



STRODES MILLS ELEMENTARY



Back to School, 2024

185 Chestnut Ridge Road
McVeytown, PA 17051
☎ 717-248-7154

Frank Miller
Principal
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Coming Up

- 8/26- first day of school
- 8/30- No School (Act 80 Day)
- 9/2- No school (Labor Day)
- 9/5- Open house 5:30pm-7pm
- 9/10- PSA meeting @6pm
- 9/10- Title 1 planning meeting
- 9/12- PBIS Kickoff Assembly
- 9/17 - 3rd grade farm field trip
- 9/23- Picture day
- 10/14- No School (Act 80 Day)

Our Day

- 7:30 student dropoff begins
- 7:45 breakfast is served
- 8:20 school starts
late students must be signed
in at the office
- 10:50-11:20 lunch 3rd Grade &
Dill & Foose
- 11:25-11:55 lunch Kindergarten
& Yoder
- 12:00-12:30 lunch 1st grade
- 2:35 dismissal

New Faces

- Mrs. McKenzie Booher
First Grade
- Mrs. Jordan Gulick
Building Substitute
- Miss Hailey Johnson
Paraprofessional
- Mrs. Natasha Moist
Cafeteria
- Mrs. Rachel Molinaro
Paraprofessional
- Mr. Aaron Rowe
Special Education

Open House

We are so excited to welcome our students and families to Open House on **Thursday, 9/5 from 5:30pm to 7pm**. This will be a chance for your child to show you their classroom and for you to meet their teacher. Specials and title teachers, our school counselor, and our principal will also be present and our school secretary will be available with volunteer information. There will also be a Resource Fair with agencies who provide services in our area.

Breakfast & Lunch

SMES is a Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) school, meaning all SMES students are eligible to receive breakfast and lunch free of charge.

Free/reduced meal applications will not be distributed to SMES students. Instead, you will receive an economic information survey. Please be sure to send it back to school with your student.



Students who are eligible for free and reduced lunch may request an application for instructional supplies by contacting the main office/principal

Reminders

- > Excuses are due within 3 days after an absence
- > Students arriving between 8:20 & 9:30am are tardy
- > Students arriving after 9:30am or leaving before 2pm will receive 1/2 day's absence
- > Students leaving after 2pm receive an early dismissal, but receive credit for a full day
- > Students are allowed 5 educational trip days per school year with approved form
- > Always include your students first AND LAST name on notes



PSA

SMES is very fortunate to have a very active and dedicated Parent/School Association (PSA). The PSA organizes activities and events for our students and plans fundraisers to fund them. If you would like to be a part of the SMES PSA, plan to attend a monthly meeting. They are held every the second Tuesday of each month.

The first meeting will be held on 9/10 immediately following the Title I Schoolwide Planning meeting, around 6pm.

Please know, childcare is not available. Please make alternate arrangements for your children. In the event of an emergency, your child must sit at the table with you and be escorted to/from the restroom.

Volunteering

Opportunities throughout the school year will allow us to welcome volunteers into the classrooms and school. In order to be eligible to volunteer, the following is required:

- >> Act 34 PA Criminal History Clearance
- >> Act 151 PA Child Abuse History Clearance
- >> Act 114 Federal Criminal History & Fingerprinting or Volunteer Affidavit in lieu (restrictions apply)
- >> Volunteer Packet (required to be completed each school year)

As an additional layer of security, your driver's license (or state ID) will need to be scanned into our visitor management database, School Gate Guardian, to receive a visitor's badge.

Busing Announcements

- >> All kindergarten students require a parent/guardian present at the bus stop.
- >> Be at the bus stop waiting for your student. If they do not get off, ask the driver to call out for them. Often times, younger students fall asleep.
- >> On occasions, bus routes cannot be completed. In these cases, a Skylert is sent out and the notice is posted to the website. Always update the office with phone, address, and email changes so that you can be made aware of these announcements.



Parent Pickup

Remember to send a note to school with your child if they will be a parent pickup at dismissal. This allows the teacher to make note of the student's dismissal plan and send to the office to be added to the list and notify all staff involved in dismissal which makes a safe and stress-free dismissal.

Forms

If you haven't already, please complete and return all forms that were sent home during the first week of school.

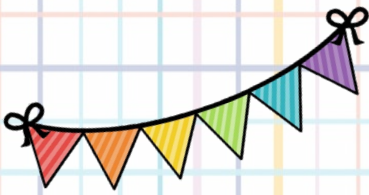
If you need another copy of any of the forms, just let us know!

MCS D Website

www.mcsdk12.org

The MCS D website contains lots of valuable information. The Students/Parents tab is home to useful resources such as the school calendar, cycle calendar, Family Access login, Forms & Flyers, lunch menu, nurse info, student handbook, tech tutorials, and visitor & volunteer information.

Take a moment to explore!



WHAT IS PBIS AT STRODES MILLS ELEMENTARY?

PBIS - Positive Behavior Intervention & Supports



EXPECTATIONS

We teach you how to be:

- RESPECTFUL
- RESPONSIBLE
- READY
- SAFE

PAW TICKETS

When you are caught being Respectful, Responsible, Ready and Safe, staff reward students who are showing positive behavior.



BUCKET PRIZES & PAW WALL

When you are rewarded with a paw ticket you can place it in one of the 4 prize buckets or save for the paw wall! Bucket prizes are changed every month!

HOW DO I WIN?

Students' paw tickets are drawn from the buckets and announced at the end of each week! Students who are good role models can be picked for a special prize... the Golden Paw ticket winner!



PBIS CELEBRATIONS!

Celebrations happen once the ENTIRE school earns and meets their paw ticket goal! Celebrations are always a surprise day packed with fun to celebrate EVERYONE'S PAWSITIVE behavior!

SMES STUDENTS ARE PAWSITIVELY AMAZING!

PBIS Sponsors

Please join us in thanking the following businesses for sponsoring our PBIS program through donations for our PBIS program & bucket prizes!

- Class 1 Transportation
- Harshbarger's Sub & Malt
- MCHS School Store

Crayola Donation

SMES received a donation of Crayola supplies from Class One Transport for students to use in the classrooms and as PBIS prizes. Students were especially excited to use the scented crayons, markers, and colored pencils. Thank you to Dave and his crew at Class One!



Backpack Donation

SMES also received a donation of backpacks from Mifflin County Children & Youth. Normally these backpacks are given out at National Night Out, but since there was poor weather, they were donated instead.

If at any point your student is in need of a new backpack, please reach out to Miss Marker, school counselor.





Title I Schoolwide Plan

» September 10th @ 5:30pm in the SMES cafeteria «

You are invited to a meeting to learn about the SMES Title I Schoolwide Plan. We will discuss how our Title I schoolwide funds support our elementary focus statements, a Multi-Tier System of Support (MTSS), curriculum development, ongoing professional development for our teachers, Positive Behavior Interventions & Support (PBIS), Camp on Your Way to Kindergarten, supplemental resources, and evidence based interventions.

At the meeting, we will also solicit feedback to update our Title I home school compact and Title I building parental engagement policy. We would also encourage all to come with ideas of how to engage SMES parents in future parental involvement events.

We look forward to seeing you at the Title I schoolwide planning meeting! There will be a SMES Parent School Association (PSA) meeting immediately prior to the Title I meeting.

To access the Title I Schoolwide Plan, visit www.mcsdk12.org, click on Students/Parents, then Federal Programs, Schoolwide Plans, Title I- SMES.

Right to Know

As a parent of a student attending a school that is receiving Federal Title I dollars, you have the right to know the professional qualifications of the teacher(s) and instructional paraprofessional(s) who instruct your child. Federal law requires every Title I school district to comply and to provide you with the requested information in a timely manner. We are happy to provide this information to you. At any time, you may ask:

- > Whether the teacher met state qualifications and certification requirements for the grade level and subject he/she is teaching,
- > Whether the teacher received an emergency or conditional certificate through which state qualifications were waived, and
- > What undergraduate or graduate degrees the teacher holds, including graduate certificates and additional degrees, and majors(s) or areas(s) of concentration.

You may also ask whether your child receives help from a paraprofessional. If your child receives the assistance, we can provide you with information about the paraprofessional's qualifications. If you have any questions about your child's assignment to a teacher or paraprofessional, please contact Mr. Miller at 717-248-7154 or fwm28@mcsdk12.org.

Drills



In order to be as prepared as possible, we will be practicing safety drills throughout the school year. We will be providing instruction to your student on protocols for fire, evacuation, severe weather, and intruder drills (lockdown). During this instruction, teachers at SMES will lead students through a series of steps so that they are as prepared as possible in the event of a real-life situation.

SMES plans to conduct a lockdown drill during the month of September. We will invite local Emergency Management and PA State Police to participate in our security drill so they can provide us with valuable feedback on our safety drill procedures.

Safety is our top priority, and we want to reassure families that we are doing everything we can to maintain security in all district buildings. If you have any questions or concerns about our school's safety and security, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Curriculum

Mifflin County School District School Board Policy 105.1 requires annual notification to parents/guardians and students that parents/guardians and students have an opportunity to review instructional materials and have access to information about the curriculum, including academic standards to be achieved, instructional materials and assessment techniques. Requests to review instructional materials and access information about the curriculum, including academic standards to be achieved, instructional materials and assessment techniques should be made by submitting a written request to the building principal.

GET READY FOR SCHOOL WITH THESE SLEEP TIPS!

BACK TO SCHOOL TIME IS HERE, AND WE WANT TO HELP YOU START STRONG. THERE ARE FIVE QUICK SLEEP TIPS

- 1 TRY TO SLEEP AND WAKE UP AT THE SAME TIMES EVERY DAY. CONSISTENCY HELPS YOUR BODY GET USED TO A ROUTINE.
- 2 MAKE YOUR BEDROOM COMFY AND QUIET FOR BETTER SLEEP. DIM LIGHTS AND LESS NOISE HELP YOU REST WELL.
- 3 TURN OFF SCREENS (PHONES, TABLETS, TV) AT LEAST AN HOUR BEFORE BEDTIME. THIS HELPS YOUR BRAIN RELAX.
- 4 EAT A HEALTHY DINNER AND CHOOSE LIGHT SNACKS IF YOU'RE HUNGRY BEFORE BED.
- 5 HAVE FUN AND PLAY A LOT DURING THE DAY. THIS MAKES YOU TIRED IN A GOOD WAY FOR BEDTIME.

Remember, good sleep is like your secret weapon for school success. Elementary aged kids should aim for about 9-12 hours of sleep each night. It helps you focus, stay happy, and have energy for fun and learning. Have a super year ahead!

