Dear Banneker Families,

Happy September. I would like to personally thank each family for making this year the best year ever! Thanks to all of the families who came out our Kindergarten Orientation, Meet and Greet, and Back to School Night. I am looking forward to seeing many of our families coming back to enjoy future events. There is a definite buzz in the air about 2019-20 at Banneker ES. Tune in each month for the monthly newsletter as each month promises to bring lots of school information to get excited about. Be on the lookout for your invitation to our largest teacher-run fundraiser of the year, the 12th Annual Teacher Run BINGO night on September 27th. Information about this event went home on Friday, September 6th.

PBIS Updates
PBIS stands for Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports. Banneker is a PBIS school. This year, students are continuing to earn BRONCOS for their classroom incentive for upholding the community constitution. Our Community Constitution says "I will always do my best to respect self, others, and property." I hope this constitution supports your expectations at home as well. Ask your child about our PBIS assembly and about the five days of videos that the fifth graders produced to talk about PBIS expectations. These were shown on the morning announcements.

SEAC and MSAAC
Banneker is looking for a Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) member and a Minority Student Achievement Advisory Committee member (MSAAC). The parent representative would attend meetings at the Administrative building to give Banneker a voice and to provide valuable information about LCPS special education programs, services, and activities. Each committee meets once per month. If you are interested, please inquire at the school office. Banneker has traditionally been under represented in these areas but we want to give our families an equal opportunity to have a voice.

Family Life Education
The Family Life Education handbook is available online this year. Please see the link below to access this: http://www.lcps.org/page/374. Remember that you can opt out of certain content in FLE at any time by selecting YES on the opt out page under student info tab in ParentVUE.
Social Media
Make sure to stay in touch with us on your mobile phone by subscribing to the LCPS mobile app and by following us on twitter @Banneker_ES. You can follow me @rdotcarter1 or on Instagram @mr_carter_lcps. Banneker is using a hashtag throughout the year to keep track of our tweets. Please search for the hashtag #BANFAM.

Asbestos
Banneker ES is routinely inspected in accordance with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA). As required by the Commonwealth of Virginia and the EPA, this notification is to inform you that asbestos-containing material (ACM) is present in several locations in our school. The ACM is inspected semi-annually by qualified LCPS personnel to insure that the material remains in good condition and is not creating an exposure hazard for building occupants.

The Asbestos Management Plan indicates locations where asbestos-containing materials may be present. The plan can be found in the administrative office at the school. In addition, a copy of the Asbestos Management Plan is located in the Loudoun County Public Schools Facilities Services Division office at 1002C Sycolin Road, Leesburg, Virginia.

Please feel free to request information about our Management Plan, the inspection findings and our plan of action. The Plan will be available for your review and inspection during normal office hours.

ParentVUE
If you have not already signed on to use ParentVUE please do so and complete your family Rights and Responsibilities page. ParentVUE will be the best place to get updated information about your child’s transportation plan, report cards, and other important information.

Banneker Handbook
Please complete acknowledging the handbook using the permission click website:
https://permission.click/q50vA/us

Upcoming Events
Mark your calendars. Picture day is Monday, September 16th. This is the yearbook picture, so smile pretty.

Sincerely,
Robert L. Carter, Principal
“Diverse Additions to Classroom Libraries

This year Loudoun County Public Schools is celebrating its student population with an investment in diverse text collections for all K-12 English Language Arts classrooms. In describing the texts the Division of Teaching and Learning, Elementary and Secondary Reading, noted that, “Classroom and school libraries reflect our values and contribute to developing student identities; therefore, our collections must reflect and honor our student population and those around them. Access to books in the home, school, and classroom has a strong correlation with reading proficiency. Students who read more also have stronger vocabulary, background knowledge, and empathy.” Classroom libraries complement our robust school libraries.

The addition of these texts to classroom libraries is a reflection of Loudoun County Public Schools’ commitment to providing staff, students and parents with resources and opportunities for an equitable education. As Superintendent Eric Williams said in the equity statement he issued on August 19, 2019:

“LCPS is committed to providing a safe, empathetic, respectful and supportive learning environment in order to empower every student to make meaningful contributions to the world. When students and staff experience racial insults, slurs, and/or other hate speech, we lack the positive culture and climate that supports students’ growth.

LCPS calls for all students, staff, families, and other members of our community to engage in the disruption and dismantling of white supremacy, systemic racism, and hateful language and actions based on race, religion, country of origin, gender identity, sexual orientation, and/or ability. LCPS rejects racist and other hateful behavior and language, recognizing that it encourages discrimination, hatred, oppression, and violence.

Every individual is valued in Loudoun County Public Schools. Let’s celebrate the diversity that helps define us as a school division.”

The diverse classroom libraries were created through the collaboration of LCPS teachers, librarians, administrators, and classroom book collection specialist teams trained to identify culturally responsive and diverse texts in accordance to LCPS School Board Policy 5-7 Regulation, Selection and Review of Instructional Materials. Several criteria were considered including representation, authorship, relevance to students’ lives,
authentic voice, and developmental appropriateness. Information regarding the libraries can be found at this link – Diverse Book Collections.”

Additional information from the Office of Elementary and Secondary Reading will be provided regarding professional learning for teachers around the use of diverse texts. Principals are also reminded of Regulation 5-7 Selection and Review of Library Media Center Instructional Materials that provides further clarification on the selection of materials and the process for review of instructional materials.

Questions can be referred to Division of Teaching and Learning.

Sincerely,

Neil Slevin, Director
Teaching and Learning

In the Library

by meaghan.stevens@lcps.org

Welcome back for another year of learning! I am very excited to be returning as the Library Media Specialist/Instruction Facilitator of Technology at Banneker! All classes have been to the library already and everyone has checked out at least one book. Just like last year, Kindergarten will be able to check out one book at a time, first and second can have two and third through fifth can have three. Some students still have some books out from last year, so make sure you check around to see if there are any in the house and return those to the library as soon as possible. Please be sure to check out the library website for more information about the library and some helpful links. There are also great resources to check out at the public library! Middleburg has some great events coming out that would be great to check out. You can view their calendar here. The book fair is coming October 15th-21st! There will be more information on that in the October newsletter. If you have questions throughout the year feel free to email me, I am looking forward to another great school year at Banneker!
Tech in the School

by meaghan.stevens@lcps.org

We are very excited to continue with the counties 1:1 device initiative this year! All devices have been successfully distributed to all third through fifth grade students and they have all been through a training on how to take care of their devices and their responsibilities with these devices. There is information up on our webpage that you can access to learn more about the devices and how to utilize them in the best possible way. There is a student brochure and a webpage for you to and the students to browse. If you have not already done so, please make sure that you are your child sign the Student Usage Agreement. It is due within ten days of the devices bring passed out, so they are due back Monday September 9th. If it is not on file, Loudoun County will take the device back until the form is turned in. We have almost all of them complete, so please make sure you have done this! Make sure students are charging their devices every night at home. If they forget, the library does have loaner devices, but only five, so coming to school every day with their device charged is the expectation of all third through fifth grade students. The kindergarten through second grade classrooms each got five iPads and 5 chromebooks to use in their classrooms. We are very excited about continuing to offer all of this technology and are actively looking for ways to incorporate it into our curriculum. Please feel free to reach out to Mrs. Stevens with any questions that you may have.

School Counseling:

by Joyce.Shanholtzer@lcps.org

Attendance is one of the keys to your student’s success in school. Research shows that children with good school attendance are more successful in school and on standardized tests than students who are frequently tardy or absent. Children who are tardy or absent from school on a regular basis also have greater difficulty in making social connections with their peers.

Children can make up tests and assignments that they miss, but they can never make up the missed discussions, questions, explanations and thinking that encompass so much of learning.

If a child walks into the classroom tardy (even if only 5 minutes late!), they have already missed important information to start the school day. At Banneker, the morning announcements begin right after the bell rings at 7:50 and information for students is missed if a student is tardy.

As we begin September, take a look at your child’s attendance record and see if some simple changes in your daily routine could help to improve school success and social skills.
WAYS TO ENCOURAGE EXCELLENT SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Start the day off with a morning routine that allows your student enough time to dress, eat, and prepare for a full day of school.
- If you do not have time for breakfast at home, breakfast is available at school for all students.
- Banneker is open to students at 7:30 each morning & this allows children enough time to arrive & settle in for the day. If you must drive your child to school, plan to drop them off in time to be ready for school when the bell rings.
- On most good weather days, Mr. Moss will be having Running Club before school. Drop your child off at 7:30 and let them join in this fun outdoor activity!
- Talk with your child about the importance of attending school and being on time
- Avoid scheduling family trips or doctor appointments during school hours
- Keep your child healthy by monitoring eating, sleeping, & exercise habits
- Be a good role model! Show your student how to be on time to scheduled appointments and maintain excellent work attendance.
- **Ask yourself the question**… What am I teaching my children if I let them miss school frequently or allow them to be tardy on a regular basis?
- Talk to your child’s teacher or Mrs. Shanholtzer if your child is feeling anxious about coming to school. We can help!

**ART:**
mbeach@lcps.org

It is a new year and we have a new ART CLASS space! We are settling in to our new room nicely. Banneker artist have made portfolio’s to hold the year’s projects and our Original Works projects have begun. Look for opportunities to get personalized items for your loved ones in the coming months. Any items ordered will be in before the winter break.

The cluster art show at Loudoun Valley will be on Saturday March 7 this year. Mark you calendars! Banneker students have the opportunity to show works at the LCPS Administration building over the summer this year as well.

Thank you to those of you who have signed up to help our art program. Anyone else that is interested in helping to hang artwork or helping out in other ways please email me your contact!

Let’s make this year out of this world!
Music:

by Spencer.Duggan@lcps.org
@MrDugganMusic

The year is just beginning and our young musicians are already singing, playing, and dancing away in the music room! In first grade, students are reviewing concepts of beat and rhythm that were experienced in Kindergarten and are learning some basic instrument technique. Second graders are already improvising on barred instruments (xylophones, metallophones, and glockenspiels) while experiencing creative movement with and without rhythm. Third graders are working on singing and playing multiple parts with the song “Everybody Welcome” while also reviewing fundamental rhythms through body percussion. In fourth grade, students have already learned a Spanish mixer, a French-Canadian folk dance, and will explore a variety of instruments through improvisation and composition. Fifth graders are already composing their first instrumental song and will use it to review instrument technique and will work to find their singing voices consistently in contrast to Mr. Duggan’s adult male voice. Fourth and fifth graders interested in joining the Banneker Bards - Please stay tuned! Bards will rehearse on Tuesdays after school this year and more information is coming soon. If you have any questions, please reach out via email and be sure to follow the music room on Twitter for an occasional behind-the-scenes look at music class.

EL News

by: Sharon.Livesay@lcps.org

Welcome back for the 2019-2020 school year! I hope you had a fabulous summer! I am thrilled to be returning as your EL teacher. I will be providing literacy support for our English learners within the classroom as well as small group setting.

On Thursday, September 19th, we will host a Spanish information night for our EL families here at Banneker. I look forward to seeing you there.
JOIN NORTHERN VIRGINIA ORTHODONTICS, COSTA FAMILY & COSMETIC DENTISTRY & DENTISTRY FROM THE HEART FOR A DAY OF

Free Dental Care
CLEANINGS, FILLINGS & EXTRACTIONS

smile. it’s free.®

SEPTEMBER 28, 2019 // 8 AM - 3 PM
REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 7:30 AM
FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE. NO APPOINTMENTS NECESSARY.
QUESTIONS? CONTACT HANNAH AT 703-574-2174.

NORTHERN VIRGINIA ORTHODONTICS
12110 SUNSET HILLS RD #475 RESTON, VA 20190
If you are considering referring your child for gifted services, join us to learn about elementary gifted education services available through Loudoun County Public Schools and the eligibility process for these services.

The same information will be presented at each of the meetings, so it is not necessary to attend more than one session. In case of cancellations due to inclement weather, check the gifted education webpage at http://lcps.org/Page/617.

 Loudoun County Public Schools
Gifted Education Department
(571) 252-1440
SESIONES DE INFORMACIÓN PARA DOTADOS DE PRIMARIA

Si usted está considerando remitir a su hijo a los servicios para dotados, acompáñenos para conocer los servicios de educación primaria para dotados disponibles a través de las Escuelas públicas del Condado de Loudoun y el proceso de elegibilidad para los servicios mencionados.

La misma información se presentará en cada una de las reuniones, de modo que no es necesario asistir a más de una sesión. En caso de cancelaciones debido a las inclemencias del tiempo, consulte la página web de educación para dotados en http://lcps.org/Page/617. Intérpretes de español estarán disponibles.

KENNETH CULBERT ES
SALA DE USOS MÚLTIPLES
MIÉRCOLES, 4 DE SEPTIEMBRE
7:00-8:00 PM
LAS PUERTAS ABREN A LAS 6:30 PM

PINEBROOK ES
SALA DE USOS MÚLTIPLES
LUNES, 9 DE SEPTIEMBRE
7:00-8:00 PM
LAS PUERTAS ABREN A LAS 6:30 PM

SESIÓN MATINAL
EVERGREEN MILL ES
CAFETERIA
LUNES, 23 DE SEPTIEMBRE
8:30-9:30 AM
LAS PUERTAS ABREN A LAS 8:15 AM

DOMINION TRAIL ES
SALA DE USOS MÚLTIPLES
LUNES, 23 DE SEPTIEMBRE
7:00-8:00 PM
LAS PUERTAS ABREN A LAS 6:30 PM

FOREST GROVE ES
SALA DE USOS MÚLTIPLES
MARTES, 24 DE SEPTIEMBRE
7:00-8:00 PM
LAS PUERTAS ABREN A LAS 6:30 PM

ESCUELAS PÚBLICAS DEL CONDADO DE LOUDOUN
DEPARTAMENTO DE EDUCACIÓN PARA DOTADOS
(571) 252-1440

If due to a disability, you require assistance Si debido a una incapacidad usted necesita ayuda para participar de manera significativa en este programa, por favor, contácte al director de la escuela cinco días hábiles antes del evento.