

August 2007

Dear Beall Families:

Welcome to the 2007-2008 school year. It is hard to believe that it is time to open our doors for another great year of learning. I am very excited to welcome you all back in a few weeks. I hope you all were able to have some time to reconnect and relax with your families. We have been working hard all summer long to prepare for the opening of school. I look forward to working with you in order to build upon the many successes that we had during the 2006-2007 school year. We should all be very pleased with the performance Beall students demonstrated on the state testing. This success should be celebrated by all in our school community as each of us had an important role in helping our children achieve at such high levels. I would like to commend you, the parents for supporting the learning that takes place within our walls each day, the staff for working hard to ensure that all of our students learn and are excited about school. Most importantly I would like to recognize our students for working hard and not giving up even when the work was difficult. It is in this way, that our band will continue to work together to make beautiful music for our children.

During the summer our school family had to say goodbye to Lisa Smally, and Lauren Sheintal who will be staying home to raise their children. I am sure you will join with me in wishing them well. One of the most important jobs that a principal does during the summer it to interview and hire staff that will complement the school and most importantly the students. Fortunately we were able to find the very best teachers to join the stellar group of professionals already on staff. Please join me in welcoming the following staff to the Beall family:

- **Third Grade** Laverne Crump
- **Kindergarten** Deborah Lee
- **Pre Kindergarten** Brenda Benya
- **Resource Teacher** Heather Schaeffer
- **Resource Teacher** Joanne Bucketman

I have enclosed some important information in this packet for you to review, including Open House information, Back-to-School Night dates, supply lists, a school calendar, and some key important school policies. Please keep this packet handy as it may answer some of your questions as the school year progresses.

Best wishes for a restful and refreshing last few weeks of summer! We are looking forward to a challenging and rewarding year as we all work together to build success for every student!

Troy E. Boddy
Principal



General Beall Information

VISITORS AND VOLUNTEERS

All parents, visitors, and volunteers must make their first stop the school office. One of our friendly secretaries will greet you, answer any questions, give you a Beall nametag to fill out and speed you on your way. **All parents, visitors and volunteers must wear nametags.** This is for the safety for all of our children! If you would like to speak with a teacher or staff member, it is requested that you please make an appointment.

SCHOOL ORGANIZATION

Our current enrollment is about 500 students in grades K-5. To best meet the needs of the students, our current school organization is for 6 full day classes of Kindergarten, 7 classes of first grade, and 6 classes of second grade, 3 classes each for grades 3 and 4, and 4 classes for grade 5. Enrollment changes on an almost daily basis in the summer as new students arrive and others leave for new homes in other cities, states and countries. We will be monitoring our enrollment very carefully and adjustments in this organization will be made accordingly.

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|---------------------------------|------------|
| Office Hours | 8:00-4:00 |
| School Hours (Grade K-5) | 8:50-3:05 |
| Breakfast | 8:30-8:50 |
| AM Pre-K Language | 8:30-11:25 |
| PM Pre-K Language | 12:30-3:05 |
| AM HeadStart | 8:50-11:20 |
| AM Pre-K | 8:50-11:20 |
| PM Pre-K | 12:30-3:05 |
| Early Release Days (Grades K-5) | 8:30-12:25 |

MEDICATION AND HEALTH ROOM

No medication will be administered in school without the parent's/guardian's written permission and a physician's statement. Medication forms are available in the school office and are required for each episode of illness and for each medication. If you have any questions, call our health technician, Mrs. Kit Sweeney. The parent/guardian must hand-deliver the medication, properly labeled by a pharmacist, and the completed MCPS form to the school principal or designee in the school office.

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

New **YELLOW EMERGENCY DATA CARDS** will be sent home with your child during the first week of school. It is very important that these cards be completed and immediately returned to school. During the school year let us know of any changes of address, phone numbers, and/or contact persons. It is important that these cards are always current and correct.

Please contact the office to make any necessary changes throughout the year.

BIRTHDAYS/PARTIES

Birthdays will be recognized on Beall's daily WBEL television broadcast and on the birthday calendar located in the main hallway. To celebrate a birthday, parents may send a simple treat for the class that will be **shared at lunchtime in the cafeteria**. (There are no classroom birthday celebrations.) Food Service rules require that the "treats" be store bought, not homemade. If you choose to do this, please contact your child's teacher and be sure to ask if there are any students with food allergies.

Montgomery County Public Schools' policy is that there can be two parties a year in schools, Halloween and Valentine's Day.

BREAKFAST AND LUNCH

Breakfast is NOT served on the first day of school, Monday, August 30th.

Lunch on the first day will be either Teriyaki Beef Bites or French Toast Sticks. Breakfast will begin on Tuesday, August 31st.

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|-----------|------------------------------|------|--------|
| Breakfast | \$1.00 (reduced price \$.30) | Milk | \$.40 |
| Lunch | \$1.85 (reduced price \$.40) | | |

[Please see our website Frequently Asked Questions to see lunch times.](#)

APPLICATIONS FOR FREE AND REDUCED MEALS (FARMS)

Guidelines and application forms for free and reduced price meals will be sent home the first week of school. If you believe your child may be eligible for free or reduced meals, please complete and mail the application form as indicated or return it to school. Students who received free or reduced price meals last year 2006-2007 will continue to receive free or reduced price meals until Thursday, September 27. *By Friday, September 28th, 2007 a new form must be completed and approved to continue meals for this school year.* The more qualifying forms that come in, the more resources Beall gets for students. Please don't be shy about turning in the forms. All information is confidential. It is extremely important that you take the few minutes necessary to fill out and return the form.

It can only help BEALL students!

CAFETERIA NEWS

MCPS does not maintain a loan program for breakfasts or lunches. Students cannot "borrow" money from the cafeteria or the office to cover the cost of meals.

Please use the attached "SNAP CAFETERIA" form to open or maintain a computerized cash account for buying meals daily *or for emergencies*. Bring the form along and visit the cafeteria at the Open House on Friday, August 27.

It is very important that students eat lunch in the middle of the day. Please help us make lunchtime enjoyable for your child by being aware of the following ways to ensure that your child has lunch:

- Keep track of money deposited in your child's account at home.
- **CALL** Mrs. Horridge, Beall's Cafeteria Manager, **on any school day** between 9:00 and 11:00 to check the balance in your child's SNAP account. (301) 279-8460.
- Low balance letters will be generated when your student's account balance is \$8.00.
- Every effort will be made to send low balance notices home every Tuesday, please check your student's backpack.
- In the event that your child has no lunch and no money in a SNAP account, the PTA will provide a sandwich for the student - peanut butter, peanut butter and jelly, or just jelly ---the student's choice.

REPORT CARDS AND CONFERENCES

Kindergarten report cards are distributed twice each year, in February and June. Report cards for Grades 1 - 5 are distributed four times a year in nine-week cycles - November, February, April and June. Parent-Teacher Conferences are scheduled in November, at the end of the first marking period for each student in grades K-5. It is requested that appointments for additional conferences with teachers or the principal be scheduled in advance. We encourage you to meet with your child's teacher as necessary.

CHANGE IN YOUR CHILD'S ROUTINE

LATE ARRIVAL: When a child is late, a parent needs to bring the student to the office to "sign them in" for the day. The child should not go to the classroom first. Office staff will contact the classroom teacher.

LEAVE EARLY: A note should be sent to the school with your child. Parents are asked to come to the office to sign their student out. Parents are requested not to go to the child's classroom to pick up the child; office staff will call the classroom. No child will be permitted to leave school unaccompanied for any reason!

ABSENT: Please call the school office by 9:00 a.m. (301) 279-8460 to report your child's absence. The office opens at 8:00 a.m. if you need to call prior to that time please call and leave a message on the answering machine stating your child's name and classroom teacher.

In addition, when your child returns, a written note explaining the reason for absence MUST be sent to the teacher.

STAY AFTER SCHOOL: If a child is to stay at school for an after-school activity, a parent must send a note or the child will not be permitted to stay.

GO HOME WITH A FRIEND: If a child is to go home with a friend, the parent must send in a note or the child will not be permitted to go. The note should be given to the homeroom teacher at the beginning of the day for signature.

Note: Students need to bring a note to school if there is any change in the bus that they will be riding or how they will get home at the end of the day. Your cooperation will help ensure your child's safety!

TRANSPORTATION

Attached to this letter is a bus schedule. Please review it carefully as there are changes since last year. During the first week or so of school, buses may be a little early or a little late, as the drivers get accustomed to the run and the new time schedules. Buses will be color coded, with a piece of paper in the front window to help students.

Please Note: Cars are not allowed in the front entrance lanes during school opening and dismissal hours for safety reasons. Your cooperation is appreciated!



KINDERGARTEN and GRADE 1 STUDENTS

**Please complete this form and pin it to your student's clothing on the first day of school.
Thank you for your cooperation.**

Name _____ **Grade** _____

Teacher _____

Home Address _____

Parent's Phone Number at 3:00 p.m. _____

Home Phone _____

Please check how your child gets to and from school:

To School:

_____ **walk** _____ **car** _____ **bus: route #** _____ **color** _____

From School:

_____ **walk** _____ **car** _____ **bus: route #** _____ **color** _____

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