

Welcome Back to the 2017-2018 School Year at

Villa Cresta Elementary

2600 Radar Avenue, Baltimore Maryland 21234

<http://villacrestaes.bcps.org/> T: 410-887-5275

Dear Villa Cresta Parents & Guardians,

I hope you have had an enjoyable and relaxing summer break and were able to take some time to reenergize with family and friends and are ready for a new and exciting school year. We are excited to kick off a new year with many new staff members and a new administrative team! I am thrilled to be continuing at Villa Cresta in a new capacity as Principal. I look forward to working with our staff to continue to goal of delivering high quality instruction in a safe and orderly learning environment for all students to grow and learn.

Last summer we were relocated as air conditioning was being installed throughout the building. This summer we are excited to share our stage will be fitted for new curtains, ceiling, and stage rigging. I can't wait to see our students performing on our newly improved stage. In addition, the front gym lobby entrance was refurbished with new windows and framing. We will continue to make improvements to our internal facilities each year to ensure a safe learning environment.

Please stop by to see your child's classroom and meet the teacher at our sneak-a-peek on August 31st. This is a great time for children to see their teacher and find their classrooms. Kindergarten students are welcome to visit the building, but you will meet your teachers in the kindergarten wing to say hello! Kindergarten students will preview their rooms during your scavenger hunt during your gradual entry days. We will also hold our Back-to-School Night for parents of students in grades 1-5 on Thursday, September 12th. Please note that there is no meeting this night for pre-school, pre-kindergarten, or kindergarten parents.

Again, I hope everyone is having a safe and enjoyable summer and we look forward to seeing everyone at sneak-a-peek or on our first day back to school which is Tuesday, September 5th.

Thank you for your continued support of Villa Cresta Elementary!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Jenny Rohrbaugh, Principal



Upcoming Events

August 31

2:00 – 3:00pm Sneak-a-Peek at your seat for students. Stop by our photo booth to take a picture with your friends!

September 5

First Day for students in grades 1-5 and start of gradual entry for Kindergarten

September 7

First full day for Kindergarten!

September 12

Back to School Night 6:00 – 7:30pm

Welcome to our Newest Staff Members!

- ❖ Krysta Durm, Kindergarten
- ❖ Kristen Salisbury, 3rd
- ❖ Kristy Hughes, K DHH
- ❖ Kazia Patterson, 1 & 2 DHH
- ❖ David Alianiello, 3 & 5 DHH
- ❖ Hannah Wood, Art
- ❖ Jason Holmes, ESOL
- ❖ Rachel Pardew, ESOL
- ❖ Mary Lynn Stevens, IA
- ❖ Dawn Godshall, PT
- ❖ Colleen Mercier, SLP

Villa Cresta, "Where Cardinals Soar"

A Few Words from the Administrative Team

As the new assistant principal of Villa Cresta School, it is my sincere pleasure and honor to become a member of this great school and community. The partnerships between the school faculty and staff, students, parents and community stakeholders provide a diversity of experiences for the students.

I believe that all children deserve instruction that is both rigorous and responsive which will incorporate the necessary skills to meet the high expectations of college, career and community readiness. Our innovative staff members will recognize the importance of including students' cultural references in all aspects of learning in addition to ensuring learning through collaboration, critical thinking, creativity and communication. Partnership with our families and community leaders will enhance our students' skills and knowledge to succeed in work, life and citizenship.

Parents, teachers, support staff, and administration all have an important role to encourage our children to become active learners and I am confident we will continue to be a special place where our students will learn and grow.

I am truly honored to join the Villa Cresta Elementary School family and look forward to working with you to provide the best educational program for our students.

Best Regards,

Alia N. Thomas, M.S, Assistant Principal

Dear Villa Cresta Teachers and Staff,

I am very excited to join the Villa Cresta community and work collaboratively with each of you this school year. Since sharing my recent appointment as Assistant Principal with family, friends, and BCPS colleagues, I have heard from others how lucky I am to become a member of this staff. It is evident that there is a lot to showcase at Villa Cresta and I can't wait to see it firsthand!

For the nine years that I have been an employee of Baltimore County Public Schools, I have worked at Baltimore Highlands Elementary School. Prior to becoming the Reading Specialist, I taught both fifth and third grade. Through my experiences, I have developed a passion for guided reading instruction, working with diverse subgroups of students, and collaborating with teachers and support staff to plan and deliver customized instruction to meet students' unique needs.

Again, I want to reiterate how enthusiastic I am to become a part of the Villa Cresta team. I would like to thank the various teachers and staff members who have either stopped by this summer to introduce themselves or sent me a congratulatory email. I really appreciate the warm welcome and look forward to meeting the rest of you the first week back to school. I am confident that collectively we will soar into a successful school year!

Sincerely,

Heather Lundy, Assistant Principal

Villa Cresta, "Where Cardinals Soar"



Back to School Reminders:

- ⬇ School starts at 8:45am & ends at 3:15pm
- ⬇ For safety reasons, do not have your child come to school prior to 8:30am without supervision from an adult. We do not have staff on duty prior to 8:30am.
- ⬆ Students who are not bus riders need to have arrangements to either walk home or be picked up after school on time.
- ⬆ Students arriving after 8:45am will be marked late, please help your child arrive at school on time.
- ⬆ Pre-kindergarten & kindergarten walkers/car riders should enter through the kindergarten hallway.
- ⬆ Students in grades 1-5 will enter using the main entrance or the doors at the end of the 2nd grade hallway.
- ⬆ Please keep our car loop clear by dropping off students & putting away, if you wish to walk your child to the door you must use the designated parking lots to park your car.
- ⬆ All visitors must report directly to the office with a valid Maryland photo ID card.
- ⬆ Thank you for helping us ensure a safe & orderly arrival & dismissal for our students!

September Happenings



- **Monday, September 4 LABOR DAY - SCHOOLS & OFFICE CLOSED**
- **Tuesday, September 5 - FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL for students in grades 1 - 5**
- **Tuesday, September 12 - Back to School Night 6:00-7:30 pm**
- **Friday, September 15th - Orioles Day! Go O's**
- **Monday, September 18 - PTA Meeting 7:00 pm**
- **Wednesday, September 20 - Ident-A-Kid**
- **Thursday, September 21 Rosh Hashanah - SCHOOLS & OFFICES CLOSED**





School Bus Safety



If you ride a school bus, make sure that you remember the following rules:

Street Smarts

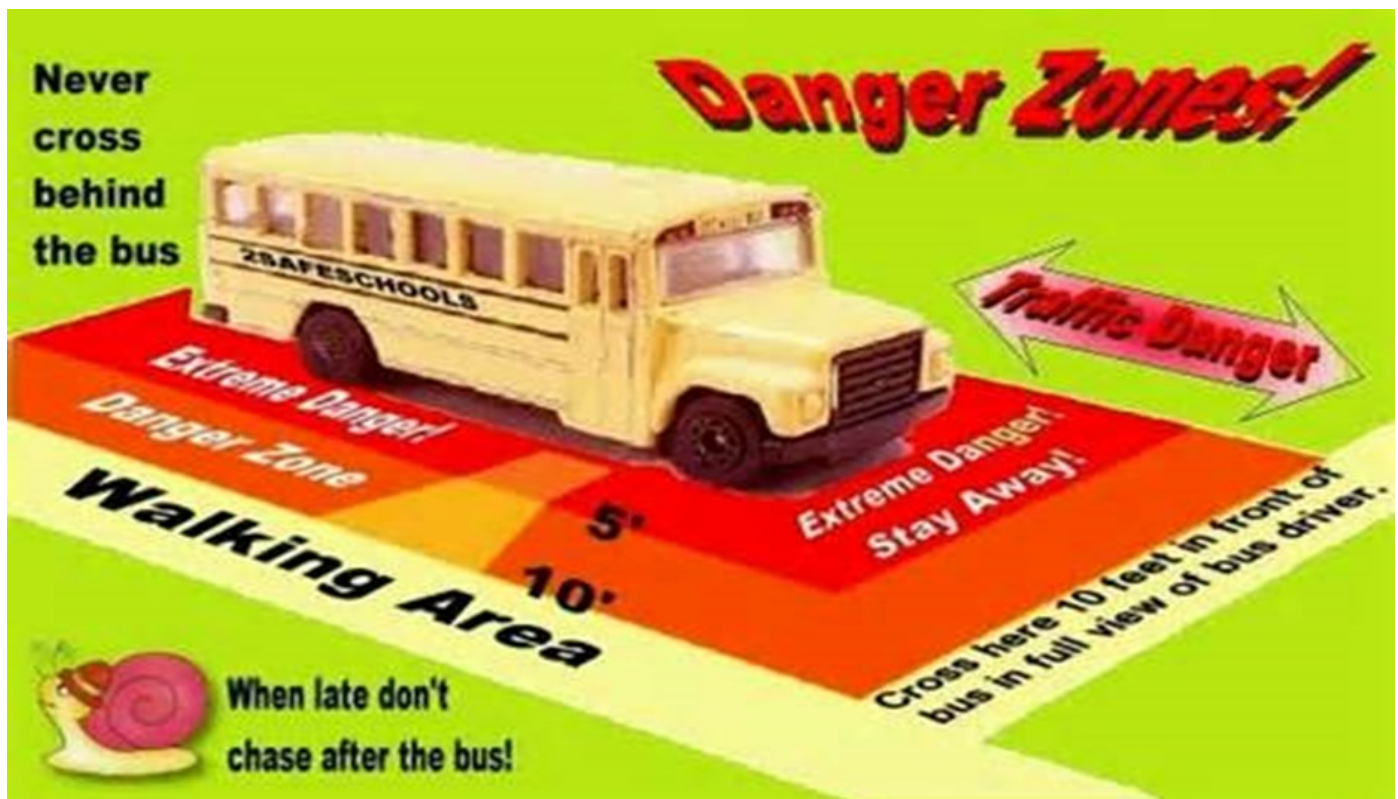
- Never run into the street.
- Look and listen for cars and trucks to the left, then to the right, and then to the left again.
- Never go between parked cars to cross the street.
- Always walk with a friend or a parent.
- Don't talk to strangers. If a stranger comes up to you, yell as loud as you can.
- Never get into a stranger's car.

The Danger Zone

- There is a 10-foot area around the bus known as the Danger Zone.
- The bus driver is not able to see anything in this area. The Danger Zone is
- right in front of the bus and the area all around the rear wheels and the back of the bus.

Waiting for the Bus

- Be at the bus stop 5 minutes early.
- Stay away from the curb.
- Be quiet while you wait for the bus.
- Don't get on the bus until it stops.
- Don't push getting on or off the bus.



Hello Families and Staff of Villa Cresta Elementary!

Welcome back to another great year at Villa Cresta!

As your PTA President, it is my pleasure to introduce the other members of your 2017-2018 PTA Board. This year our board has condensed to four positions. They are as follows:

Patricia Pizza will be our *Vice President*. Patricia previously served as a secretary on the PTA board and was responsible for the organization of our 2016-2017 silent auction.

Megan Pennington will be the *Secretary*. Megan has two children attending Villa Cresta and is excited to take on the role with the helpful guidance of Patricia.

Last, but certainly not least, is our *Treasurer*, **Julie Wach**. We are incredibly grateful to have Julie returning to the board after serving as the treasurer on the 2016-2017 board. She will be an incredible asset to the PTA, as she was in her previous term.

This year will be a year of transition for our school, which can lead to uncertainty. I promise to be available to support each student and family in all of the ways that I can. Please take note of my contact information at the bottom of this letter and feel free to contact me should you have any questions, concerns or need information. Additionally, please find us on Facebook as Villa Cresta PTA.

We have lots of wonderful events planned for this year including our first Spirit Day on September 15, 2017 which is Orioles themed! We will also have a Welcome Back Dance Party on September 20th from 6-8PM. This event is free for families and a wonderful way to reconnect as we enter this school year.

Our first PTA meeting is scheduled for September 18, 2017 at 7PM in the school library. Please look for our table at back-to-school night and consider joining the PTA to help us improve the lives of every student at Villa Cresta!

Let's make 2017-2018 the best year yet!



Thank you,

Samantha Smith
2017-2018 PTA President
villacrestapta@gmail.com
443-465-4779



Schedule of Events:

9/20 6-8PM Welcome Back Dance Party
10/11-10/19 Scholastic Book Fair
10/17 6-8PM Family Book Fair Night and Social
10/19 (TBD) Last Roundup! Buy Day (Book Fair)
11/13-11/17 American Education Week
11/16 6:30-8PM Glow Walk
12/2017 Barnes and Nobles Night (Details TBD)
2/16 6-8PM Cardinal Dance Bash
3/28 (TBD) Movie Night!
4/2017 Silent Auction and Ice Cream Social (Details TBD)
5/4 6-9PM Superhero Bingo Night
5/7 - 5/11 Staff Appreciation Week

Spirit Days:

9/15 Orioles Day
10/13 Cowboy/Cowgirl Day
11/10 Neon Day
12/15 Ravens Day
1/12 Crazy Hair Day
2/16 Villa Cresta Red Day
3/9 Dr. Seuss Day
4/13 Twin Day
5/4 Star Wars/Superhero Day

PTA Meetings: (rescheduling occurs if affected by weather): 9/18, 10/9, 11/6, 12/11, 1/8, 2/12, 3/12, 4/9, 5/14, 6/4. Meetings will be held in a one (1) hour time block from 7-8PM.



Physical Education



Welcome back! We're looking forward to another great year here at Villa Cresta. We will be reviewing our rules and shaking off those lazy days of summer for the first couple weeks in Physical Education. Safety is the most important thing to us so please help your child remember their tennis shoes on P.E. days. If you have any questions or concerns about our program feel free contact us:

Ms. Stone/Sands: sstone@bcps.org

Mr. Willenborg: cwillenborg@bcps.org

Check out our Facebook Page and Twitter Account!

<https://www.facebook.com/vcphysed>

@VillaCrestaPE



Mr. Willenborg and Ms. Stone

