

# WILDCAT PRESS



May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024

## WORTHINGTON CALENDAR

### IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES [HCPSS Approved Calendar 23/24](#)

- May 13: 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> MCAP Math Testing (*afternoon*)
- May 14: Schools Closed *Primary Election Day*
- May 15: 1<sup>st</sup> grade MAP Testing (*afternoon*)
  - **Deadline to Submit Parent Input for SY 24/25**
- May 16: 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grade MCAP Math Testing (*afternoon*)
- May 17: 3 hr Early Dismissal at 12:55 pm *Staff Professional Learning Day*
- May 20: PTA Restaurant Fundraiser at Neo Pizza (*all day!*)
- May 20 & 21: 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> MCAP Math Testing (*afternoon*)
- May 21: Final PTA Meeting of the year
- May 22: 1<sup>st</sup> Grade MAP ELA Testing (*morning*)
- May 27: Schools Closed for Memorial Day
- May 28: Simulated Congressional Hearings for 5<sup>th</sup> grade
- May 30: 5th Grade Middle School Visit
- May 31: PTA End of Year/Multicultural Fair 5:30 pm on the blacktop
- June 3: Spring Band & Orchestra Concert @ 7 pm *Howard High School*
- June 4: Kindergarten Picnic
- June 5: 3 hr Early Dismissal at 12:55 pm *Professional Work Day*
- June 6: In School Band & Orchestra Concert
- June 7: **FIELD DAY (NEW DATE!)**
- June 11: 5th Grade Celebration
  - Last Day for 1/2 Day RECC students
- June 12, 13 & 14: 3 hr Early Dismissal at 12:55
  - June 14: LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

## NOTES FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

Dear Worthington Community,

Weather forecasts have forced the postponement of Field Day. It is now rescheduled for Friday June 7th. We regret having to put off the excitement until June. We are hoping for a clear day and dry fields.

Even in a school as wonderful as Worthington there are some children who wrestle with mental health needs. This is probably true in every school in the county. Please know that the school and school system do have processes in place to evaluate threats from students towards others and to themselves. This process is meant to keep students safe while addressing the needs of those who need help. The process involves evaluating a threat as to whether it is a low, medium, or high-level threat based on several criteria. Once assessed then a plan is put in place to ensure student safety and address the needs of students. Parents of students directly involved in the process will be contacted. The process walks the fine line of informing parents and maintaining confidentiality for all students. Please know that if administrative disciplinary action is warranted, then action is taken. Our goal is to first keep students safe and to assist any student needing intervention.

Fifth grade parents: We will send each family (2) tickets to attend our Simulated Congressional Hearing (SCH.) Each family will also receive (2) tickets to attend the Closing Assembly for fifth grade at a later date. If any family knows they will only use 1 ticket or not attend at all, we ask that extra tickets be returned to Mr. Bruce for any special accommodations requested. Please note that Mr. Bruce will only be able to address accommodations for which space is provided by returned ticket(s).

\*Space is an issue at many elementary schools. Please realize there will be multiple opportunities during your child's school years to attend special events.

Last notice:

In May, the staff will begin the articulation process and placing children in classes for next year. The process is on-going and will continue throughout the summer. Staff primarily group students based on reading and mathematics needs. We also look at the make-up of the class. Of course, another guiding factor will be the special needs of our students. We welcome communication from parents who want to make sure we

have certain information about your child. This information should be shared with the principal by a written letter or an email sent to the principal. If sending a hand-written letter, please include your email address for confirmation of receipt. While we will make every effort to address your concerns, there are no guarantees of specific requests. Often, we are limited by the number of staff assigned to each grade level. Our plans at the moment are to make class assignments available to parents on Weds. August 21st by 4:00 pm. The deadline to send this communication to the principal is Weds. May 15, 2024.

Robert Bruce  
Principal

## FROM THE PTA

### **Contents:**

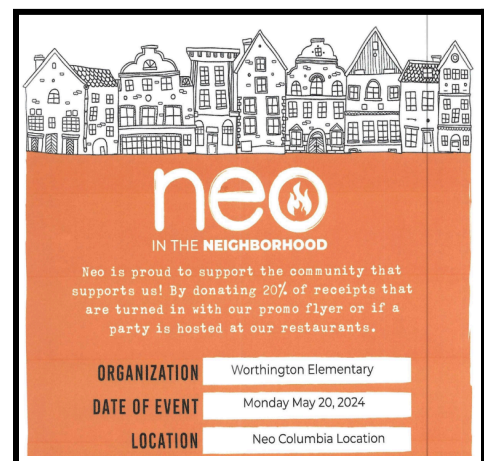
- ***Huge Thank You for TAW***
- ***Restaurant Night: 5/20 @ Neo Pizza + Taphouse***
- ***Map Walk - Volunteers Needed***
- ***FINAL PTA Meeting and Voting in New Board - May 21, 7:00pm over Zoom***
- ***WoES PTA Still Accepting New Board Nominees for the 24'-25' School Year***
- ***Multicultural Spring Fair - May 31, 5:30 pm***
- ***EMMS School Store Looking for Volunteers***

### **Huge Thank You for TAW**

As Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week comes to a close, the PTA would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all those who donated, making it possible to shower our staff with appreciation.

### **Restaurant Night: 5/20 @ Neo Pizza + Taphouse**

Take a night off from preparing dinner and doing the dishes to join the Worthington PTA at our next Restaurant Night! Join us at Neo Pizza + Taphouse on Monday, May 20th between 11:00 am and 10:00 pm. Neo Pizza + Taphouse will donate 20% of sales from all orders to the Worthington PTA to support future school-wide events. Just show the flier and



mention our school at checkout. Thank you for your support!

### **Map Walk - Volunteers Needed**

In advance of the Multicultural Spring Fair, we encourage students to share their family's origins. We will send home a sheet next week where you can help them list the area of their background. During lunch the week of May 20, volunteers will help them find the area on a large map and put a pin, or pins, on the area listed on their paper. It would help if you could go over this with them in advance so they know the general area to look for. This is a great geography lesson for the students and will be on display during the Multicultural Spring Fair!

We need volunteers to stop in during the students' lunch times and help them put the pins on the map. Please consider picking up a few slots to help us get this map filled up!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0E44A9AB22AAF85-496I7836-volunteers>

### **FINAL PTA Meeting and Voting in New Board - May 21, 7:00pm over Zoom**

We are moving the final PTA meeting to Tuesday, May 21. We will discuss year-end events, hear from the admin, and vote in new Board Members for the 2024-2025 school year.

### **WoES PTA Still Accepting New Board Nominees for the 24-25 School Year**

We are still looking for interested people to be PTA board members for next school year! The current board has put the PTA in great shape for the new board to take over. We hope to keep supporting the students and staff next year, and we can only do that with a PTA. The more help we have, the less work it is for all! Please reach out to Kristie to learn more! [WorthingtonPTAPresident@gmail.com](mailto:WorthingtonPTAPresident@gmail.com).

**Roles we need members for: President, Vice President, Secretary, Delegates**

### **Multicultural Spring Fair - May 31, 5:30 pm**

Planning is in full swing and we have some great things lined up for the Multicultural Spring Fair on Friday, May 31 from 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm!

If you would like to represent your culture, region, or country by having a display, providing food samples, doing a performance, teaching an activity, etc., please sign up! We encourage all cultures and regions, from both the United States (New England, Creole, etc.) and internationally, to join us. As our schedule is becoming full, we will stop taking performance signups by 5/10.

Sign up here: <https://forms.gle/cGfJjTCZKet9oSai9>

We would love more volunteers to help us sign up and make this last event of the school year grand! If you can help, we would very much appreciate it, please sign up here to volunteer:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0E44A9AB22AAF85-48533117-multicultural#/>

### **Student Volunteers Needed!**

We are looking for Middle School and High School volunteers to help with craft and activity stations, as well as people who can help lead some games of soccer. We are happy to sign off on volunteer hours needed for the National Honor Society or any other organization you need community service hours for. Please join us for this incredible evening and sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0E44A9AB22AAF85-49550598-student>

### **EMMS School Store Looking for Volunteers**

Hello 5th grade parents! The EMMS School Store is looking for more volunteers!

- Students have the opportunity to visit the “School Store” during their lunch period to purchase a variety of school supplies and small toys. The store is open every day during all lunch periods.
- Volunteers are required to handle cash sales and accept Eagle Eyes. It’s as simple as working a bake sale! We will meet any new volunteers on their first volunteer shift and review their responsibilities.
- We would love for volunteers to work a lunch shift every month, but know that that is not always an option with working parents. We will set up a Sign-up Genius for our volunteer schedule, allowing parents to select their best days based on their schedule.
- **We are also in need of volunteers to coordinate the School Store next year.** Responsibilities include purchasing inventory, making deposits, and communicating with volunteers. Duties can be split between multiple coordinators.
- Please contact Jen Sellers [jen@thesellers.net](mailto:jen@thesellers.net) if you are interested

## **INSIDER INFORMATION**

**FIELD DAY-NEW DATE! FRIDAY JUNE 7<sup>TH</sup>**

\*Students should wear grade specific colored tee shirts

RECC	Purple
Kindergarten	Red
1 <sup>st</sup> grade	Navy Blue
2 <sup>nd</sup> grade	Orange
3 <sup>rd</sup> grade	Yellow
4 <sup>th</sup> grade	Green
5 <sup>th</sup> grade	Light Blue

### **Kindergarten End of the Year Calendar Date**

Please save the date for our Kindergarten End of the Year picnic and brief student performance. These events will be held on Tuesday June 4<sup>th</sup> from 10:40-11:20. This event is for immediate adult family members only, no siblings please. You are invited to have lunch with your child for an outdoor picnic (weather permitting), followed by a brief performance. Please direct any questions to your child's teacher.

### **Maryland Special Education Parent Involvement Survey**

Parents of students receiving special education services are encouraged to complete a [Maryland State Department of Education survey](#) no later than May 24.

### **Register for Kindergarten**

[Kindergarten registration for the 2024-2025 school year](#) is open. Parents/guardians of children who will be five on or before September 1, 2024, must enroll their children in kindergarten for the 2024-2025 school year. Current HCPSS prekindergarten students do not need to register for kindergarten.

**HCPSS NEWS**

**2024-25 School Year Bus Transportation Registration**

Parents/guardians whose children are eligible for bus transportation are [asked to register](#) to receive bus service for the 2024-2025 school year. Details on bus transportation registration, including a guide to register and scenarios families may see when registering, can be found online [Details on bus transportation registration](#)

**\*You do not need to take any action if:**

- Your child is not eligible for bus transportation
- Your child receives transportation as part of their Individualized Education Program (IEP) or 504 Plan

### **HCPSS 2024 Free Summer Meal Program**

HCPSS' [free summer meal program](#) will run weekdays June 24-Aug. 2, on days schools are open, with no meal service Thursday, July 4. Meals will be provided to any HCPSS students, any children aged 18 and under, and to students participating in HCPSS summer programs. Site locations will be available across the county.