



Washington Montessori Public Charter School

2330 Old Bath Hwy.
Washington, NC 27889
252.946.1977
WMPCS.org

October 1, 2018

Dear Families and Community Members,

We are so excited to resume a routine as we recover from Hurricane Florence. While it has been a sporadic start, the children are adjusting and have made the beginning of the year one of the best we have had. We feel fortunate to have such amazing students, parents, and community.

Thank you for your patience as we adjust to the days missed and rescheduled events. The newly-approved Board policy (as of September 20, 2018) states that the "**majority** of time, we will follow Beaufort County Schools for delays and cancellations but reserve the right to veer from their schedule when it is in the best interest of our school." This modification will allow us to continue with our operations if we feel it is safe. With the new adjustment in the policy, please be sure to avoid assumptions that the school will close but rather check WITN, our website, and wait for an "all-call" text or message to confirm we are closed. As always, your family's safety is our top priority and if you feel that you may be placed in jeopardy traveling to school, please take caution and notify us.

It is important to note that the school is required by state law to track all absences whether they are excused or unexcused. Although your student may have an excused absence, it must still be recorded as an absence. All absences are taken into consideration at the end of the year through our Attendance Committee. Also, we are required during the year to send notifications of absences to you via mail if your student has missed days; we cannot make exceptions to the notification process as it is dictated to us by the state. Please continue to update us on excused absences or events that affect your child's attendance.

To improve communication among our community and in an effort to provide Montessori parent education more specifically to your family's needs, this year's parent education will be offered in your child's classroom. At this time, we have devised a two-year plan of topics that parents have requested more information about over the years. The classroom guides will keep you updated on these opportunities which will be held at 6:30 p.m. on the third Tuesday evenings of each month beginning Tuesday, October 16th. Childcare will be provided at no charge to you in the Before and After School classroom in Building 3.

Three school-wide community meetings have been scheduled this year. Community meetings are open format meetings where we as a community take the time to acknowledge, discuss and address topics that are submitted from the floor, and discuss plans within our school. The meetings will be held at 6:30 p.m. on the second Thursdays of October, January, and April: specifically October 11; January 10; and Thursday, April 11 in the Secondary II Community Room. During the first community meeting in October, three topics to be discussed that affect our whole community include the structure of our Parent Teacher Organization, questions regarding the Community Elected Board seat, and future building plans of the school. If you have additional topics of interest, please bring them to the meeting and we will address them at that time. Before the community meeting, Secondary I students are serving a pancake supper from 5:00 to 6:30. The meal cost \$5.00 a plate or \$20.00 for families over four people. Please join us as all proceeds benefit the students' end of year trip to our Nation's Capital.

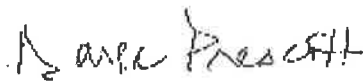
The Community Elected Board seat will open in January; you will receive a letter from the Community Elected Board Committee regarding the election process if you are interested in applying. Serving on the Board of Trustees is a great opportunity to gain a fuller understanding of how our school operates and what we are doing to meet your child's needs.

In order to ensure continued success throughout the year, we would like to reiterate a few topics:

- Carline safety: Thank you for your consistent use of crosswalks to walk over lanes of traffic. As a reminder, during carline (8:00-8:15 a.m. and 3:00-3:30 p.m.) only access the crosswalk between the Children's House and LE buildings as it is the only crosswalk that is staffed. Thank you for helping us keep all students safe!
- Student observations: We always welcome you and encourage observations in your child's class. Please respect our Guides' time, refer to the observation guidelines found in the observation chair, and please do not disrupt students, guides, or the classroom while observing. If you are interested in meeting with your child's guide, please email her/him to schedule a conference after school.
- Contacting your child at school: We have dedicated work cycles and lessons throughout the day. If you need to contact your child, we ask that you do not contact him directly via his cell phone (students do not have access to phones during school hours per school policy); in the case of an emergency, please contact the office or your child's guide who will relay any messages you have.

In closing, we would like to recognize the dedication and commitment of our guides as they have worked tirelessly and consistently through this first quarter of "normalization" for the students. Also, thank you for all that you do for the children and the school.

Sincerely,



Darla Prescott



Austin Smigel



Board of Trustees Community Elected Seat

Attached is a letter with information regarding the Community Elected Board Seat and bios for the three candidates. The election will be held online. If you are interested in participating in the election please be sure to contact the Community Elected Seat Committee (see attached letter).

Breakfast for Dinner

Secondary I (Middle School) is cooking dinner for you!

Menu: Pancakes

Sausage (veggie sausage available)

Fruit Salad

Orange Juice, Tea or Water

When: Thursday, October 11th

5:00 - 6:30 p.m. Before the Community Meeting

Where: Secondary II (High School) kitchen

Cost: \$5 per plate or \$20 per family over 4 people

See flyers sent home with students to pre-order plates.

Red Cross Blood Drive

Help support WMPCS Scholarships

Wednesday, October 10th, 1:00- 5:00 pm

Location: Secondary II, Gym

Every Donation Counts!



Upcoming Events

- Wednesday, Oct. 3rd - Chic-fil-A Hot Lunch.
- Monday, Oct. 8th - Picture Day. Students are to wear uniforms.
- October 8-12, 9:00 am - 6:00 pm: Book Fair (Secondary II Community Room)
- Wed., Oct. 10th - Dominos Pizza Hot Lunch
- Wed., Oct. 10th, 1:00-5:00 pm- Blood Drive
- Thursday, Oct. 11th
 - Secondary I Pancake supper fundraiser 5:00-6:30 p.m. Details to the left.
 - MPTO/Community Meeting 6:30 p.m. in the Sec. II Bldg. classroom
- Thursday, Oct. 18th - 7:00 p.m. Board of Trustees Meeting held in the Sec II Community Room.
- Saturday, October 20 - 5 K run Fundraiser for Secondary I (additional information to follow)
- Monday Oct. 29th - Teacher Workday. No school for students.
- Tuesday, Oct. 30th - Early release for parent conferences.
 - Half day dismissal:
 - PreK - 6th grade 12:00 noon
 - Middle and High school 12:15 pm
- Wednesday, Oct. 31st - Friday, Nov. 2nd - Parent Conferences held.

2018-19 WMPCS Book Fair

Preview day on Friday, October 5th
Monday, October 8th - Friday, October, 12th
from 9:00 am - 6:00 pm
Secondary II Community Room

Before School Hours Change

Before School will now be open at 7:00 am.
The cost is \$5.00 per day, per family.

2018-19 Spirit T-Shirts 2 for \$15

See Gay Holton or Carol Collier in the front office to purchase.
Limited sizes available.

College and University Acceptances

We are happy to announce at this time we have students in the Class of 2019 that have been accepted into the following colleges and/or universities:

Campbell University

Marion Military Institute

Savannah College of Art and Design

Congratulations!!!



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Public Charter School**
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Washington, NC 27889
Phone: (252) 946-1977 Fax: (252) 946-5938
www.wmpcs.org

Dear WMPCS Community,

The Community Elected Board Committee is currently accepting applications for the community-elected Board of Trustees position. Applications are available online at <http://www.wmpcs.org/home/communityseat/> and at the WMPCS front office.

Serving on the Board of Trustees (BoT) will allow a member of our community to pro-actively work for the overall best interests of our school and to assume significant responsibility and commitment to our mission statement and vision.

The voting constituent of the BoT is comprised of seven members. Five members are selected by a BoT committee and two members are elected by the WMPCS community. Members serve four year terms and are eligible to serve a second consecutive term. WMPCS is one of two charterschools in North Carolina that allows for a community elected position on the Board. It is a process that gives our parent community unique input into the governance of our school.

To be considered for the community-elected BoT position, nominees must submit an application, resume, cover letter and bio, no later than October 19th at 5:00 pm. Completed applications may be emailed to gay.holton@wmpcs.org or delivered to the front desk at WMPCS % Community Elected Board Committee or mailed to:

WMPCS
% Community Elected Board Committee
2330 Old Bath Hwy
Washington, NC 27889

Applications received after this time will not be considered.

Eligibility: Employees as well as their immediate family members will not be considered for BoT membership. No employees of for-profit companies that provide substantial services to the school for a fee will be considered. A complete Conflict of Interest Statement will be made available to all applicants.

Duties: In brief, duties required of trustees include:

- Commitment to a 4 year term (trustees may choose to apply for a second 4 year term at the conclusion of the first term and the BoT makes the final determination)
- Attend all Board Meetings, typically occurring on the third Thursday of every month, with the exception of July and December
- Engage in twelve hours of training related to Board responsibilities annually
- Serve on at least one Board committee
- Sign Confidentiality Agreement, Conflict of Interest Statement and Agreement to operate within the approved Code of Ethics
- Additional duties/responsibilities as determined by the BoT critical to meet the governance needs of the WMPCS community

Candidates will be invited to speak at the Community Meeting on Thursday, April 26, 2018.

The Committee looks forward to working with the potential candidates and guiding the WMPCS community through the election process.

Questions or requests for further information may be sent to Susan Keusenkothen susanlstark@hotmail.com.

Sincerely,
Theresa DeLeon
Susan Keusenkothen



Washington Montessori Public Charter School, Inc. NOMINATION FORM FOR BOARD OF TRUSTEES COMMUNITY ELECTED SEAT

Washington Montessori has an open process to solicit nominations for our Community Elected Board of Trustees seat. If you or someone you know may be interested in serving on the Board, please complete this form and email it to Gay Holton (gay.holton@wmpcs.org) or drop off at the front office and it will be forwarded to the Community Elected Board Seat Committee. If you are the candidate, please also attach a cover letter and resume for consideration.

Name of Nominee: _____

Address: _____
Street City/State Zip Code

Telephone: _____
Home Cell Business

Present Employment/Responsibilities:

This individual would bring the following talent and expertise to the Washington Montessori, Inc. Board of Trustees:

Recommended by (if applicable):

Address: _____
Street City/State Zip Code

Telephone: _____
Home Cell Business

Please attach a personal bio to be used publicly during the election process. The statement should be no longer than 1 page and will be included during the ballot process. In the past applicants have included why they would like to serve, what their expertise is, their educational credentials and how long they have been associated with the school.

Please note:

Washington Montessori Board of Trustees community elected term is for four years and can be renewed once. The Washington Montessori, Inc. Board meets at least 6 times per year on the school campus. Board of Trustees applicants will have an orientation and tour of the school. Washington Montessori, Inc. Board of Trustees helps set policy and goals which affect the children we serve. As part of the new board member application process, the Board will perform criminal background checks, both federal and state, by fingerprinting.

Upon submission of application, a member of the Board of Trustees Community Elected Board Seat Committee will contact the applicant to insure each applicant has an opportunity to have a clear understanding of the requirements and responsibilities of being a member of the Board of Trustees.

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____