

# The Parent "O"bserver

4/5/24 -- Edition 7, Volume 16 -- #4T1V

## *New Items Added to the Newsletter that are Important*

### **Upcoming Solar Eclipse Preparations**

Help us prepare your child for the Solar Eclipse so that they understand the importance of being safe with an event like this. Here is a link that will help with this:

[https://www.pwcs.edu/academics\\_\\_programs/science\\_\\_family\\_life\\_education/solar\\_eclipse](https://www.pwcs.edu/academics__programs/science__family_life_education/solar_eclipse)

### **Hat Day on Monday**

Every child that wears a hat will earn a Tribal point for their Tribe on Monday, April 8.

### **PWCS Is Hiring Tutors! Learn More At The April 16 Information Session.**

On April 16 at 5 p.m., the Prince William County Public Schools (PWCS) Human Resources Department will host a virtual information session for community members interested in becoming a [PWCS tutor](#).

[Register for the information session](#)

Registration for this event is required to attend. Registered attendees will receive a confirmation email containing the meeting link on Friday, April 12.

To be considered for a tutoring role, you must complete a "Substitute/Temporary" employment application on [PWCS' jobs website](#).

Application support is available via email at [hr@pwcs.edu](mailto:hr@pwcs.edu), [live chat](#), phone at 703-791-8050 (option 1), or in person Monday-Friday from 8-4:30 p.m. at the Kelly Leadership Center (14715 Bristow Rd., Manassas, VA 20112).

For questions about the information session, please contact Sean P. McDonald at [recruit@pwcs.edu](mailto:recruit@pwcs.edu).

## Yearbook Orders are LIVE

Yearbook preorders are now open through April 5th. Order forms will go home starting next week. Yearbooks will be \$20. I highly encourage you to go onto [yearbookforever.com](http://yearbookforever.com) and searching Occoquan to get your preorder in early. If you prefer cash or check, please make sure you send the order form to school signed by a parent/guardian. After preorders close yearbooks will go on sale once they are delivered.

## Summer School Information

Registration for Summer School will run from April 11 through May 24. Registration is open to Prince William County residents only at this time.

The location will most likely be at Belmont or Rockledge ES, we are not sure which location we will be sending our students yet. Both of these programs will be providing the students with free meals.

Summer School dates will be different this year, so please be aware of this. **The dates will run from June 24 through July 12.**

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# *Items that Will Always be Relevant for Parents to Review*

## School Quality 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 due to disruptions to the dismissal process. If you need to pick your child up early, you will need to 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*

[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](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](mailto: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.

## site plan

SCALE 1" = 60'

### Summary:

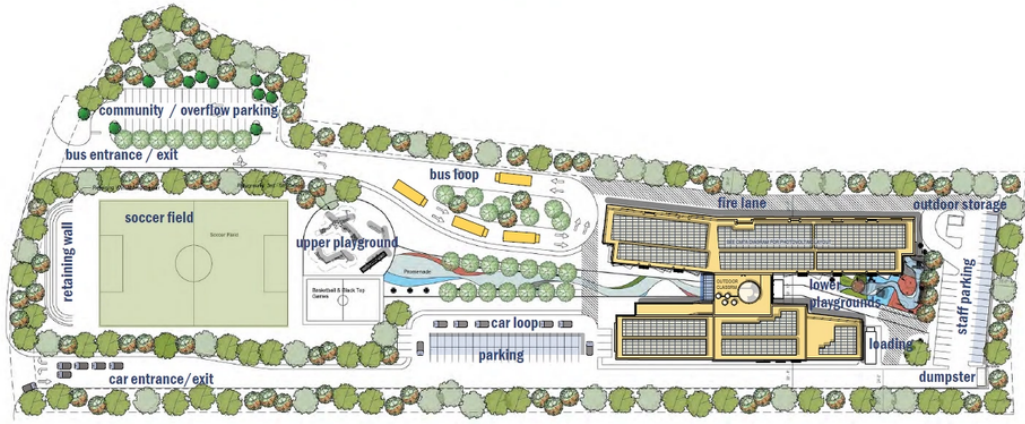
The Building is situated at the far East of the site with the front entrance lobby leading to the heart of the school. In the heart, there is a circular monumental stair with an integrated indoor slide that connects the first two levels. With the Gymnasium and Cafeteria on the first floor and the Media Center on the second floor, all of these spaces are connected to the heart of the school. An academic wing to the north houses most all of the classrooms, except for music and strings which is located across from the media center. The Academic wing is 3 stories tall, while the other portions of the building are 2 stories tall.

There is a secured playground in the East courtyard for Kindergartners. There are spaces for other playgrounds around the site, including in the front close to the academic side of the building. There will be landscape and playgrounds and athletics fields accessed by the public close to Occoquan Road.

The traffic flow and drop off is controlled by separating the bus loop (on the North) and car loop (on the south) of the campus. There is a walkway in the center of the site to provide the opportunity to connect the front playgrounds and fields to the school in a playful manner.

### Building Data:

2/3 stories  
123,770 actual gsf



# 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!



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## *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*

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## *Important Event Dates*

Event Information

### **End of 3rd Quarter**

When?

**Monday, Apr 8, 2024, 04:30 PM**

Event Information

### **NO SCHOOL--Teacher Work Day**

When?

**Tuesday, Apr 9, 2024, 08:00 AM**

Event Information

### **No School Due to EID AL-FITR**

When?

**Wednesday, Apr 10, 2024, 08:00 AM**

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=UnRaWFJkc3Myd0d0ZHBTWit1MEZBQT09>

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, Apr 18, 2024, 06:00 PM**

Event Information

**Spring Chorus Concert**

When?

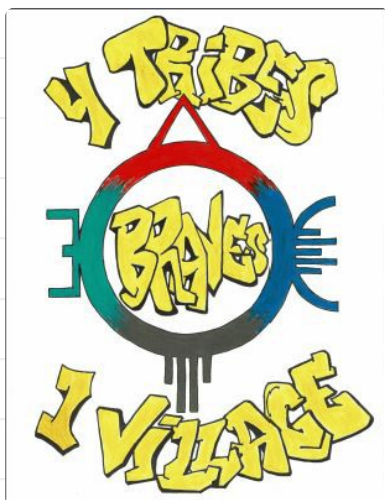
**Wednesday, Apr 24, 2024, 06:00 PM**

Event Information

**Coffee and Donuts with the Principal**

When?

**Thursday, Apr 25, 2024, 08:15 AM**



## Occoquan Elementary School

Where Everybody Is Somebody

A PWCS "School of Excellence"

Email: [lintmp@pwcs.edu](mailto:lintmp@pwcs.edu)

Website: [occoquanes.pwcs.edu](http://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](https://www.facebook.com/OccoquanElementary)

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



**Michael Lint**

Michael is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters