

Fort George G. Meade

Welcome
Back
to
School



A Soundoff! supplement printed in the
interest of the Fort Meade community

Soundoff!

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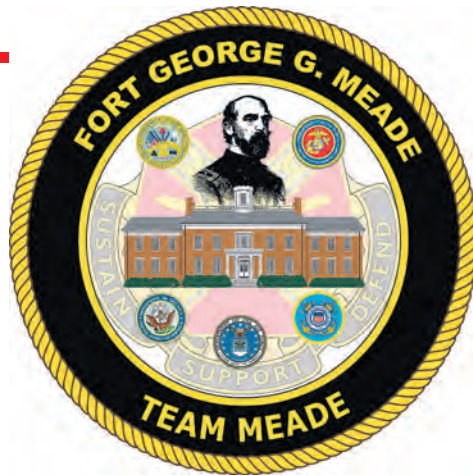
Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturday through Sunday, 8 a.m. to noon.

Printed by offset method of reproduction as a civilian enterprise in the interest of the personnel at Fort George G. Meade, Maryland, by The Baltimore Sun Media Group, 501 N. Calvert St., Baltimore, MD 21278, every Thursday except the last Thursday of the year in conjunction with the Fort Meade Public Affairs Office. Requests for publication must reach the Public Affairs Office no later than Friday before the desired publication date. Mailing address: Post Public Affairs Office, Soundoff! IMME-MEA-PA, Bldg. 4409, Fort Meade, MD 20755-5025. Telephone: 301-677-5602; DSN: 622-5602.

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Guaranteed circulation: 12,339



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Top Questions for School Liaison

Met Antoinette Parker, Fort Meade's school liaison officer. Parker addresses the top questions posed by families new to the area.

What do I need to do to enroll my child in school?

Once you have determined your neighborhood school, call for an appointment to register.

Bring your child's birth certificate, shot record, current physical, two proofs of residency (your lease or mortgage and a utility bill that have your name and new address), report card from previous school and IEP (Individualized Education Program) if your child has special needs.

What services are available to help military children transition to a new school?

The School Liaison Office provides academic support and services for military families as they transition to a new school. Services include: student vocation and special needs workshops for parents, free tutoring resources, military student ambassador support clubs, youth sponsorship programs, scholarships and college fairs.

How old does my child need to be to start kindergarten?

If your child turns 5 on or before Sept. 1 of the desired school year, your child is eligible to enroll. If your child turns 5 after Sept. 1, the child is not eligible to enroll.

Can my child enroll in kindergarten if he turns 5 after the Sept. 1 deadline?

A 4-year-old child who turns 5 by Oct. 15, upon request by the parent or guardian may be admitted to kindergarten if the child meets the mandated criteria on the required assessments.

For more information, see early kindergarten enrollment at aacps.org.

How do I know what school my child attends?

Your child attends a neighborhood school designated by your address.

If you live in Anne Arundel County, your child attends Anne Arundel County Public Schools. If you live in Howard County, your child attends Howard County Public Schools, etc.

Are there services available to help teenagers gain employment experience or participate in volunteer activities?

The Teen Center and School Liaison Office offer support and assistance with career and workforce preparation. Both programs can also assist with identifying and scheduling volunteer opportunities for any teenagers who are interested in participating in such activities.

Fort Meade's Volunteer Corps Program also offers opportunities for teens to get involved. Call Marie Miles, manager, at



Antoinette Parker

CHILD, YOUTH &
SCHOOL
SERVICES
SCHOOL LIAISON
OFFICER

301-677-5590.

How do you enroll in a charter school?

ACCPS has two charter schools in the Meade area.

The Monarch Academy in Glen Burnie serves kindergarten to eighth grade. Telephone: 410-760-2072 or monarchacademy.org.

The Chesapeake Science Point Charter School in Hanover serves grades six to 12. Telephone: 443-757-5277 or mycsp.org.

Parents must contact each individual school for enrollment openings.

Who is the new military representative of the Board of Education's Citizen Advisory Committee and what does the committee do?

The new Military CAC representative is Corey Livel, a Navy officer stationed at Fort Meade. The Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) is a structured group appointed by the Board of Education that provides advice to the board on specific issues impacting educational policy, activities and programs.

What can parents do if their child needs tutoring?

Contact the Fort Meade School Liaison Office. The SLO office keeps a list of free and fee-based tutoring services in the area.

What is the Meade feeder system?

The Meade feeder system is the term used to designate the elementary and middle schools that "feed" into Meade High School. This system includes the following elementary schools: Manor View, Pershing Hill, Meade Heights, Seven Oaks, Jessup, Van Bokkelen, Brock Bridge, Maryland City, Hebron-Harmon and West Meade Early Education Center.

The middle schools are MacArthur Middle and Meade Middle.

Are the Fort Meade schools Department of Defense schools?

No. The schools located on Fort Meade are operated and governed by Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS), 2644 Riva Road, Annapolis, MD 21401.

Telephone: 410-222-5000. Email: aacps.org.

The superintendent of Anne Arundel County Public Schools is Dr. George Arlotto.

How do I contact the Fort Meade school liaison?

School Support Services is located at Child, Youth and School Services, 1900 Reece Road.

The office is open Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Telephone: 301-677-1227 or 301-677-1749.

CYSS School Liaison Officer: Antoinette Parker at Antoinette.d.parker.naf@mail.mil

CYSS Specialist: Lorian Tarver at Lorian.m.tarver.naf@mail.mil

#TechConnects: Social media strengthens communication between parents, schools

BY MADDIE ECKER

Staff Writer

Facebook and Twitter have become one of the most useful ways to bring school news to parents. From snow days to entertaining memes, social media not only informs but also entertains and engages parents and students with their schools.

Bob Mosier is the chief communications officer for Anne Arundel County Public Schools, which includes all of Fort Meade's public schools. Mosier explains how parents can get connected, stay updated and be in the know.



Bob Mosier,
Anne Arundel
County Public
Schools chief
communications officer

"[Social media] is a really powerful tool in communication with parents and is becoming more powerful by the day," Mosier said. "It really has opened an entire new world of engagement with parents and students throughout

our school systems."

Which social media does AACPS use to inform parents?

We have one system-wide Facebook page and one system-wide Twitter page. There are Twitter pages for every school in our district. So 125 of them, and Twitter pages for a variety of different departments.

So how does that work?

The two system pages, Facebook and Twitter, are where all of our system-wide news releases get put. The system-wide stuff also gets put on all of our school pages. For example, yesterday we sent out our biggest release of the year; it's an eight-page

[pamphlet] on all you need to know about going back to school. That goes out through email to however many people our email distribution list is and then it goes on our Facebook page.

What's the benefit of using social media to communicate?

Social media allows for more of a two-way thing. Somebody can tweet back, somebody can call and say "I saw this on Twitter." In addition to that, it has provided a way for schools, not just to tell people what's going on in their buildings, but to show them. The visual aspect of social media is really powerful.

Has using social media campaigns been successful for AACPS?

If you follow the hashtag #AACPS-Back2Awesome, that's our back-to-school Twitter campaign. We launched it last year and we're doing it again this year. That was enormously successful for us last year. It gave parents and students and grandparents and community members a role in this whole thing.

What type of social media do you use?

Kids are on Twitter and their parents are on Facebook. Kids got away from Facebook because their parents got on it. Facebook and Twitter allow us to reach two different audiences, so the messaging is a little different. [AACPS also uses Instagram to showcase student artwork.]

How would you advise new parents and students to get connected?

Go on the social media pages because that's where [information is] posted the earliest — that and the website. You'll get a phone call and you'll get all that. So that's how we get the adults on social media. The kids are easy because the kids live on social media.

How do you drive people to your pages to stay informed?

Get them there however you can and keep them entertained and informed. It's an information vehicle, but it's also very much an entertainment vehicle. You've got to get them to your page to communicate with them. You can't communicate with them if they're not there.

Most of the folks we deal with are on social media. It's just a matter of making sure they know where our social media pages are, and the easiest way to follow our stuff on Twitter is to follow our #AACPSAwesome. I would recommend that parents follow at least our system-wide Facebook and Twitter pages and the page of the school their child attends.

What about parents who aren't on social media?

In general, people who don't do it just don't do it. They don't call us to complain because it's not the only thing we use. We still do email, we still do phone calls, we still do text messages — we still do all of that.

Do you respond to parent's questions that are posted on social media?

If people ask legitimate questions, we try and answer those questions, or we will send them a private message. If someone asks where they can find the link to the school calendar, we'll grab a link and respond to that. That's helpful for people.

Do teachers have Facebook pages?

If you go on our FB page and look at our followers, you'll see some that are clearly teachers. They're kind of cool to look at. We try to encourage teachers to do that within the parameters of the policy.

Why did AACPS start using social media to inform parents?


We reached a spot when we were having trouble using our traditional methods to communicate with our audiences. [For example, during a storm] while people didn't have power in their houses for three

What's Trending for #BacktoSchool?

Schools to Follow:

@PershingHillIES
@ManorViewES
@WestMeadeAACPS
@MacArthurAACPS
@MeadeMAACPS
@MeadeHgtsAACPS
@MeadeHSAACPS
@BrockBAACPS
@hebronharmanes
@JessupESAACPS
@MDCityAACPS
@sevenoakses
@VanBokESAACPS

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

 #AACPSBack2Awesome
#AACPSAwesome

days in the wake of that storm, they all managed to keep their phone charged. We learned from that.

How can parents learn more about AACPS' social media presence?

There is a full page in the student handbook that every child gets that talks about all of our social media outlets. Every school goes over its Twitter page at back-to-school night. And at every school, the numbers we use for our automated messaging systems are pulled from our student database. So if you as a parent register a child, when you put down your home number, your work number, your cell number, they're going to come over into our messaging system. So you'll start to get calls automatically.

ParentCONNECTxp launches online

Beginning Sep. 6, Anne Arundel parents can view their child's grades and attendance online through ParentCONNECTxp. This tool is for AACPS children in grades one to 12, and access is available to any person with legal rights to view their children's school records. Parents can register by visiting parentconnect.aacps.org and should expect their account to be activated within 24-48 hours.

ParentCONNECTxp is updated twice daily for secondary school and once daily for elementary schools, but may occasionally be down for maintenance. For specific questions, directly contact the school.

ParentCONNECTxp
STAY CONNECTED...

...to student grades
and attendance



Fort Meade offers community, educational support for home-schooled families

BY ERIN COVEY

Fort Meade Public Affairs Intern

While most children start their day boarding a yellow school bus, a growing number don't have to travel much farther than their kitchen table.

For military families who choose to home-school their children, Fort Meade offers a robust community and support group. Families can join a co-op or Classical Conversations group and participate in a variety of field trips and social activities.

Home-schooled students, who make up 3 to 4 percent of the U.S. population according to the National Center for Education Statistics, are more common in the military community. The Home School Legal Defense Association estimates that 5 to 10 percent of military children are home-schooled.

Don Sholl, the home school program coordinator for Anne Arundel County Public Schools, said that about 30 percent of home-schooled children in the county are from the military community.

Families who choose to educate their children at home come from diverse backgrounds and use different educational styles. Some choose curriculums that offer the structure of testing and report cards, while others pursue a less traditional style of

education that follows the classical model.

Many also enroll in online programs connected with curriculums and private schools.

However, military families who home-school are united by their desire to provide quality, consistent education for their children in the midst of the transitions that come with the military lifestyle.

The Fort Meade Co-op

Megan Jakubaitis, who has five children ranging from ages 8 months to 11 years old, balances home-schooling her family and leading the home-school community on post. Jakubaitis is the coordinator of the Fort Meade Co-op and organizes field trips promoted in the Fort Meade Homeschool Group on Facebook. She believes that joining groups is important for both parents and children.

"Get involved, and make sure you have a good support group because you're going to have good days and hard days," Jakubaitis said. "If you can be around people that can encourage you, it's such a benefit to home schooling."

The Fort Meade Co-op, which meets Fridays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Potomac Place Community Center, offers classes for pre-K through high school in subjects such

Myths about home schooling

■ Home-schooled children are not socialized.

Many home-school families seek community for their children through sports, dance, Scouting and church ministries. Home-school parents also emphasize the importance of connecting with other home-schoolers through co-ops and groups.

■ Families home-school for exclusively religious reasons.

"Home-schoolers choose home schooling for a variety of different reasons: for continuity of education between moves, for bullying or problems at school, for higher academic standards, for special needs. The list could go on for days," said

Valerie Moore, home-school veteran.

■ Home-schooled children don't succeed academically.

A study conducted by the National Home Education Research Institute showed that home-schoolers who took the SAT in 2014 scored higher than the national average.

as art, physical education, journalism and geography.

Registration for the fall session, which runs from Sept. 9 to Nov. 4, has closed since the co-op has reached its cap of 100 students. However, families interested in registering for the winter session, which begins in January, can contact Jakubaitis or another administrator of the Facebook group.

Jakubaitis also coordinates through the Facebook page the group's field trips that are open to all Fort Meade home-school families

once or twice a month.

"This year we have an Annapolis walking tour that we're doing in September, then in October we have the [National Aquarium in] Baltimore, and in December we do a fun field trip to a ballet 'Nutcracker,'" Jakubaitis said.

Classical Conversations

Valerie Moore, another home-school veteran, teaches her three children using Classical Conversations. The curriculum uses the classical model of grammar, dialectic and rhetoric, and has a strong Latin element. The program is designed in such a way that local Classical Conversations communities can be started by any group of families who use the curriculum.

These "communities" are similar to co-ops in that they provide classes for students on a weekly basis. However, the classes are tied directly to the material children learn at home. Students give presentations, write papers, learn vocabulary, and participate in science experiments and math games at the community.

The Fort Meade Classical Conversations community will meet Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3 p.m. at Argonne Hills Chapel Center beginning Tuesday. Currently, the community offers classes for pre-K through sixth grade.

Moore, who led the group last year, said that the group went from two or three families in 2014 to 21 families registered for the current school year.

"The demand for quality education on



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Fort Meade home-schoolers take a field trip to learn about the process of making maple syrup at the Brookside Nature Center in Wheaton on Feb. 5, 2015.

post and community for home-schoolers is very high, and we're excited to see where that's going to lead the group," Moore said.

Families interested in joining the Classical Conversations community can visit its national website at classicalconversations.com to find the Fort Meade group and learn more about the classical model of education.

Maryland Guidelines

Military families who home-school know that each state has unique guidelines and requirements for educating at home. Sholl believes that the requirements from Maryland are fairly "middle of the road" compared to other states.

Maryland requires that parents meet with either a representative from the county public school system or an umbrella school twice a year for a review. The reviews conducted through the county require less information and tend to be shorter than the reviews conducted by an umbrella school.

"We meet with parents more in a parent-conference style, where parents are sharing with us what they're doing," Sholl said. "We're there to verify that there is regular and thorough instruction being conducted. The same thing is happening with the [umbrella schools]."

Sholl encourages military families new to the area to settle in before contacting the Anne Arundel County Public Schools Home School Office.

The office offers an orientation meeting for families new to home-schooling or new to the area on Sept. 13 from 1-3 p.m. and Sept. 29 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Board of Education, 2644 Riva Road, Annapolis.

"This optional parent meeting is to discuss the roles and responsibilities of home-school parents for providing home schooling, as well as [providing information about] the Home School Office and to provide an overview of the student home-school review process," Sholl said.

Moore urges families new to home schooling to have a clear vision of why they home-school so they can discover what methods and resources work best for them.

"I would encourage new home-schoolers to prioritize what your goals are for your family," Moore said. "Today, one of the great things about home schooling — but what also turns into a challenge — is that there are so many resources, we want to use them all."

"And I think having a really focused view of why we home-school really helps us cut through and choose those important things."

Tutor.com: New age learning

A free online service for military kids, service members

BY MADDIE ECKER

Staff Writer

Starting strong in the new school year requires an artillery of tools. Tutor.com is available to help.

Tutor.com offers personalized, live

tutoring 24/7 to service members and students in kindergarten through 12th grade who are children of active-duty service members and full-time/active or deployed Reservists at no cost. Each branch of the military has slightly different eligibility, which can be found at military.tutor.com/eligibility.

Pamela Brehm, director of Tutor.com Military and Federal Programs, says Tutor.com supports students who are struggling

with their schoolwork, taking advanced courses or want to prep for a test.

For families interested in this service, Brehm is excited to share information

"The question we hear most often from military families is, 'Why didn't we know about this earlier?'" said Brehm.

With over 40 academic subjects areas and more than 3,000 tutors, there is a topic and teacher for every student. Tutors work anonymously with students online through instant messaging, file sharing and by drawing on the classroom's interactive whiteboard. Students can log in and connect with a tutor "any time, any day, anywhere, from any internet-connected device," said Brehm.

"Tutor.com/military is like a safety net for students of all skill levels. Knowing support is available when a student needs it helps decrease stress over schoolwork and academic success," Brehm said. "Students who use Tutor.com report that they earn higher grades, complete more homework assignments and are more confident at school."

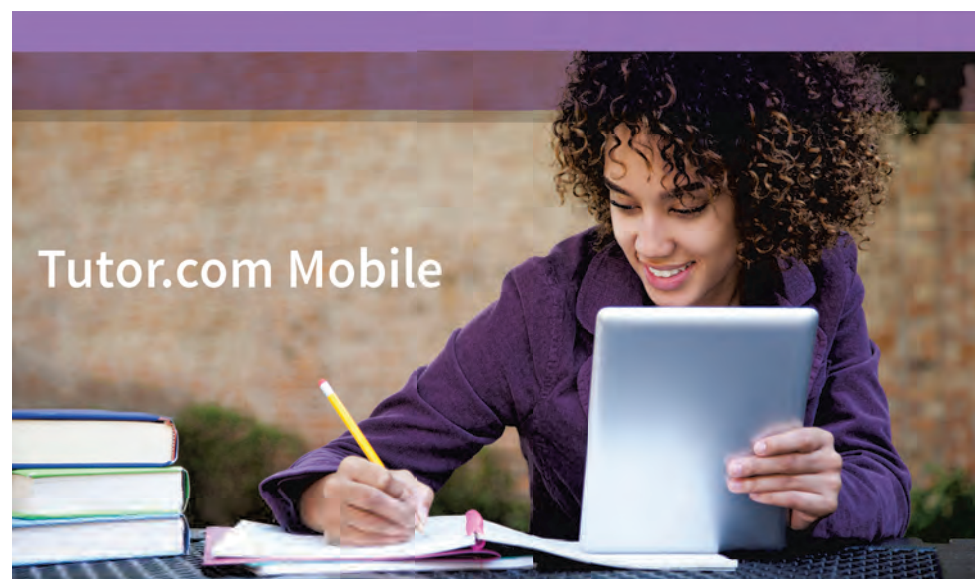
How to sign up

To start a tutoring session, go to www.Tutor.com/military, select a subject and then describe the kind of help needed. A few minutes later, the student enters a virtual classroom and begins working one-on-one with a tutor. No webcams or telephones are used.

Students can log in from a computer or mobile device. There is a Tutor.com mobile app for students on the go. No extra software needs to be downloaded.

Eligibility for using Tutor.com/military is determined by the DoD and is subject to change. Civilians and anyone who is ineligible to use the DoD-funded program must pay about \$40 an hour, said Brehm.

To see current programs and team news, check out Tutor.com for U.S. Military Families Facebook page. Specific questions can be emailed to militarysupport@tutor.com.



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Fighting back: School programs aim to stop bullying, cyberbullying

BY LISA R. RHODES

Staff Writer

The first day of school signals a new beginning for Fort Meade students. A new school year is an opportunity to gain more knowledge, acquire improved study habits, join a new club, play a new sport and make new friends.

But for some students, the impending school year can be a fearful prospect — the fear of being bullied by peers in school or on social media.

Maisley Paxton, chief of the Child and Family Behavioral Health Service at Kimbrough Ambulatory Care Center, said bullying is a common experience for many children and adolescents.

“Bullying behavior can be physical or verbal,” Paxton said. “Boys tend to use physical intimidation or threats, regardless of the gender of their victims. Bullying by girls is more often verbal, usually with another girl as the target.”

Surveys indicate that “half of all children are bullied as some time during their school years,” Paxton said.

According to StopBullying.gov, a federal government website, 28 percent of students in grades six to 12 and 20 percent of students in grades nine to 12 experience being bullied.

The Anne Arundel County Public Schools has a Bullying/Cyberbullying/Harassment/Intimidation/Hazing/Bias Behavior regulation that defines bullying and cyberbullying and outlines procedures that school administrators must take when a student makes an allegation of these offenses.

Administrators at McArthur Middle School, Meade Middle School and Meade High School say both bullying and cyberbullying are taken seriously at their school and much effort is taken to protect students who are victims and to rehabilitate students who are offenders.

AACPS defines bullying as “repeated conscious, willful and deliberate, direct/indirect action with the intent to physically or psychologically intimidate or distress someone else.”

Cyberbullying is defined as “the use of information and communication technologies intended to embarrass, humiliate,

threaten or physically or psychologically intimidate others.”

The regulations state that if there is a posting in a public forum where others can see it, then it is repeated behavior.

Beth Dudeck, an assistant principal at MacArthur Middle School, said although numerous bullying reports were reported and investigated in the past year, only five of those investigations resulted in a referral for bullying and a consequence.

John Yore, principal at Meade High School, said while one case of bullying is unacceptable, Meade had eight documented bullying reports in the past year. Any report of bullying is investigated within 24 hours, said Yore.

Meade Middle School did not disclose any incidents of bullying and cyberbullying.

Bullies and Victims

Who is likely to be a bully and a victim?

Paxton said children who bully thrive on “controlling and dominating others.” She said children who bully have often, but not always, been victims of physical abuse or have been bullied themselves.

“Bullies may also be depressed, angry or upset about events at school, at home or in the community that precipitate the behavior,” Paxton said.

“Children are targeted by bullies who tend to fit a particular profile,” she said. “Bullies often — but not always — choose children who appear to be passive, easily intimidated or have smaller social circles. Victims are also likely to be smaller or younger and have a harder time defending themselves against a bully’s advances.”

A World of its Own

Ross Ellis, founder and CEO of STOMP Out Bullying, a national nonprofit dedicated to educating the public and preventing bullying and cyberbullying, said cyberbullying is in a world of its own.

“Digital harassment is like the Wild West frontier as it changes every day and is anonymous,” Ellis said. “National statistics from the Pew Foundation state that about 32 percent of teenagers who use the internet say that have been targets of a range of annoying and potentially menac-



I KNOW WHAT IT FEELS LIKE
TO BE BULLIED. I WOULD HATE
FOR ANYONE ELSE TO FEEL THAT WAY.

stopbullying.gov

ing online activities such as receiving threatening messages; having their private emails or text messages forwarded without consent; having an embarrassing picture posted without permission; or having rumors about them spread online.”

While children and teens may be the victims of a bully, many are often too intimidated to ask for help.

But Paxton said the price of remaining silent is steep.

“Children who are bullied experience real suffering that can interfere with their social and emotional development, as well as their school performance,” she said. “Some victims of bullying have even attempted suicide rather than continue to take such harassment and punishment.”

Paxton said cyberbullying is extraordinarily harmful.

“Because bullying statements exist in cyberspace, they are unregulated, often anonymous, and broadcast to a larger and wide audience,” she said. These victims “feel a real inability to control, stop or undo what has been done because once bullying occurs in cyberspace, it can be difficult, if not impossible, to undo.”

AACPS requires school administrators to investigate allegations of bullying and cyberbullying. A Bullying, Harassment or Intimidating Reporting Form must be completed to ensure the allegation is documented. The investigation must ver-

ify whether the reported behavior actually took place, and the parents or guardian of the victim are notified.

The regulation states that it “cannot be predicted what will be discovered or if a hearing may result from the ultimate outcome of the investigation.”

As a result, victims and witnesses should be informed that “any information discussed and recorded will be confined to a need-to-know basis.”

The confidentiality of the release of student information, including the identity of the alleged offender, is stipulated in the Family Educational Rights Privacy Act.

Consequences

Bryan Bauer, chair of the School Counseling Department at Meade Middle School, said the consequences for bullying and cyberbullying are outlined in the AACPS Student Handbook and are available to students and parents to review.

Bullying and cyberbullying are considered violations of the AACPS Code of Student Conduct, and administrators are advised to use progressive interventions to change student behaviors.

Dudeck noted that, according to the handbook, bullying and cyberbullying both begin at a Level 3 consequence, which can include a variation of conse-

quences from a detention all the way to a one- to three-day suspension from school.

She said it is important for parents to understand that not all reports of bullying are found to be bullying. The investigative process can take several days to complete, and all parties must work together through the process.

"It is important to know that prior to administering a Level 3 consequence, a student should have received an intervention of some kind when appropriate," Dubeck said.

Yore said that at Meade High, the consequences can range from a conference with the offending student, which can include verbal warnings, to parent contact, community conferences, counseling, community service, suspension from school or even police involvement.

Yore, Dubeck and Bauer all stressed that their schools focus on prevention and intervention to protect students and resolve conflicts.

"We believe strongly in restorative practices and are proactive in our attempts to resolve issues with students who are in mutual conflict," Yore said.

Community conferencing is used at Meade High to "bring students and families together to resolve issues," he said.

Restorative Justice

Counseling is available to both victims and offenders. The school partners with Fort Meade to provide outpatient behavior health services to military students through Villa Maria Anne Arundel County and the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center.

At Meade Middle School, all students receive bullying, conflict and peer relations lessons in the classroom through their school counselor.

"School counselors and the Student Services Team provide counseling and social-emotional supports to victims," Bauer said.

The team also meets with students accused of bullying to provide counseling in an effort to mitigate bullying behaviors.

Meade Middle also uses voluntary Restorative Justice Circles, which are designed to promote healing and understanding between the victim and the bully.

Dubeck said that at MacArthur, bullying victims are offered support through Student Services. Support groups, counseling, referrals to outside counseling resources, and assigning a mentor to the victim.

Offenders can be referred to a student support team and social skills group, or placed on a behavioral support plan.

Ellis said it is important to support youths whether they are the victim or perpetrator of bullying. If a child is bullied,

Warning Signs

Parents should be aware of changes in their child's behavior that may be an indication of bullying and/or cyberbullying.

The Department of Defense Educational Activity has suggested that the following behaviors may be a sign of distress. If parents notice these behaviors in their children, DODEA suggests that parents discuss the issue and contact the school principal and guidance department or a mental health professional to seek help.

- ★ Comes home with torn, damaged or missing pieces of clothing, books or other belongings
- ★ Has unexplained cuts, bruises and scratches
- ★ Has few, if any, friends with whom he or she spends time
- ★ Seems afraid of going to school, walking to and from school, riding the school bus, or taking part in organized activities with peers such as clubs
- ★ Has lost interest in school work or suddenly begins to do poorly in school
- ★ Appears sad, moody, teary or depressed when coming home from school
- ★ Complains of frequent headaches, stomachaches or other physical ailments
- ★ Has trouble sleeping or bad dreams
- ★ Experiences a loss of appetite
- ★ Appears anxious or suffers from low self-esteem

Editor's Note: For more information on bullying and cyberbullying from the Department of Defense Educational Activity, go to <http://www.dodea.edu/StudentServices/BullyingPrevention>.

Ellis said parents should not become hysterical.

"Be calm and loving toward your child," she said. "Tell them how much you love them and that it's not their fault. Get all the facts and document them. Tell your child you will handle it together and ask them how they would like to see it handled."

Some parents can choose to empower their children to use assertive comebacks with a bully.

However, if the school principal does become involved, Ellis said parents must be patient.

"Parent should not expect immediate assistance until the school has a chance to investigate the complaint," she said. "The investigation doesn't happen overnight."

If your child is a bully, Ellis said he or she must know they are loved but their behavior is unacceptable.

"Explain what is acceptable and deliver consequences," she said. "At the same time, parents need to get to the root of the problem. Having your child see a private psychologist is important to determine the root cause and change the child's behavior."

Editor's Note: Clinical services are available for children and youths at the Child and Family Behavioral Health Service at Kimbrough Ambulatory Care Center. To schedule an appointment, call 301-677-8051 or 301-677-8239.

Parents can report bullying anonymously through AACPS at the following link: <http://www.aacps.org/antibullying>.

For a copy of the AACPS Student Handbook and the Student Code of Conduct, go to aacps.org.



Anne Arundel County Public Schools

Back-to-School Nights

Meade Cluster Schools:

- Meade High: Thursday, Sept. 15, 6 p.m.
- MacArthur Middle: Wednesday, Aug. 31, 6 p.m.
- Meade Middle: Thursday, Sept. 8, 6:30 p.m.
- Brock Bridge Elementary: Thursday, Sept. 1, 6:30 p.m.
- Hebron-Harman Elementary (Grades 2, 5): Monday, Aug. 29, 6 p.m.
- Hebron-Harman Elementary (Grades 3,4): Tuesday, Aug. 30, 6 p.m.
- Hebron-Harman Elementary (Grade 1): Wednesday, Aug. 31, 6 p.m.
- Jessup Elementary: Thursday, Sept. 22, 6 p.m.
- Manor View Elementary: Tuesday, Aug. 30, 6 p.m.
- Maryland City Elementary: Thursday, Sept. 1, 6 p.m.
- Meade Heights Elementary: Saturday, Sept. 24, 6:30 p.m.
- Pershing Hill Elementary: Tuesday, Sept. 13, 5 p.m.
- Seven Oaks Elementary: Wednesday, Sept. 14, 6 p.m.
- Van Bokkelen Elementary: Tuesday, Sept. 6, 6 p.m.
- West Meade Elementary: Thursday, Sept. 8, 6 p.m.

www.aacps.org

Anne Arundel County Public Schools



Food and Nutrition Services Information

View 2016-2017 AACPS School Menus Online

Learn more about the nutrient and allergen data. All of the healthy choices AACPS offers are found at <http://aacpschools.org/nutrition/nutrientdata/> or scan the QR Code.



AACPS offers MyPaymentsPlus to manage your child's meal account on-line. Visit www.MyPaymentsPlus.com to register today.

Source: aacpschools.org/nutrition/nutrientdata/
 Twitter @aacpscuisine For Questions Call: 410-222-5900

CYSS Shuttle Service Begins

Fort Meade youths who need transportation to and from the Youth Center and Teen Center now have a way to get around.



Starting Sept. 6, Child, Youth and School Services will provide a free shuttle for all CYSS registered members in grades six through 12 to ride from Corvias Military Living neighborhood centers to the Youth Center and Teen Center.

The shuttle will pick up riders between 3:45 and 5 p.m. and will also return youths back to their neighborhood center between 6:30 and 7:45 p.m.

Contact: 301-677-1437

[facebook.com/FtMeadeMWR](https://www.facebook.com/FtMeadeMWR) www.meadearmymwr.com

Teen Center Events and Activities

CYSS Teen Center

Activities for grades 9 to 12



Teen Center Location: 3102 MacArthur Road, Ft. Meade, MD
 Contact: 301-677-6054
www.meadearmymwr.com

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Location: 909 Ernie Pyle St., Bldg. 909, Ft. Meade, MD
 Contact: 301-677-1196 or 301-677-1801

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