



Tom Smith
Principal

VANSVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HOME OF THE WILDCATS

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301-931-2830 Phone 301-931-2840 Fax
<http://www.pgcps.org/vansville>



Shawna Holden
Assistant Principal

August 9, 2009

Dear Students, Parents and Guardians,

It is with great excitement that we welcome you back to another great school year at Vansville. We hope your summer break was a relaxing and enjoyable one full of fun and fellowship. During the past school year our students in grades 3 - 6 took the Maryland State Assessments (MSA) as required by state and federal law. We are pleased to announce that our students well exceeded the state requirements in both reading and math. Students, parents and staff are to be congratulated for establishing such a great foundation. Our goal for next year is to increase our percentage by 5 points. How can we do that? We ask that every child be totally committed by doing all work, attending school and displaying appropriate behavior as not to interfere with the learning of others. The *Vansville Family Handbook* is an essential reference tool for your use. This handbook will provide you with information that is specific to Vansville Elementary, including discipline, cafeteria procedures, dress code and other policies. In an effort to support the saving of our environment, we will be placing this document on the school's website <http://www1.pgcps.org/vansville>. Please take the time to review this document with your child so they are well aware of the expectations we have here at Vansville.

Within the next few days, you should receive transportation information from the system's transportation office. This information will also be posted on the school system's web page (www.pgcps.org). We ask that you review proper etiquette when riding a bus. Riding a bus is a privilege and not a right. **We strongly encourage you to allow your child to ride the bus the first day of school in order to establish a safe routine. Parking will be limited.**

School hours are 7:45 a.m. until 1:55 p.m. Parents may begin dropping their children at 7:25 a.m. Prior to that time, there is no adult supervision except for those students that have been approved for the Before and After Care Program. **Please make sure you notify the school prior to 10:00 a.m., August 24, if your child will be picked up by an after care provider. We also ask that you send a note the first day to identify how your child will get home at dismissal. If a note is not received, the assumption will be the child is to ride the assigned bus home.**

Class lists will be posted the evening of Friday, August 21 for those wishing to see who your child's teacher will be for the 2009-2010 school year. On Monday, August 24, students in grades 1-3 will meet their teachers in the cafeteria. Students in grades 4 - 6 will meet their teachers in the gym. Students are to look at the lists posted in these locations to identify their teacher. Pre-K and kindergarten students will go directly to Wing B, 1st floor, where staff will assist them with finding their classes.

We ask that you add the following dates to your calendar:

August 20	Pre-K and Kindergarten Orientation 2:00 pm
August 24	First day of school for students. <u>School hours are 7:45-1:55. Students are considered tardy after 7:45. PUNCTUALITY IS EXPECTED AND MONITORED!</u> Breakfast treats will be provided for those children wanting breakfast.
August 25	First day breakfast service will be available.
September 7	Labor Day Holiday-Schools and Offices Closed
September 15	Back-to-School Night Grades Head Start to 2 nd , 6:00-7:00 PM
September 17	Back-to-School Night 3 rd - 6 th Grades, 6:00-7:00 PM

We are excited about the opportunity to work with you and your child. We value the partnership that will develop.

Tom Smith, Principal

Imagine, Believe, Achieve