



# DECEMBER

## The Seneca Sentinel

Seneca Elementary School  
545 Carrollwood Road  
Baltimore, MD 21220

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>4</b> Field Trip Grade 4 to Baltimore Museum of Industry 9:30 – 1:30  PTA General Meeting 6:00 p.m.	<b>5</b> Book Buzz Meeting 8 am  Operation Kindness 4 – 5 p.m. 	<b>6</b> Seneca Singers 8 – 8:50 a.m.  Robotics Club 4 – 5:30 p.m.  Bucket Band 4 – 5 p.m.  Mixed Bag Fundraiser Pickup 4 – 6 pm	<b>7</b> Recorders 8 – 8:50 a.m.  CUP STACKERS 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.  Popcorn Fundraiser Pickup 4 – 6 pm	<b>8</b> 
<b>11</b> 	<b>12</b> Book Buzz Meeting 8 am  Operation Kindness 4 – 5 p.m.	<b>13</b> Seneca Singers 8 – 8:50 a.m.  Robotics Club 4 – 5:30 p.m.  Bucket Band 4 – 5 p.m.	<b>14</b> Recorders 8 – 8:50 a.m.  Field Trip Grade 2 to Aquarium 9:30 – 1:30  CUP STACKERS 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.	<b>15</b> 
<b>18</b> Field Trip Grade 5 to Marshy Point 9:30 -1:30	<b>19</b> Book Buzz Meeting 8 am  Operation Kindness 4 – 5 p.m.	<b>20</b> Seneca Singers 8 – 8:50 a.m.  Robotics Club 4 – 5:30 p.m.  Bucket Band 4 – 5 p.m.	<b>21</b> Recorders 8 – 8:50 a.m.  CUP STACKERS 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.	<b>22</b> Winter Break Begins at end of Day  Schools reopen January 2, 2018

**PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE:**

As we wrap up the Thanksgiving holiday, I’d like to take a moment again this year to reflect on all that I have to be thankful for here at Seneca. I am thankful for the teachers and staff who work hard every day to ensure each student has what he or she needs to be successful. I am also thankful for our support staff who help to make sure our building is clean and safe, who make sure students are provided with nutritious meals and who make sure students are taken care of physically and emotionally. I’m also thankful for our assistant principal, Mrs. Stuart and our office staff who work hard to take care of a huge range of responsibilities. It is a privilege to work with such a great team. In addition to our school staff, I’m also thankful for our students who come to school ready to do their best and the parents and family members who entrust us to care for them. We are very fortunate to have the continued support of our community and PTA and this support is what makes Seneca such a wonderful place.

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday and I look forward to an exciting month ahead.

Jason Feiler

# STUDENT ACCOUNTS

Now Available at



## LEARNING JUST BECAME EASIER

All BCPS students have access to Baltimore County Public Library's print and online resources for studying, writing assignments, creating the perfect science project or for reading enjoyment.

- Simply use your BCPS One card at any Baltimore County Public Library branch to borrow print or audio materials or ask a library staff person to look up your BCPS One student identification number.
- Borrow up to five items at any one time without any extended loan or late fees.
- Access online resources and ebooks at [bcpl.info](http://bcpl.info) with BCPS One student identification number.



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## SAFETY AND SECURITY

### ATTENTION PARENTS: POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

All visitors to our building must register in the school office immediately upon entering. All visitors will be required to present valid identification. Picking up students from school during the school day is strongly discouraged unless your child is ill. However, we understand that there may be a reason why you need to pick up your child for a doctor or dental appointment. *If you need to pick up your child early, please send in a note to your child's teacher and be prepared to present a picture ID to the front office staff. If a parent or guardian with which the child resides is not the person picking up the child, a note MUST be sent to the child's teacher. In the absence of a note from home and in the event that a parent/ legal guardian can not be reached to confirm an early dismissal, the child will not be released from school.*

All exterior doors will be locked all day. Our safety policy will be strictly enforced. Thank you for your cooperation.

Please be reminded that students are dismissed between 3:40 and 3:50 p.m. Please help us keep our front lobby clear by waiting outside of our front doors for your child.



## ID'S PLEASE! EVERY DAY AND EVERY TIME

Keeping students safe is our top priority. In order to make sure students are dismissed to the correct adult, please be prepared to present your photo ID when picking up your child **every day**. Substitutes and support staff are not familiar with all parents so they will request ID to ensure student safety when dismissing students. Since there are sometimes unanticipated changes during the day, please be prepared to present your photo identification **every day** at dismissal.

Also, a photo ID is required **every time** you enter the school building to ensure student safety.

**WINTER CONCERT – JANUARY 9, 2018**

The 5th grade instrumental winter concert will be on Tuesday, January 9th, 2018 starting at 6:30 PM. A permission slip for the concert was given to all instrumental music students. We hope to see you there to support the instrumental music program.

**STUDENT BIRTHDAYS:**

**Cupcakes and other food treats**

As we begin this school year, I wanted to remind parents that students will not be allowed to distribute cupcakes, donuts, or other edible treats as part of in school birthday celebrations this school year.

It is important for us to move in this direction in order to be in compliance with BCPS policies including Policy 5470 which focuses on wellness. Additionally, edible treats can cause potential dietary and allergy concerns for some families. Information regarding this transition was shared though out last school year in order to ensure everyone was aware of this change.

For parents who would like to provide a small treat for their child's classmates some suggestions are provided below:

- pencils, stickers, erasers, notepads, etc.
- donate a book to the classroom and *schedule a time* with your child's teacher to read it.
- donate classroom supplies.
- provide supplies and directions for a craft.
- donate a board game for indoor recess.

I appreciate your understanding and support as we move forward with this change. If you have any questions, please contact me at 410-887-5945.

Jason Feiler, Principal

**NEWS FROM THE HEALTH SUITE**

Mrs. Kammann wishes everyone Happy Holidays and a Safe and Healthy 2017. Here are just a few reminders as we head into the New Year:

- 1) If you have a new phone number please notify the office so we can update your child's contact information.  
This information is critical in the event of a medical emergency at school.
- 2) Now that cold temperatures have arrived please refresh your child's spare clothes at school with something that is season appropriate.
- 3) Just a reminder that ALL medicines, including over the counter preparations require a written doctor's order to be given at school. All medication must be delivered to school by an adult.
- 4) Did you know that according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention four out of every one hundred children have a food allergy. For some these allergies can be deadly. Please help us by reminding your children there is a "no share" rule at school. Sometimes a food may look safe to a child when in reality it may contain a allergen. To keep everyone safe food should never be shared.
- 5) Flu Vaccine will not be given at Seneca this year. Please help prevent the spread of infection with these three easy steps:
  - Frequent Hand Washing
  - Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth with your hands
  - Cough/sneeze into your sleeve if tissues are not available.Have a safe and happy holiday  
Mrs. Kathy Kammann, School Nurse

# BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURES

In the event of bad weather and very hazardous road conditions throughout the county, schools may be closed for the entire day. Every effort will be made to have such an announcement given over the radio and television stations by 6:30 a.m. (If on an inclement morning no announcement is made over local stations, it is to be assumed that schools will be open as usual.)

**PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE SCHOOL.** Information about school operations is announced publicly as soon as possible on local radio and television stations and other media including the Internet.

- [BCPS Now for Android and iOS](#)
- [BCPS Web Home Page](#) links to page displaying emergency announcements
- BCPS TV, Comcast Cable Channel 73 & Verizon Fios Channel 34
- BCPS Telephone Information 443-809-5555
- Local radio and television stations
- [Schools-out.com](#)

## **ALL SCHOOLS – LATE OPENING**

When weather conditions are such that it appears extremely hazardous to operate schools at the regular early morning hours but that traveling conditions will improve later in the morning, the opening of schools may be delayed one or two hours. In addition to delaying bus schedules, it may be necessary to temporarily alter certain bus routes.

If school opens later than usual, please make sure that your child does not arrive before the announced opening time. We are unable to provide supervision prior to 15 minutes before the adjusted starting time.

**\*\* Please note that breakfast will not be served on these days.**

**ALL SCHOOLS – EARLY CLOSINGS** – When inclement weather develops throughout the county while pupils are in school, it may be advisable to close all schools early. In this event, parents will be notified by radio and television announcements.

Be sure your child knows what to do and where to go if schools close early or open late. **Please review with your child what he/she should do if dismissed early.**

## **EARLY DISMISSAL PROCEDURES FOR INCLEMENT WEATHER (HOT OR COLD) ONE HOUR CLOSING –**

**Student Dismissal:** When students in grades Prekindergarten – 5 are dismissed earlier than normal, afternoon prekindergarten students riding buses will be dismissed with students in grades K-5 and will travel home on the same buses with these students. PreKindergarten walkers may be picked up at 2:45.

Lunches will be served to students.

**Timing:** If possible, the decision to close schools one hour early will be made by 11:30 a.m.

## **TWO HOUR CLOSING –**

**Note:** Every effort will be made to avoid this option, however, in situations where roads can be made safer for a two-hour early dismissal than for a three-hour early dismissal, this option will be utilized.

**Student Dismissal:** When students in grades PreKindergarten – 5 are dismissed two hours earlier than normal, there will be no afternoon PreKindergarten. Morning PreKindergarten students may be picked up at 11:45 a.m.

**Lunches:** Every effort will be made to serve lunches to all students. Morning PreKindergarten students will be fed a snack using the normal snack procedures.

**Timing:** If possible, the decision to close schools two hour early will be made by 11:30 a.m.

## **THREE HOUR EARLY CLOSING**

**Student Dismissal:** Students in grades PreKindergarten – 5 are dismissed three hours earlier than normal. There will be no afternoon PreKindergarten. Morning PreKindergarten students that ride buses will remain in school until dismissal for students in grades K-5 and will travel home on the same buses with these students. PreKindergarten walkers can be picked up at 11:45 a.m.

**Lunches:** No lunches are served on those days when schools close three hours *early due to inclement weather.* Lunches are served when schools are previously scheduled to close three hours early.

**Timing:** If possible, the decisions to close schools three hours early will be made by 10:00 a.m.