reporting Procedures Manual* can be downloaded from the [BCPS Grading and Reporting Web site](#). The Web site also includes sections on Research, Rational, and Frequently Asked Questions.

As we begin the school year, we encourage you to visit the Grading and Reporting Web site. In addition to information on the grading policy there are also links to the report cards for grades 1-3 and grades 4-5. as well as the BCPS Skills and Conduct Indicators.