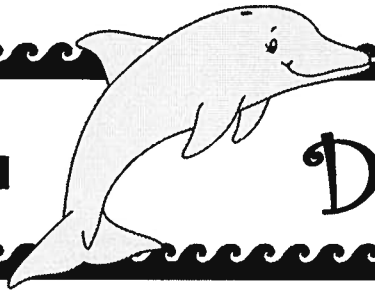


**Mary H. Matula  
Elementary School**

September 3, 2021



# Dolphins' Cove

## **Masks Are A MUST!!!**

Please make sure that your student is coming to school with a mask each day as well as extras. Often, masks break, especially the disposable ones, leaving students without them. Thank you for your support!

## **Student Dismissal**

Any changes to a student's daily dismissal arrangements must be made in writing. Since teachers may not be able to check email during the school day, please do not email same day dismissal changes. Emergencies will be handled on a case by case basis and should be directed to the main office.

*In order to allow office staff to focus on the safe and orderly dismissal of students, early dismissals must take place prior to 3:30 PM.*

## **A Note From Mrs. Koch**

A letter from The Charles County Public Library went home on the first day of school offering all CCPS students the opportunity to have a virtual public library card. This virtual card will allow them to check out up to 15 public library items (including DVDs), and gives students access to all the digital resources that CCPL offers. If your child already has a physical library card- they can still have both!

If you want your child to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity, there is nothing further that you need to do. If you decide that you would rather opt-out, please complete the form that was sent home and return it to the school.

**\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE:** The CCPL letter is **SEPARATE** from the Matula Library permission slip that was sent home. This permission slip **MUST BE** signed and returned in order for your child to check out books at school. If you have any questions regarding library policies, please contact Trish Koch at [pkoch@ccbocoe.com](mailto:pkoch@ccbocoe.com) or by calling the school.

**Thank you for your support!**

## **Boosterthon Dolphin Dash is Coming!!!**

Matula Families—this year's main fundraiser is the Dolphin Dash Fun Run! It's a two-week program that kicks off on October 27<sup>th</sup>. Very soon, families will receive information about gathering pledges for each lap their students run at the Dolphin Dash Fun Run. This year's event will be held on Thursday, November 4<sup>th</sup>. This year, our goal is to raise \$20,000, and we need your help! Monies raised will be used to pay for the new main door wraps, parking lot flags, wall murals inside the building and a color poster machine in addition to fulfilling classroom requests. We've asked the experts at Booster to power our fundraiser to make it easier, more profitable, and more fun.

Students will also experience an amazing character theme, **Sports City Worldwide!** Booster's most exciting theme yet combines S.T.E.A.M. skills (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) with character-building. Our students will learn five character traits that will help strengthen themselves and our world.

Donations will go toward items listed above as well as the entire experience. Very soon, families

will be able to register and begin collecting donations.

Families and businesses are also able to help fund the purchase of a Fun Run t-shirt for all Matula students through sponsorship. Please see the attached letter for more information. Thank you, in advance, for your support!

### **Elementary Cell Phone Rule**

As many of our students' parents desire them to have a cell phone for safety reasons, please note the CCPS rule regarding cell phones at school for elementary students.

CCPS allows the possession and use of cell phones and other personal electronic devices by students. It is the intent of the Superintendent to ensure that this allowance does not disrupt the learning environment, after-school activities, or the safe transportation of students. Students are permitted to use cell phones while attending (but not participating in) general public events that occur after hours and are open to the community.

The following conditions outline the standard expectations for the possession and/or use of cell phones and electronic devices by students at school, on the bus or on other school-chartered vehicles.

**Elementary school students:** Students may only bring their phone or device, with a written request from the parent or guardian for a specific (non-social) purpose, and upon receipt of written approval from the principal.

Once approved, student must keep their phone or device powered completely off (not on vibrate or silent mode) and inside their book bag, locker or cubby throughout the entirety of each school day, unless other storage arrangements are made with the teacher.

Once approved for school, students may use their phone or device on the bus or school-chartered vehicle, but use must not be

disruptive or cause a distraction to the driver at any time; examples include: phone conversations, loud music, videos or electronic games.

*At Matula, phone storage arrangements have been made in the main office. The student must drop off the phone in the office upon arrival and pick it up at dismissal.*

### **Breakfast at School**

If your student eats breakfast at school, please remind him of the following procedures upon entering the building:

- PreK and Kindergarten students proceed directly to their classrooms as they eat breakfast in the activity room.
- 1<sup>st</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> grade students follow our "Grab and Go" process by picking up their breakfasts and proceeding to their classrooms to eat.
- Breakfast ends at 9:20 AM when our instructional day begins.

**Please refer to the CCPS Pre-Screening Questionnaire each morning before sending your child to school. Students with any symptoms may not come to school.**

### **Calendar of Events**

**Monday, September 6** - Labor Day - Schools and Offices Closed

**Saturday, September 11** - Patriot Day - 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of 9/11

**Friday, September 17** - Teacher Inservice Day - Schools Closed for Students

**Tuesday, September 28** - 2-Hour Early Dismissal Day

**Charles County Public Schools COVID-19**  
**Pre-screening Questionnaire**  
For 2021/2022 School Year  
7-30-2021

Dear Parents:

To ensure the highest level of health and safety in Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) buildings, we ask all parents to report their child's health status before coming to school. We are implementing safety measures beyond cleaning and sanitizing as we allow more employees and children into our schools.

We need your help to check your child's health each morning before they enter school. By sending your child to the school, you indicate you have screened your child, and he/she is not a potential positive COVID-19 case. A child who has tested positive for COVID-19 in the past ten days, who is suffering from an upper or lower respiratory illness, or had close contact with an ill person who has tested positive for COVID-19 should stay home.

"COVID exposure" is defined as being within six feet of a positive person for more than 15 minutes during a 24 hour period. Close contact would also include sharing a drink or utensils, kissing, hugging, or a sick person coughing or sneezing directly on you.

People with COVID-19 have reported a wide range of symptoms. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), children with the below symptoms may have COVID-19. The most common symptom of COVID 19 for school aged children is a fever and cough. If your child displays ANY of the COVID symptoms listed below, your child should stay home and your family medical care provider should be contacted.

|                                                       |     |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| New uncontrollable cough                              | Y/N |
| Fever (over 100.4) or higher                          | Y/N |
| New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever | Y/N |
| Sore throat                                           | Y/N |
| Difficulty breathing                                  | Y/N |
| Nausea or vomiting                                    | Y/N |
| Diarrhea                                              | Y/N |
| New loss or change in your ability to taste or smell  | Y/N |

We will ask parents to remove any child from the center and school building within 60 minutes if they become ill.

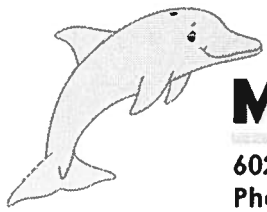
If your child presents symptoms associated with COVID-19, please contact your family medical provider immediately. If your child tests positive for COVID-19 and they have been to school within the four days before the test or displaying symptoms, please contact the school immediately.

Students may not return to school for at least 24 hours after they no longer have a fever or other symptoms without the use of medicines.

Parents who knowingly send students suffering from any of the COVID-19 symptoms are jeopardizing other students health. Students sent home by the nurse with COVID symptom may not return to in-person instruction unless they are symptom free without symptom- treating medication for the initial day, plus 48 hours.

CCPS, in partnership with the Charles County Department of Health, has purchased re-usable thermometers. Each household can receive up to two thermometers per student. If you need a thermometer, please contact your school.

Sincerely,  
Jason Stoddard  
Director, School Safety and Security



# Mary H. Matula Elementary School

6025 Radio Station Road, La Plata, MD 20646  
Phone: 301-934-5412 301-753-1780 Fax: 301-934-5414

Carrie Richardson, Principal  
Jennifer Posey, Vice Principal

Dear Matula Families and Community Members,

We are very excited to announce Mary H. Matula's Boosterthon "Dolphin Dash" will return in October! The "Dolphin Dash" will be Matula's main fundraiser for the 2021-2022 school year. Boosterthon kicks off with a Pep Rally on October 27<sup>th</sup> and ends with a Fitness Challenge on November 4<sup>th</sup>. All students at Matula will receive a class designated grade level color t-shirt to wear and track their laps. At our last Dolphin Dash, we had over 800 students proudly wearing their sponsored shirts!

During our two-week program, students will experience an amazing character theme, **Sports City Now!** This theme combines S.T.E.A.M skills (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) with character-building. While they're teaming up with the MindSpark Kids to solve mysteries, our students will learn five 21st-century character traits that will help strengthen themselves and our world.

We would like each student to experience the joy and pride that comes from wearing their shirt at our Fitness Challenge and throughout the year. Our goal is to raise enough money to provide each student with a shirt. Through your sponsorship, you can help us provide these shirts for our students. The Dolphin Dash sponsorship levels are as follows:



The deadline to be included on the shirts is September 22nd. The attached form can be used for your tax-exempt donation. Logos should be sent to [cdeneault@ccboe.com](mailto:cdeneault@ccboe.com).

Thank you very much for giving back to the kids in our community. We look forward to working with you this year as we recognize the positive choices of our future leaders.

Sincerely,

*Cindy Deneault*

Cindy Deneault  
Dolphin Dash Liaison

# **Mary H. Matula Elementary School**

## **Dolphin Dash Boosterthon Sponsorship Form**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Name or Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Website Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Donation Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to Mary H. Matula Elementary school and send to:

Mary H. Matula  
c/o Cindy Deneault  
6025 Radio Station Rd.  
LaPlata, MD 20646