

The Parent "O"bserver

11/1/24 -- Edition 8, Volume 6

New Items Added to the Newsletter that are Important

Arrival for Car Rider Line

We have had a lot of problems with parents continuing to drop their children off well after the late bell (9:20). So, in order to combat this, starting in the second quarter, we will be adjusting our time to pulling the students out of their cars up until 9:18. After 9:18, all cars will be directed to the office immediately.

The reason for this is because your children are coming in late and delaying the educational process. First off, they themselves are walking into their classrooms late, and secondly, the teachers are being held up outside continuing to pull students in to the building when they should also be getting to their classrooms to start their days.

So, please plan accordingly. And if you drop your child off outside moving forward and a staff member here did not pull them out of their car, your Car Rider Line privilege will be automatically revoked. Because there have been situations where parents have tried to drop students off without any adult present in the back. If an adult does not let your child out, you are expected to go to the office to sign them in.

Thank you for your understanding.

Multicultural Night IS BACK!!!!

We are excited to announce that Multicultural Night will be on November 7th this year! We are very excited about this year's event and hope that you can be involved! This is your chance to get involved and share your culture with the school! We will have a Parade of Nations featuring the students wearing traditional clothing from their country of origin and a Food Festival where parents can share cultural food from their native country!

The event will start promptly at 6:00pm here at Occoquan Elementary. Parking will ONLY be available at the Kiss and Ride Lot. If you have food items to drop off, you may do so before you proceed to the Kiss and Ride Lot.

Now, having said all of this information, I want everyone to know that this will be the final Multi-Cultural Night held in our current building. I know, it is hard to believe! We will be hold the Multi-Cultural Night in the Spring next school year (school year 2025-26, so Spring of 26) in our brand new SCHOOL!!!! So, let's all go BIG this year and make it a night to remember.

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 2024-25 SY



OES Parent Handbook 24-25.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 for Occoquan 2024-25.pdf

Download

1013.6 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 December 2025. The new building will be located on the grass behind the playground. Construction will officially begin in June 2024, but they will continue to work on some of the other aspects that take a little longer well before that time frame.



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!

PARENTAL RIGHT TO INFORMATION ABOUT TEACHERS:

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act, most recently reauthorized as the Every Student Succeeds Act, states that parents in Title I schools have the right to request certain information about their child's teachers. The information that you have a right to request about your child's teacher is:

- Whether the teacher has met state qualifications and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subjects the teacher is teaching.
- Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which state qualification or licensing has been waived.
- The baccalaureate degree major of certification or degree held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree.
- Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

At Occoquan ES, we are extremely proud of our teachers and paraprofessionals, and are happy to provide you with any of the information above pertaining to your child's teacher(s). If you have such a request, please call the school at 703.494.2195 and ask for the information you are interested in.

Parental Opt Out of Assessments

Parental Notification of Assessment Opt Out Policies under The Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 According to the Virginia Department of Education, "All students in tested grade levels and courses are expected to participate in Virginia's assessment program, unless specifically exempted by state or federal law or by Board of Education regulations." On December 10, 2015, the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA) was signed into law. Section 1112(e)(2) of ESSA states that parents of students in Title I schools have a right to know about state or division policies regarding student participation in any assessments mandated by ESSA, including any policy, procedure, or parental right to opt students out of such assessments. The Commonwealth of Virginia does not currently have an Opt Out policy for SOL assessments. However, Section 22.1-253.13:3.Cof the Code of Virginia states that, "The Board of Education shall not include in its calculation of the passage rate of a Standards of Learning assessment for the purposes of state accountability any student whose parent has decided to not have his child take such Standards of Learning assessment, unless such exclusions would result in the school's not meeting any required state or federal participation rate." Prince William County Public Schools regulations state that, if a parent or guardian decides to not have a student take a state or local assessment, then

the person making the request should be informed about the academic consequences that decision could have on the student.

If you would like to receive more information about this topic, please contact the principal.



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

Music Club Page

Important Event Dates

Event Information

Story Book Character Day

When?

Thursday, Oct 31, 2024, 09:00 AM

Event Information

End of First Quarter

When?

Thursday, Oct 31, 2024, 04:30 PM

Event Information

Diwali (Schools are Closed)

When?

Friday, Nov 1, 2024, 08:00 AM

Event Information

No School--Professional Development Day for Staff

When?

Monday, Nov 4, 2024, 08:00 AM

Event Information

No School--Election Day

When?

Tuesday, Nov 5, 2024, 08:00 AM

Event Information

Multicultural Night from 6-7:30

When?

Thursday, Nov 7, 2024, 06:00 PM

Event Information

Veteran's Day--No School

When?

Monday, Nov 11, 2024, 08:00 AM

Event Information

Picture Re-Take Day

When?

Wednesday, Nov 13, 2024, 10:00 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=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, Nov 21, 2024, 07:00 PM

Where?

Zoom

Event Information

NO SCHOOL--THANKSGIVING BREAK

When?

Wednesday, Nov 27, 2024, 08:00 AM

Event Information

NO SCHOOL--THANKSGIVING BREAK

When?

Thursday, Nov 28, 2024, 08:00 AM

Event Information

NO SCHOOL--THANKSGIVING BREAK

When?

Friday, Nov 29, 2024, 08:00 AM



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](#)

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