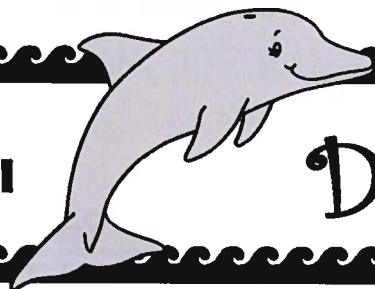


Mary H. Matula
Elementary School
September 9, 2021



Dolphins' Cove

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 27th. 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 4th. 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!

Open House will be held virtually the week of September 27th...more information to come!

THANK YOU, MATULA FAMILIES!

While we have had several positive COVID cases at Matula since the first day of school, we appreciate the timely notification of suspected exposures that we have received from our families. This allows us to contact trace, as necessary, and mitigate additional potential exposure.

Thank you, also, to the families who are reaching out with questions and keeping students home who are exhibiting any symptoms listed on the CCPS Pre-Screening Questionnaire. A copy of the revised Pre-Screening Questionnaire is attached. Please note the following change:

"Parents who knowingly send children suffering from any of the COVID-19 symptoms are jeopardizing the health of other students and staff. Students sent home by the nurse with COVID-19 symptoms may not return to in-person instruction or school activities unless they receive a negative PCR test. Students who visit the nurse and present any of the COVID-19 symptoms listed above who are not tested will be presumed positive for COVID-19 and excluded from in-person learning and CCPS activities for 10 calendar days."

Car Rider Request

To keep school staff and students from having to enter the car rider parking lot during dismissal, we request that booster seats and car seats be placed on the passenger side of the vehicle. This will allow our staff and students to remain on the curb when approaching and loading the vehicle.

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!

Calendar of Events

Saturday, September 11 - Patriot Day - 20th Anniversary of 9/11

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

Friday, September 24 - Mrs. Hasselberger's Class Visits Nanjemoy Creek Environmental Center

Monday, September 27 - Ms. Figurelle's Class Visits Nanjemoy Creek Environmental Center

Tuesday, September 28 - 2-Hour Early Dismissal Day

Wednesday, September 29 - Mrs. Vigil's Class Visits Nanjemoy Creek Environmental Center

Friday, October 1 - Mrs. Chancellor's Class Visits Nanjemoy Creek Environmental Center

Follow Matula on TWITTER

@matulaprincipal and @matulavp



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, device 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.

**Charles County Public Schools COVID-19
Pre-screening Questionnaire
For 2021/2022 School Year
9-8-2021**

Dear Parents and Guardians:

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 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 10 days, who is suffering from an upper or lower respiratory illness, or has 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, with a fever of over 100.4	Y/N
Sore throat with visible redness	Y/N
Difficulty breathing	Y/N
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.

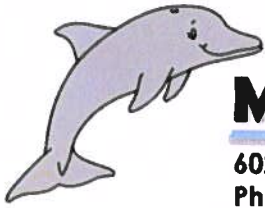
If your child presents symptoms associated with COVID-19, please contact your family medical provider immediately. If your child tests positive for COVID-19 and they have been to school within the four days before the test or displaying symptoms, please contact the school immediately.

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 children suffering from any of the COVID-19 symptoms are jeopardizing the health of other students and staff. Students sent home by the nurse with COVID symptoms may not return to in-person instruction or school activities unless they receive a negative PCR test. Students who visit the nurse and present any of the COVID-19 symptoms listed above who are not tested will be presumed positive for COVID-19 and excluded from in-person learning and CCPS activities for 10 calendar days.

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

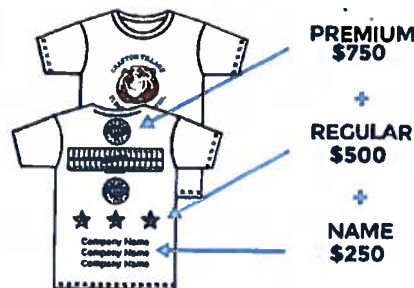
Carrie Richardson, Principal
Jennifer Posey, Vice Principal

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 27th and ends with a Fitness Challenge on November 4th. 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.

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

2021 Early Fall Assessments



Overview of Early Fall Assessments

As part of continued COVID-19 recovery efforts, the Maryland State Department of Education is conducting an early fall student assessment as one of several strategies to identify how students are performing academically. The results will help educators better understand student needs, so that we can address disrupted education and accelerate learning opportunities for all students. These results never stand alone in assessing student growth, and will be used in combination with other assessments and class work to gauge overall student performance.

What is MCAP?

The Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP) is the overarching term used for all state assessments. MSDE will administer assessments in the Early Fall for English Language Arts/Literacy (ELA/L), Mathematics, and Science (Maryland Integrated Science Assessment-MISA), as well as the Alternate Assessments in ELA, Mathematics and Science, and the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA). The MCAP also includes assessments in Social Studies and the ACCESS for ELLs assessment for English language learners.

What is different this year?

SHORTER ASSESSMENTS

Each Early Fall assessment is a shorter version of the traditional ELA/L, Mathematics, and MISA assessments which will measure how well students performed in content presented during the last school year (2020-2021). Students will take the assessment for the grade or course in which they were enrolled last Spring when the assessment was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. For example: a current 4th grader will take the 3rd grade English Language Arts/Literacy (ELA/L) or Mathematics test, and a current 9th grader would take the 8th grade MISA assessment.

COVID-19 WAIVER

High school students who were enrolled in an ELA/L 10, Algebra I or High School Science course last year and take the shorter Early Fall assessment will not be required to pass the assessment to meet Maryland's graduation requirements. Additionally, during the 2021-2022 school year, students enrolled in an ELA/L 10, Algebra I, Biology or Life Science, or Government course will be required to take, yet not required to pass, the current assessments for graduation. Students must pass the respective course.

NO TESTS FOR 3RD GRADERS DURING THE EARLY FALL ASSESSMENTS

Students in 3rd grade will not test since it is content from the prior year that will be assessed.

Early Fall Testing Schedule for MCAP

SEPTEMBER 13 – OCTOBER 22

English Language Arts/Literacy (ELA/L),
Mathematics, Maryland Integrated Science
Assessment (MISA)

- ELA/L Grades 3–8 & 10
- Mathematics Grades 3–8, Algebra I,
Geometry, Algebra II
- MISA Grades 5 & 8, and High School

SEPTEMBER 13 – OCTOBER 29

Dynamic Learning Maps Alternate
Assessments

- ELA and Mathematics Grades 3–8
& 11
- Science Grades 5, 8 and 11

AUGUST 2 – OCTOBER 10

Kindergarten Readiness Assessment
(KRA)



For additional
information on MCAP
assessments,
please visit:

marylandpublicschools.org