



New Market Elementary School December Newsletter



Remember to check the FCPS Calendar Handbook, Channel 18, FOF, and the NMES website <http://education.fcps.org/nmes> for school news.

Date	Event	Time
12/3-12/14	Annual Canned Food Drive	First 2 weeks of December
Thurs 12/13	Winter Chorus Performance	NMES Cafeteria from 6-8pm
Fri 12/14	2 Hour Early Dismissal	
Tue 12/18	5 th Grade Band Performance	Linganore HS from 7-8:30pm
Fri 12/21	Spirit Day: PJ Day	
Mon 12/24- Tue 1/1	Schools and Offices Closed	

A Message from Your Administrators

We are so proud of our students and staff! We have been working hard to accomplish many academic, social, and personal goals this fall. As we enter the holiday season, it's a great time to celebrate and reflect on those accomplishments and set new challenges for the upcoming year. As we talk with students, we often hear many comments related to perseverance, not giving up, and having a positive attitude about challenges they face. These stories inspire us! We are all capable of great things when we set high expectations for ourselves and each other. We are thankful for a supportive staff and community who make New Market such a great place to learn and grow. We are proud of our ALL-STAR team!

We hope you and your families have a peaceful and relaxing Winter Break! See you in 2019!

~Mr. Bowser and Mrs. Reter

Every Student Succeeds Act & School Star Ratings

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) is a new federal law that measures individual school success and areas of growth. Under this system, each school will be given a 'report card' and resulting overall star rating. The rating system is on a scale of 1 star (lowest performing percentile) to 5 stars (highest performance band). ESSA accountability measures include overall student achievement, student growth, attendance, school climate, and completion for a well-rounded curriculum. New Market Elementary is pleased to share that we received a 5 star rating for this year, and we are performing in the 89th percentile. We are very proud of our students, teachers, and families for earning this school success. While we are very pleased with NMES, we will continue to reach new heights and ensure success for all students.

The Maryland Department of Education released the school reports last week. For more information about the new star ratings for our schools, please visit <https://www.fcps.org/about/news/1649740/maryland-issues-school-report-cards-local-schools-perform-well>

A Message from Our Health Room

Keeping Our School Healthy

Please notify the staff in the health room if your child develops a contagious condition, such as chickenpox, strep throat, lice, pink eye, mono, pneumonia, etc.

Now that the cold and flu season is here, please remind your student to practice good hygiene. Hand washing and tissues are excellent barriers and deterrents. Chap sticks and cough drops are two excellent comfort measures that students are allowed to carry. Please provide a parent note with the cough drops and encourage your child to have only one per hour. Please keep your child home from school if he/she is ill and/or has a fever. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's illness please call your health care provider.

As an employee of the Frederick County Health Department, the Registered Nurse follows CDC guidelines to investigate and to prevent the spread of communicable diseases. She tracks student illness by monitoring absenteeism, noting the number of student visits and symptoms of illness seen in the health room, and gathering information from families and staff.

Thank you for your cooperation. You can contact the health room at (240) 236-1310.

~Lora McQuitty, RN, BSN

Kid's Heart Challenge Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who helped with the American's Heart Association: Kid's Heart Challenge. We raised \$12,413!

If you want to learn more about our Physical Education program and see pictures from our school day consider joining our Facebook group at: https://m.facebook.com/groups/2220429888243775?multi_permalinks=2279021349051295¬if_t=group_activity¬if_id=1542277457924809&ref=m_notif

Weather Guidelines & Outdoor Recess

It is difficult to set guidelines that fit every circumstance and condition with regards to outside activities during cold weather. Principals use their discretion and good judgment as to whether or not students will go outside, as well as the duration of the outside activity. Sometimes we may opt for a shorter recess period in cold temperatures or specify a temperature above 20 degrees as the cut off point for going out. Elementary students should not go outdoors for recess or physical education whenever the temperature falls below 20 degrees, including the wind chill factor. The temperature cut off at NMES is 20 degrees, so please remember to dress your student in the appropriate clothing (labeled coat, hat, and gloves).

School Closures and Delays

Occasionally, inclement weather and other safety or health conditions require FCPS to close, delay opening or dismiss early. Closing and delay decisions involve careful evaluation of a variety of factors in a short time period. Whenever possible, decisions are made by 5 a.m. for morning closings and delays and by 10 a.m. for early closings, and announced soon after. Because weather can change quickly and forecasts aren't always certain, it's rarely possible to determine delays or closings the night before. However, we always make the decision as soon as we can be sure of the weather and travel conditions, and we begin communicating the decision right away.

FCPS doesn't usually announce that schools are open or operating on schedule, only that they are closed, delayed or dismissing early. If we haven't announced otherwise, schools are open on time. Regardless of what FCPS decides, if you believe weather conditions are hazardous or unsafe, you have the right to keep your child home from school. Student absences because of hazardous weather conditions are lawful and excused.

HOW TO FIND OUT

FCPS notifies about 30 local and regional TV and radio stations plus our own media outlets about system-wide school delays and closings. It is not possible to guarantee that the news media will announce this information promptly or accurately. For the fastest, most reliable information, check the following:

- www.fcps.org
- Social Media: FCPS on Twitter and FCPS on Facebook
- Email/Text Messages: Sign up for Find Out First email and emergency-only text messages
- FCPS TV: Comcast Channel 18 (Frederick area)
- Mobile App: FCPS, free via Google play or App store