

WOODMORE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 3501 Moylan Dr, Bowie, Maryland (301) 390-0239 Main Office

Andrew Zanghi Principal

August 5th, 2024

Dear Woodmore Families,

Welcome to the 2024 - 2025 School year! We hope that this summer has been enjoyable and full of memorable positive experiences. The Woodmore staff has taken time to rest, relax, and smile, but we have also been planning, preparing, and training, all with a lens towards providing the best possible educational experience for our students. Along those lines, our focus this year for staff and students comes straight from the Woodmore Pledge of Respect, "Expect The Best In All That I Do."

The first student day is Monday, August, 26th, 2024. Prior to that, Orientation Day will be on Friday, August 23rd, using the following schedule: Last Names A - H @ 9am, I - P @ 9:45am, and Last Names Q - Z @ 10:30am. Families with students that have different last names are welcome at any of those time slots. Please remember that Orientation Day is relatively quick and for meeting your child's teacher, dropping off supplies, and getting comfortable with the classroom. You will get more information on class expectations, procedures, and instruction during Back-to-School Night. Orientation is also a great time to walk your child to their classroom. While there will be many opportunities to visit your child's classroom, it is important that students are allowed to walk into the building and to their class on their own on the first day of school. Pre-K and Kindergarten students will all start in the cafeteria. Staff members and 4th and 5th grade patrols will be helping students find their classes on the first day of school as well.

A few additional dates to take note of:

- Wednesday, August 21st Teachers posted in Synergy (Please click <u>HERE</u> for information on creating a Synergy parent account. It is essential that all families create a Synergy account.) If you are not able to see your child's teacher on Synergy, you will be able to get that information at Orientation.
- Monday, September 2nd No School (Labor Day)
- Monday, September 9th Back-to-School Night (More information coming in ClassDojo)

Please see the second page of this letter for additional information that we believe will help ensure a smooth and safe start to the school year. I hope that everyone had a wonderful summer and we look forward to a great 2024-2025 school year!

Sincerely,

The Woodmore Leadership Team



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https://schools.pgcps.org/woodmore/

<b>Synergy</b> Synergy will be taking the place of SchoolMax starting with the 2024-2025 school year. It will be used for grades, schedules, student information and more. It will also be where families register new students. All families will have to register in Synergy in the coming weeks. As we get more information, it will be added to this document and posted on Dojo.	<b>Start &amp; End Times</b> The "Bell Times" for Woodmore are changing for the 2024-2025 School Year. The school day will begin at 9:30am and end at 3:40pm. Please plan accordingly.
<u>Uniform</u> Woodmore will remain a uniform school for the upcoming school year. Specific uniform information can be found under the "Student Resources" section of the Woodmore website (see above). Woodmore Spiritwear (including Field Day shirts and any previously issued Woodmore clothing) can be worn as a uniform any day of the school year. Spiritwear will be sold online at various times throughout the school year.	Transportation Please go to https://www.pgcps.org/transportation/ for information on buses and bus stops. Please remember, younger students (Pre-K, K, 1st Grade) must have an adult waiting for them at the bus stop in the afternoon. Bus stops and times will be available at the above site in mid August.
MealsBreakfast, for students that arrive prior to9:45am, and lunch will be available for allstudents. Students will be paying for meals thisyear (Breakfast = \$1.60, Lunch = \$2.75). Weencourage all families to set up an account onMySchoolBucks. Information on MySchoolBucksand PGCPS meal series can be found athttps://www.pgcps.org/offices/food-and-nutrition. Students will be assigned a lunch pin on the1st day of school and staff members will helpstudents remember that pin.We also encourage ALL families to apply for Freeor Reduced Priced Meals HERE.	Drop-Off Morning drop-off is strictly from 9:05 am to 9:25 am. Students will not be able to enter the school prior to 9:05am and students must arrive in time to be in their class by 9:30 am so that they are not marked tardy. Drop off will take place directly in front of the school in the "Parent Lane." Please do not drop off your child on Moylan Dr or prior to drop-off lanes. Staff will be on hand to help direct families & visitors.



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Supplies   The Supply lists for all grade levels are available on the Woodmore website (see above) under the Student Resources Tab or linked <u>HERE</u> .   PTO   We encourage all families to join the Woodmore PTO. Families can join the Woodmore PTO and additional information can be found at: <a href="https://www.woodmorepto.com/">https://www.woodmorepto.com/</a>	Pick-Up Pickup will occur in the "Parent Lane" (the lane closer to the street). Cars/Trucks/Vans cannot enter or block the bus lane. Signs for the front windshield will be issued on the first day of school and should be placed in the front windshield daily for pickup. Students will be called from the cafeteria as parents pull up. This will take some time and we encourage students to ride the bus in the afternoon. Students that are car riders must be picked up by 3:50pm.
VolunteeringThere are numerous opportunities to volunteerwith specific classes, grades, and duringschool-wide events. We encourage familymembers to register to be an approved volunteerat the start of the school year. There are threesteps to becoming a registered volunteer. Step 2,fingerprinting, only has to be done once. Steps 1and 3 need to be done every year. You can findmore information here:https://www.pgcps.org/volunteer/	Early Pickups Early dismissals can occur until 2:50 pm. After 2:50 pm parents will have to wait in the pickup loop and students will have to be dismissed at the normal time (3:30pm). Please plan accordingly.

# The PGCPS Vision

Our vision paints the image of a premier educational environment that values the rich uniqueness of who we are as we develop and equip life-long learners, leaders, empowered proponents of justice and prosperous communities to thrive in the global society:

A culturally responsive district developing distinguished learners, leaders, voices of social justice, and advocates for humanity for the world of today, tomorrow, and beyond.

# The PGCPS Mission

Our mission defines our purpose and the scope of our work. It communicates why we exist and what we hope to contribute to society:

Provide a transformative educational experience anchored by excellence in equity – developing 21st century competencies and enabling each student's unique brilliance to flourish in order to build empowered communities and a more inclusive and just world.



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## The Woodmore Pledge of Respect

I am a smart, special, and valuable person. I respect myself and I respect others. My words and actions are kind and honest. **I expect only my best in all that I do.** I am proud to be a Woodmore student.

## **Vision of Woodmore**

The vision of Woodmore Elementary School is to provide a community of learners with rigorous, daily instruction and nurturing support in a safe and orderly environment. Through collaborative learning experiences, students, staff, parents and community will prepare students to be college and career ready.

#### **Mission of Woodmore**

The mission of Woodmore Elementary School is to promote a risk free environment that will nurture, shape, enrich and develop young minds to achieve their highest level of academic performance. We strive to empower students to be productive citizens and to foster success, respect, and appreciation of cultural diversity. We will involve parents, community and staff in working towards a common goal for creating a love for life-long learning.

#### **Philosophy of Woodmore**

Woodmore Elementary School is a haven to foster student success and creativity. Teachers are the guide on the path to growth and development for the benefit of each child. Administration is the support and framework with which the teacher can grow and develop professionally in order to enhance student learning. Parents are the vehicles, which continue the child's growth beyond the school. As a team, we believe that every child is successful, through sound instructional strategies and a commitment to the educational process; it is our goal to develop and nurture the whole child.