

The Parent "O"bserver

2/2/24 -- Edition 7, Volume 11 --
#4T1V

New Items Added to the Newsletter that are Important

Preschool applications open February 1st!

Families apply online by completing an [Online Application](#). ([Spanish version](#)). Applications may also be completed in-person or via phone. Families should call the preschool office with any questions.

Email: PreKPrograms@pwcs.edu

Phone: 703-791-8708

Please note:

- Check list of schools served [here](#).
- The preschool program has income limits. To review, please visit: www.pwcs.edu/headstart
- During the online application, families are asked to upload proof of family income, a copy of child's birth certificate, and at least one proof of address. Other information will be requested if a child is accepted. For more information on the application process, acceptance, and school enrollment, visit: www.pwcs.edu/academics_programs/head_start/how_to_apply.
- **Selections begin in April and continue until classes are filled.**

New Timeline for the Construction of the New Occoquan ES

The updated schedule is a result of awaiting county permitting for the project so we can start work once awarded. The end date does not change.

- January 31st advertise for bids
- Early March open bids to determine contractor and adjust budget
- Early May recommend contract award to School Board (that's the lead time for agenda items)
- Early June contractor on site for initial setup
- Mid to late June site work gets underway

-End of 2025 - finish school -start of 2026 - entrance ceremony of students and staff going to new school

-Start of 2026 - demolition and work at front of site starts

-Late June 2026 - OES project finishes site

We are working to time and coordinate construction of the pre-k center at the front of the site to finish by late summer 2026.

Unsubscribing From SchoolStatus Messages

As of January 31, 2024, parents can unsubscribe or resubscribe to emails sent through SchoolStatus. We are **encouraging families NOT to unsubscribe from any SchoolStatus messages as they may miss important communications from the school or division including emergency and inclement weather messages.**

As part of new email deliverability guidelines, SchoolStatus must provide a one-click unsubscribe functionality option. Email providers will block emails arriving that don't provide this capability. SchoolStatus has implemented this functionality to ensure messages sent by email are not marked as spam or delayed. These email guidelines affect all email providers across all industries, not just with SchoolStatus.

The only change message recipients will see is an unsubscribe option in their emails (both Broadcast and Notify). Because parents can now unsubscribe, this could affect connections with some families. Please note that once a recipient has unsubscribed, PWCS staff cannot resubscribe them without that recipient taking action. This is by design and is a requirement of the email providers.

[Please review the directions for resubscribing and share this frequently with families.](#)

*Note: Text messages are not effected by unsubscribing to emails.

Items that Will Always be Relevant for Parents to Review

SchoolQuality Profile (AKA: SOL Results)

The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) released the annual Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL) test results and updated the [School Quality Profile](#). We are well on our way to fully recovering from the pandemic. Occoquan has scored some of the highest scores in Reading and Math. Our African-American scores are what I am most proud of, as we have now surpassed the achievement gap in this category. PWCS will work diligently to support continued academic progress, acceleration, and recovery.

Dismissal Times

Students are no longer allowed to be dismissed from the office between the times of 3:30 and 4:00

do so before 3:30. Otherwise, you will need to wait until 4:10 to come into the office to pick them up.

Parent Handbook for the 2023-24 SY

OES Parent Handbook 23-24.pdf

[Download](#)

251.2 KB

Late Bus Information

Transportation's Late Bus Notification web page is now available for parents and schools. The page will list buses that will be late 15 minutes or more to start their run. Please save the link below to review it:

https://www.pwcs.edu/departments/transportation/bus_delays

Here Comes the Bus App

Please be sure to download "Here Comes the Bus" app so that you can track your child's bus to know a more accurate time on when your child will be picked up and dropped up from their bus stops. After you download the app, it will prompt you with a few questions, and then you will need to enter a school system code. This code is: 76348

Should you have any issues with this app, please feel free to email hctb@pwcs.edu, and they will answer your questions.

Continuous Improvement Plan

Our ambitious Continuous Improvement Plan ensures we are on the right track to navigate the journey back to pre-pandemic levels by investing in our instructional core, maintaining high expectations to ensure academic excellence, and strengthening infrastructures along the way toward greater equitable and accessible academic achievement for all students.

Please click the link below to take a look at the plan in what will be some of its final stages.

CIP Info for 2023-24--Final 7-25-23.pdf

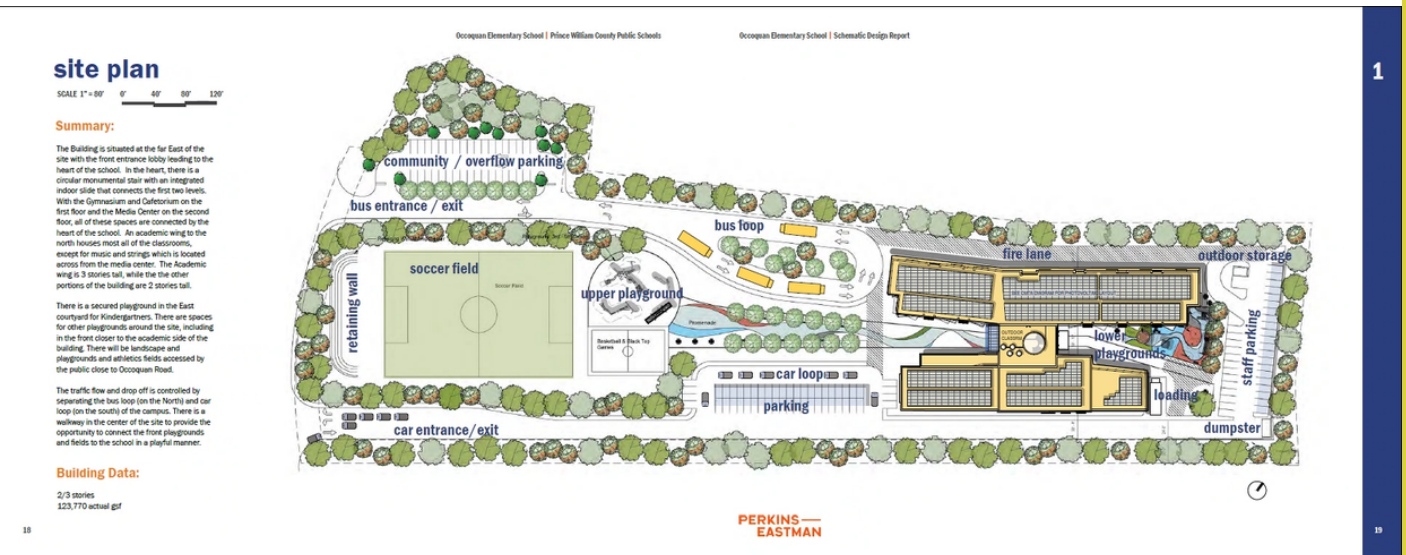
[Download](#)

1005.5 KB

Construction on the New Building

Construction on Occoquan's new building began recently when they started digging two of the one-hundred-ten holes they will need to dig for our geothermal energy. It has been an exciting time. The students are predicted to move into the building in February 2025. The new building will be located

on the grass behind the playground. Construction will officially begin in January 2024, but they will continue to work on some of the other aspects that take a little longer well before that time frame.



Title I Information

Key information for Title I

- Please be sure to check out the Occoquan school compact for information about Title I (it is the document directly above), staff agreements, student agreements, and parent agreements, as well as our goals for the year in reading and math.
- Reading support is provided through small-group instruction and before and after-school tutoring.
- Math support is provided through small-group instruction, co-teaching lessons with the classroom teacher, before and after-school tutoring, and one-on-one individual support for math intervention.
- Thank you for supporting our awesome Occoquan students!



Grade Level Newsletters

Grade Level Newsletters

Please click on the grade level below that your child(ren) is in order to read their specific information from their teachers.

Grade Levels update their information once a month.

[Kindergarten](#)

[1st Grade](#)

[2nd Grade](#)

[3rd Grade](#)

[4th Grade](#)

[5th Grade](#)

[Gifted](#)

The En"CORNER"

EL Department

Special Education Department

Important Event Dates

Event Information

Advisory/PTO

Michael P. Lint is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Advisory/PTO

Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://pwcs-zm-edu.zoom.us/j/86835043754?pwd=UnRaWFJkc3Myd0dOZHBTWit1MEZBQT09>

Meeting ID: 868 3504 3754

Passcode: 250979

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,86835043754#,,,,*250979# US (New York)

+16469313860,,86835043754#,,,,*250979# US

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

When?

Thursday, Feb 15, 2024, 06:00 PM

Event Information

Report Cards will be Live in Parent View for Second Quarter

When?

Wednesday, Feb 14, 2024, 07:00 AM

Event Information

NO SCHOOL--President's Day

When?

Monday, Feb 19, 2024, 08:00 AM

Event Information

Donuts and Coffee with the Principal

When?

Thursday, Feb 22, 2024, 08:00 AM

Where?

Principal's Office

Event Information

STEAM Night 5-7

When?

Thursday, Feb 22, 2024, 05:00 PM



Occoquan Elementary School

Where Everybody Is Somebody

A PWCS "School of Excellence"

Email: lintmp@pwcs.edu

Website: occoquanes.pwcs.edu

Location: [12915 Occoquan Road, Woodbridge, VA, USA](https://www.google.com/maps/place/12915+Occoquan+Road,+Woodbridge,+VA,+USA)

Phone: [703.494.2195](tel:703.494.2195)

Facebook: www.facebook.com/OccoquanElementary

Twitter: [@occoquanes](https://twitter.com/occoquanes)



Michael Lint

Michael is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters