

GREAT SENECA CREEK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

13010 Dairymaid Drive
Germantown, Maryland 20874
Phone: 301-353-8500
Fax: 301-515-3044



Office of the Principal

August 14, 2009

Dear Bullfrog Parents,

I would like to welcome you back to another exciting year at *The Creek*. Our newly developed ***Back-to-School Resource Bank*** (located at the school's website) includes important information to help you and your family prepare for a successful start to the 2009-2010 school year. A postcard describing our online resources has been mailed to each family, as we are continuously looking for ways to conserve our resources. If you need hardcopies for any of our informational documents, you can visit the school's main office and copies will be provided.

As we approach the start of school, we eagerly await the arrival of our new kindergarten students, as well as the return of all our Bullfrogs. Students and their families (new and returning) will continue to experience the personal, high-quality attention they have grown to know and love about our school. We have the best PTA in the county, led by Mr. Antonio Rodriguez, focused on providing our school with wonderful programs, events, and opportunities for our families. It is sure to be another amazing school year for us all.

We welcome several new staff members to our team, including some returning staff members with changed names and assignments; Ms. Vu has become Ms. Phillips and will be teaching grade 1. Ms. Montgomery will be teaching grade 5 and Ms. Gunter will be teaching Reading Initiative for grades 1 and 2.

Please Welcome:

Lana Bartlett Grade 4 Teacher	Ramona Howard-Turner Grade 3 Teacher	Lily Rogers Paraeducator
Lynn DeGross Grade 5 Teacher	Lubna Malik Paraeducator – ED Unit	Kathleen Schrantz Paraeducator
Kimberly Haden Part-time Art Teacher	Cheryl McGuire Grade 1 Teacher	Ailyn Schwartz Grade 1 Teacher
Joe Haren Instructional Data Assistant	Samantha O'Gwin Kindergarten Teacher	Lisa Scherphorn Academic Intervention Teacher
Sharon Hawkins Grade 4 Teacher	Maria Quispe Building Services	Amy Sherman ESOL Teacher

Our current enrollment is 730 students. Great Seneca Creek appreciates the funding and support Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) has received from the County Council in these tight budget times. During this current fiscal situation, it may become necessary for staffing changes to occur if enrollment comes in below projection and doesn't justify the staffing that was allocated to our school. MCPS staffing allocations are based on projected enrollment. We certainly hope that at the beginning of the school year our actual enrollment matches the projected enrollment. If there is a need to make an adjustment in staffing based on actual

enrollment, I will do my best to minimize the impact of these necessary decisions. I will keep you informed and alert you of any changes that may occur at our school.

A personalized note will be sent to each student announcing his/her classroom teacher placement. This note will be mailed about one week before school starts, allowing students the opportunity to learn their classroom teacher assignments. Complete class lists will be available at our **Open House on Thursday, August 27, from 2:00pm – 3:00pm.**

At Back-to-School Night (see dates below), all teachers will give you specific information about their classroom programs. Throughout the year, we will continue to communicate with you about student performance results and school information in many ways. We will use report cards, conferences, weekly progress reports, phone calls, e-mail, and notes home to keep you up-to-date on your child's performance in school and upcoming events. Please be sure to thoroughly read the enclosed **Parent Handbook: Policies, Procedures, & Practices** to understand all school expectations and processes, as well as to possibly answer any questions.

I am looking forward to an amazing year at *The Creek!* Enjoy the rest of your summer!



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gregory S. Edmundson".

Gregory S. Edmundson
Principal

For Your Calendar:

Thursday, August 27, 2009	Kindergarten Parent Meeting, 1:00pm-2:00pm
Thursday, August 27, 2009	Open House, All Students, 2:00pm – 3:00pm
Monday, August 31, 2009	FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL
Thursday, September 3, 2009	GSCES-PTA Back-to-School Picnic, 6:30 p.m.
Friday, September 4, 2009	Summer Rdg./Math Packets Due to Teachers
Monday, September 7, 2009	No School – Labor Day
Tuesday, September 8, 2009	Grades K-1 “Back-to-School Night”, 7:00pm
Thursday, September 10, 2009	Grades 2-3 “Back-to-School Night”, 7:00pm
Tuesday, September 15, 2009	Grades 4-5 “Back-to-School Night”, 7:00pm

Day 1 Lunch Menu: Chicken Nuggets or Gardenburger