Welcome back to a new school year. We have had a smooth opening week and look forward to a great school year. We are pleased to welcome several new staff members here at Yough Glades as well as welcoming familiar faces to new positions. Our new staff assignments are listed to the left. We are also happy to report that all of our teachers are considered to be “highly qualified”. Should you have questions about the qualifications of your child’s teacher or the paraprofessionals who work with your child, please feel free to call or stop by the school office. Our students continue to make excellent progress in the transition to Maryland’s College & Career Readiness Standards and the Next Gen Science Standards. We encourage your support as we work collaboratively to provide an excellent instructional program with high student expectations.

Parents picking up their child at dismissal time may enter the building when the doors are unlocked at 3:00 p.m. Please sign your student out in the main office and wait in the foyer. The first round of “pick-up” students will be called immediately following the first wave of buses—approximately 3:10 p.m. We have a “Permanent Pick” up procedure in place as well. If your child is picked up every day, you may request a Permanent Pick-up form. Once completed, your child’s name will be put on a daily sign-out sheet. You will go directly to the media center to sign your child out rather than coming into the office. This has helped with some of the congestion in the lobby during dismissal time.

Gator Happenings

Welcome New Staff
Dr. Patrick Damon—Kindergarten Teacher
Mrs. Emily Nelson—Behavior Support Teacher
Mrs. Catherine Goodwin—4th Grade Teacher
Mr. Damien Wickizer—Music Teacher
Mrs. Jenny Eiswert—Instr. Assistant
Ms. Nikki Ashby—Instr. Assistant

Parent Teacher Group (PTG) News
The Parent Teacher Group (PTG) will be meeting on the following dates: Sept.11th, October 9th, November 13th, Feb. 12th, March 12th, April 9th, and May 14th. We will be starting the meetings at 5:30 p.m. We will also have meetings in December and January as needed for planning fundraisers.

Parent Teacher Group (PTG) News

Dates to Remember
Sept.11th—PTG Mtg. 5:30 pm
Sept.12th—Gator Reading pm
Sept. 13th—Rachel’s Challenge
Sept.18th—3 hr. early dismissal
Sept.27th—Picture Day

When Picking Your Child Up
Parents picking up their child at dismissal time may enter the building when the doors are unlocked at 3:00 p.m. Please sign your student out in the main office and wait in the foyer. The first round of “pick-up” students will be called immediately following the first wave of buses—approximately 3:10 p.m. We have a “Permanent Pick” up procedure in place as well. If your child is picked up every day, you may request a Permanent Pick-up form. Once completed, your child’s name will be put on a daily sign-out sheet. This sheet will be located in the media center each day. You will go directly to the media center to sign your child out rather than coming into the office. This has helped with some of the congestion in the lobby during dismissal time.

Student Absences
GCPS Student Handbook states, “We believe students must attend school and all classes regularly and be punctual because there is a direct relationship between regular attendance and academic achievement and completion of a school program.” We expect that students will occasionally be absent for valid reasons. There has been a general misconception that students are entitled to “personal days” or “vacation days”. Please know that there is no allowance in our policy for these days. There is, however, an allowance for circumstances which are not emergencies. A student/parent must request in advance to use no more than 5 days in this way. If an advance request is not made, then the days will be “unexcused”. All other absences must have a written excuse sent in within 3 days of return. Without that excuse, again, the days will be labeled, “unexcused”.

Breakfast in the Classrooms
Once again this school year, every child and staff member at Yough Glades will be able to eat breakfast for free in the classroom. This program began at Yough Glades several years ago and has been very successful. We are excited to continue to offer this opportunity to everyone here at Yough Glades as we believe the start of a great day begins with a great breakfast. Please encourage your child to have a healthy breakfast, whether it’s at home or here at school.

Classroom Snacks/Treats
If you are planning to bring a snack to celebrate your child’s birthday, please communicate with your child’s teacher in advance.
Principal’s Welcome Back Message

Welcome back to a new school year. As we get up and running, I would like to make you aware of a few goals for this year. As many of you learned at Back-to-School night, we are implementing PBIS this year. PBIS stands for Positive Behavior Interventions & Supports. One of the first things that our students learned about in their classroom last week was our new Yough Glades “Mantra”! This mantra basically helps students and parents remember what we’re all about here at Yough Glades. Our mantra, “As Gators we CHOMP!”

⇒ C—Caring
⇒ H—Honest
⇒ O—Organized
⇒ M—Mindful
⇒ P—Problem Solvers

This mantra will be used throughout the school year and reviewed with students. You can help by talking with your child about these important characteristics and how they apply not only at school, but at home as well.

If you have any questions about our participation as a PBIS School, please feel free to contact me.

“IT must be remembered that the purpose of education is not to fill the minds of students with facts...it is to teach them to think.”

Home/School Communication

Communication between school and home is a vital component for your child’s academic success. Please be sure to check your child’s backpack daily and discuss any activities completed and sent home. Also, please be sure to check his/her planner for communication from the teacher.

Receiving your Newsletter Electronically

In an effort to conserve paper, and to deliver newsletters in a format convenient to our families, you are now able to sign up to receive your newsletter emailed to you, or for you to receive the newsletter by checking our website. If you are interested in receiving the newsletters electronically, please fill out the form attached to this newsletter.

Safe Schools Reporting Act

The Garrett County Board of Education considers harassment and intimidation (bullying) to be serious offenses which will not be tolerated. In accordance with the Safe Schools Reporting Act of 2005/2008, forms are available at each school office to report alleged harassment and intimidation (bullying) that has occurred on school property, at a school-sponsored activity or event off school property, or on a school bus during the current school year.

“Harassment and intimidation (bullying) means conduct, including verbal conduct, that creates a hostile educational environment by substantially interfering with a student’s educational benefits, opportunities, or performance, or with a student’s physical or psychological well-being, and is motivated by an actual or a perceived personal characteristic such as race, national origin, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion or disability, or is threatening or seriously intimidating.

If a student, parent or guardian, close adult relative, or school staff believes that the student is a victim of harassment or intimidation (bullying), the alleged incident may be reported by using the Harassment or Intimidation (Bullying) Reporting Forms which are available at your school’s office. The incident should be reported on this form and returned to the school principal who will investigate the alleged incident. Please contact your child’s school for additional information or assistance, or the Garrett County Board of Education, Pupil Services Office at 301-334-8939.

Please remember to send your child to school in appropriate clothes. The temperature in the building can fluctuate throughout the day. Dressing in light layers will help children to adjust according to their own comfort.

Title I Information

Yough Glades is proud to be a Title I school. This means we receive federal funds to provide extra help for all students at Yough Glades. The amount of money we get depends on the number of students who receive free or reduced lunch. The money goes to help all students in our school. It can be used for teachers, parent involvement activities, and supplies and materials. You can help by filling out the free lunch application and turning it in.

As a Title I school, we rely on the partnership between school and home to ensure that our students succeed. We hope you will feel welcome to be part of your child’s school experience and a part of the success of Yough Glades Elementary School.

In an effort to conserve paper, and to deliver newsletters in a format convenient to our families, you are now able to sign up to receive your newsletter emailed to you, or for you to receive the newsletter by checking our website. If you are interested in receiving the newsletters electronically, please fill out the form attached to this newsletter.