

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the 2019-2020 school year at Booker T. Washington Elementary School. I am grateful to work with the AMAZING children, families, staff, and community members of BTW. This year has gotten off to a great start and I look forward to a wonderful school year! We are continuing to focus on having a growth mindset this year as we 'travel' on our way to Super Senator Success. Our journey will include continuing to foster an environment where our children can learn from their mistakes, appreciate and accept challenges, and put forth 100% effort into their learning. We are also continuing to focus on providing a safe and supportive learning environment, where we are centered on supporting students' academic, social, emotional, and behavioral needs.

Teachers and students are working extremely hard this month. All students are completing their beginning of the year benchmark assessments in both Reading and Mathematics. Our teachers and instructional support staff are reviewing this information carefully in preparation to meet in grade level teams to discuss instructional goals that will meet the needs of all of our children. Our Reading and Math intervention and enrichment groups will soon be up and running!

Thank you to everyone for completing all forms that were sent home recently. The information that we obtain helps to ensure that we can contact you in a timely manner. If any of your contact information changes (phone numbers, etc.), please stop into the office so that we can update our records. The safety and education of our children is extremely important. Thank you in advance for your support. If for any reason you did not receive the items below (Start of the School Year Packet), please be sure to stop into/contact the office and we will provide them for you.

- Emergency Card & Transportation Card
- Partnership Agreement
- CSD Student Success Guide
- BTW Student Handbook
- Student/Parent
  Signature/Acknowledgement Form
- Over the Counter Medication Form
- Student Health History Update Form
- Military Connected Youth Update Form
- Migrant Education Program Form
- Volunteer Application (Required to chaperone)

#### September Dates/Events

We have several important events coming up in September! Please see the list below to stay informed.



September 2<sup>nd</sup> – No School – Labor Day September 6<sup>th</sup> -Grandparent's Lunch September 11<sup>th</sup> – Board of Education Meeting @ 7:00pm September 16<sup>th</sup> – Buffalo Wild Wings Fundraiser September 17<sup>th</sup> – PTO Meeting in the Library @ 5:30pm September 25<sup>th</sup> –Kindergarten Field Trip to Dover Fire School – 9:00 – 12:30 September 27<sup>th</sup> – Million Father March Events (We are looking for fathers, father figures, male role models, and mentors to join us to greet or read to our children. Please inquire at the main office)

**September 27**<sup>th</sup> – Family Movie Night @ 7:00pm

#### **Attendance Guidelines**

We care immensely about the educational success of our children. We encourage our children to come to school on time and prepared for their day. We are eager to work with you to ensure your child's success at Booker T. Washington this year. Please review the attendance guidelines below so that we can work together as partners in their education.

•Students may be dropped off anytime between 8:00am-8:25am, but not earlier, due to a lack of supervision. Any child dropped off after 8:25am is considered late (tardy). Parents must accompany their child into the school to sign them in with a note stating the reason.

•Student pick-ups before 3:00pm are considered early dismissals and require a note stating the reason. We request that no child be picked-up from school between 2:45pm-3:10pm for child safety and the integrity of dismissal procedures.

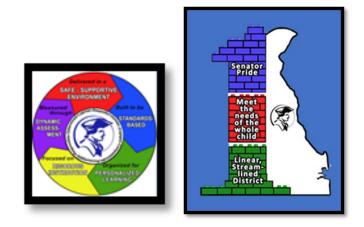
•We request any changes in a child's regular transportation be made before 2:45pm, via phone, note, in person, or email. Change requests after 2:45 may not be able to be honored.

•If you would like to email your child's note to us, please use the following email address: <u>btwattendance@capital.k12.de.us</u>.

I look forward to working with you this year. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at (302) 672-1900 or paige.morgan@capital.k12.de.us. Sincerely,

Dr. Paige Morgan Principal Booker T. Washington Elementary

"Every kid is one caring adult away from being a success story." ~Josh Shipp



#### Capital School District Board of Education

John C. Martin Jr., President Dr. Chanda Jackson-Short, Vice-President Sean P. M. Christiansen Joan L. Engel Dr. Anthony J. DePrima

#### Superintendent

Daniel C. Shelton, Ed.D. dan.shelton@capital.k12.de.us.



All schools in Capital School District will be participating in the Million Fathers March event on September 27, 2019. The Million Fathers March is an opportunity for dads, uncles, grandfathers, coaches, mentors, men's groups and organizations to show their commitment to the educational lives of their children throughout the community. Please check the Capital School District website or the school's website where your child attends to see what events are planned for this day. As reported by the Million Fathers March campaign, this event is expected to be held in 60 cities throughout 25 states with attendance of over 55,000 men impacting the lives of over 213,000 students. Please contact your child's school for further information.

# Kindergarten News

Welcome to an exciting school year!!! September will be a very busy time in Kindergarten.

In Reading we are learning about the concept of print, story sequencing, rhyming, and the letters Mm, Aa, Ss, and Pp. We have also learned the reading words I, can, we see, and a.

In Math we are exploring number recognition, counting, and learning number and number words 0-5.

In Social Studies we are learning about school rules, procedures, and routines, and will have an apple unit celebrating Johnny Appleseed's birthday. We will have a visit by Mr. Scott Vogel learning about animal safety.

In Science we are learning about trees, weather, and fire safety for our field trip to the Delaware Fire School on Wednesday, September 25th. The cost of the trip is \$2.00 cash. Adult Chaperones are needed- One adult family member only, and you MUST have a completed Volunteer packet and background check completed two weeks prior to the trip.

At home, you can help by practicing counting by 1's past 25, learning letters of the alphabet, tying shoes, and having your child write his or her name neatly.

Thank you for all of your help and support!

The Kindergarten Team

## <u>1st Grade News</u>

Welcome to First Grade!

We are looking forward to a GREAT year!

Sincerely,

The First Grade Team 🙂

Our second grade students have really grown up during the summer months. They are eagerly waiting to see what this year has in store for them. Our students are settling down and learning the rules and expectations of Booker T. Washington.

Please look for the daily communication logs to come home. They will help to keep you informed of the different activities that are going on in our school.

In reading we are learning about key ideas and details. We are learning how to visualize when we read a story. We have been learning how to write good sentences.

In math we have been working on number sense and place value. In social studies we are learning about our community and how to be a good citizen.

In science we are enjoying our study of insects and learning all about their body parts.

Remember that knowledge is like a lamp, and that every new thing that we learn this year makes that light brighter.

Looking forward to a fantastic school year.

The Second Grade Team

## <u> 3rd Grade News</u>

We are off to a great start! The third grade team is looking forward to a fantastic year of learning and development.

The first two weeks of school are an exciting time for readers. Our class will learn how to read fiction stories and nonfiction articles carefully. We will learn about basic skills that we will use in our reading throughout the year.

#### During this time our class will focus on:

- Ways to talk about their reading with partners and the class.
- Strategies to help them pronounce long words.

# **2nd Grade News**

- Strategies to figure out the meanings of hard words they read.
- How to find important details in fiction stories and nonfiction articles as they read.
- How to analyze what they read and write about it.

# Here are two activities you can do to help your child get ready to read.

- Read together a fiction story. Discuss what happens in the story and who the characters are.
- Read together a nonfiction book or article. Ask your child what the story is about. Discuss what kinds of photos and images they see. What can they learn from these images?

This year your child will learn how to become a confident and fluent reader in the 21st Century. Your interest and enthusiasm will support your child's efforts.

During the next few weeks, our math class will be learning to estimate and solve addition and subtraction problems using numbers through hundreds.

You can expect to see homework that provides practice with adding and subtracting numbers as well as estimating sums and differences. You can support these efforts by giving your child two or more books with hundreds of pages. Then, have your child estimate the total number of pages in the two books and how many more pages are in one book than the other.

Third grade is studying the water cycle and properties of water in science and government in social studies. Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Team

# 4<sup>th</sup> Grade News

The fourth grade team is very excited for a new school year! This month we will be working on classroom procedures and routines, using a growth mindset, and respect.

Math will start with regrouping practice and lead into our first chapter. Our first chapter of math covers place value, addition, and subtraction to one million. Our students would benefit from practice with mathematical fluency facts practiced at home.

In ELA students will learn how challenges can bring out our best. The comprehension skills in Unit 1 are sequencing, problem and solution, compare and contrast, cause and effect, and main idea & key details.

Messages and reminders will be sent on Remind 101 and newsletters.

Please check your child's homework each night and sign the appropriate papers.

Fourth Grade team



We have been busy making new friends and catching up with friends from last year.

In our classroom; we are studying the brain, how it works, and the importance of having a growth mindset.

The students are refreshing and reviewing math skills and reading comprehension skills.

We looking forward to an exciting year of learning, collaborating, and challenging ourselves, and strengthening our leadership skills.

# DAPK-4NEWS

Welcome back parents and families of Kent County Community School! My name is Ryan Matthews and I am new associate principal for KCCS here at BTW, having taken over for Katie Fitzgerald. She has left us to become the principal at Star Hill Elementary School. It is certainly sad to see her go, but I am thrilled to move into this position and be here to serve the students, staff, and families. I can't wait to get to know you all as your students attend BTW. We have an exciting year planned and I looking forward to great things! Always, feel free to reach out to me if you ever have any questions or concerns about your child and his or her education. Just as much as I'm here for the students and staff, I am also here for you.

Ryan Matthews Associate Principal KCCS

#### MS. CONNELL'S CLASS NEWS:

Ms. Ashley's Pre-K class has been busy! We're getting to know our new friends and having a lot of fun exploring our new environment together. We're all doing an excellent job of learning and following the classroom routines and expectations. Ms. Ashley's students all love school! We're looking forward to a progressive, fun, and exciting year together!

## <u>MS. HOFFMAN'S CLASS NEWS:</u>

Welcome to kindergarten! The kindergarten students in Mrs. Hoffman's class have settled in nicely to a new school with new classroom staff. They are learning classroom rules and procedures. We are in the process of planning our fall field trips. Fall festival at Main site will be held on September 27<sup>th</sup>. We are beginning to study letters and numbers in kindergarten. We will be making fall themed crafts and recipes. The classroom staff would like to extend a special thank you to those that have donated classroom supplies. We are looking forward to cooler weather and the leaves turning colors. Welcome back to school!

Laura Hoffman Cindy Knotts Megan Voshell

## MS. KINGLEY'S CLASS NEWS:

We are off to a fantastic start this 2019-2020 school year. We have been reading text and using graphic organizers to compare and contrast information. We have given class presentations and used our listening and speaking skills. We are looking forward to a gardening project with Ms. O Day's class. We will be planting bulbs, mums and vegetables. In math we have been grouping numbers and preparing for our 3<sup>rd</sup> grade standards.

# MS. O'DAY'S CLASS NEWS:

Welcome back to the 2019-2020 school year. We have many great events planned for the year. So far, we have spent some time getting to know each other as a class and getting familiar with our 3<sup>rd</sup> grade schedule. This year we will be working on our class garden with our classmates in third grade; learning about plants, soil and the water cycle. We will also be swimming once a week this year at the KCCS main site pool. Looking forward to September, there is a grandparent lunch on Friday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, an early dismissal on September 20<sup>th</sup>, and the KCCS Fall Festival is on Friday, September 27<sup>th</sup>.

We look forward to a great year.

Ms. O'Day's class.

Please consider joining ClassDojo using the code that was sent home with your child on the first week of school. This is a quick and easy way for us to communicate and for me to pass along important information to all. A huge thank you to everyone who has already done so! Finally, your child will begin to bring home a weekly homework packet at the beginning of September. It will be sent home on Monday and is not expected to return until the last day of the week.

It's going to be a great year in our class! Have a great September!

## MRS. SIMONETTI'S CLASS NEWS:

Welcome Back!

This month we will be hosting our annual fall festival on September 27<sup>th</sup>.

Your students will be working on their math, reading and writing skills.

Students will also begin the assessment process this month, please encourage your student to be rested and ready to complete these tasks. Testing will begin September 6<sup>th</sup>.

I am excited to share this school year with your student  $\textcircled{\sc o}$ 

-Mrs. Simonetti's Class

## MRS. CRAWFORD'S CLASS NEWS

We are off to a wonderful start in Mrs. Crawford's 4th grade class! We have worked hard to learn our routines and expectations and now we are ready to get to work. In reading, we are beginning Unit 1 in our WonderWorks curriculum. During math, we will be working on GoMath Chapter 1, where we will focus on place value, addition and subtraction. We will also be starting our land and water science unit this month.

## MRS. MERCEDES' CLASS NEWS

Welcome to Mrs. Mercedes' class! Our class is smoothly transitioning into Second Grade! We are spending time getting to know our classmates and remembering the school rules and procedures. Second grade is off to a great start!

## MRS. TAYLOR'S CLASS NEWS

Welcome back to school! Our class has had a great beginning this year! We are "hopping into a new year" with our theme of frogs! All of the students have come to school ready to learn and ready to grow! Our classroom can have a wide range of temperatures, especially as the outdoor temperatures fluctuate! At times, it can get chilly in the room! Please consider sending a sweatshirt with your student that we can keep in the classroom. Currently, we are scheduled to swim on Wednesday afternoons. As always, thanks for all you do to support your student at school! We are a team! If there is anything we can do to support your work with your student at home, let us know! Happy Fall!

# MRS. OLSON'S CLASS NEWS

We've had a fabulous start to our school year! We are learning routines and expectations for, not only our classroom, but for our related arts classes as well. We've enjoyed meeting and playing with our new kindergarten friends on the playground. We started swimming this week, which we love! We will begin our reading and math curriculum upon coming back from Labor Day weekend.

# MISS DAWKINS' CLASS NEWS

Welcome to the 2019-2020 school year, second grade with Miss Dawkins will be a blast. Let's begin the year with a quote: "Hello new school year...you're going to be amazing." What will make the school year amazing? The answer is each student, parents/guardians, teachers, para-professionals, secretaries, custodians, principals and administration. We all will work together to guarantee that the school year will be amazing!

## NURSES NOTES FROM NURSE AUDREY

Welcome back to the 2019/2020 school year!

Please take care to return emergency cards and over the counter medication permission forms. Reminder, all medications must be brought in to the nurse in the original packaging, and all prescription medications must be labeled by the pharmacy.

Vision and hearing screens will begin in the fall. If your child wears glasses, please send them in to school each day.

Please take care to notify the nurse of any health concerns/updates so that his/her needs may be met, and feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns.

# LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER

Welcome back to the start of another awesome school year! There is so much to look forward to this year in library and technology. We're going to read some great new books, complete some awesome projects, and continue to make connections and memories with each other.

This year book check out will start for grades 1st-4th near the middle of September and Kindergarten students will start book check out near the end of October. Students in 2-4th grades will be able to check out 2 books each as long as they continue to return their books on time. Kindergarten and first graders will be able to check out 1 book weekly, as long as they return their book each week. More information about the BTW library policies and procedures will be coming home with your student soon.

Our Scholastic Book Fair is planned for the week of November 4th so look for more information to come home as the date gets closer.

In technology, students will continue to work on keyboarding (typing) skills, learn how to be good digital citizens, build their digital literacy, utilize different digital platforms such as Google Drive and UDLibSearch, and so much more! Students will either see me, Mrs. Bogetti or Ms. Belton for their weekly technology lessons this year. Please make sure you have signed and returned your student(s) "Acceptable Usage Policy" technology form asap, so that your student will be able to access all the great types of technology they will be utilizing this year. This form should have come home with your student the first weeks of school with other pertinent information such as their emergency card and the student handbook.

If you have any questions/comments/concerns please contact me at <u>shenna.bogetti@capital.k12.de.us</u>.



Welcome back BTW students and families! I have just a few important reminders for our families.

- Emergency Contact Cards and Over the Counter Medication Permission forms have been sent home with students. I need to have them back as soon as possible.
  - This allows me to contact you quickly in case of a medical emergency.
  - It also allows me to give your child medications like Tylenol, Motrin, Benadryl, cough drops and even things like chapstick and contact solution.
- Please do NOT send medication to school with your child. ALL medication (in original pharmacy labeled container) needs to come to the nurse with a responsible adult. I have a form that will need to be signed in order for me to give the medication.
- Students are NOT allowed to carry medications, including cough drops, with them to class. If they need a cough drop, I have some in the office if I have a signed permission form.
- If your child has a food allergy, a form was sent home during the first week of school for your child's doctor to fill out. Please return theses as soon as possible.
- Hearing and Vision screenings will begin this fall and you will be notified if your child needs to see the doctor.



#### Welcome back!

We are currently preparing for Super Senator Day in all 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade classes. Our theme this year is "Soaring into the Future", so our songs are focusing on achieving goals and reaching for the stars! Super Senator Day is on Saturday, October 12th at Dover High School. We will get you more information when it is available. All 3rd and 4th graders are encouraged to come perform! The BTW Chorus starts October 1<sup>st</sup>! This year the Chorus is open to all 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders. Rehearsals will be on Tuesdays from 3:30-4:15pm. Transportation is not provided, so please plan accordingly. If your child is interested in Chorus and did not sign up at Open House, please contact me so we can get them added to the list!

The younger grades have been practicing rhythms, developing singing voices, and playing movement games and dances. We will be starting units based on different musical areas soon!

- Mrs. Franke

# Math Interventionist

#### Road Trip: A Journey to Becoming a Problem Solver

# **Tip #1:** *Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.*

Parents can make it easier for their children to understand word problems by making math a part of their child's daily life. By showing how math skills and concepts are involved in reallife situations, you can help children learn to use math in practical ways. Children need conceptual understanding as well as procedural fluency, and they need to know how, why, and when to apply this knowledge to answer questions and solve problems. Your child needs to be able to reason mathematically and communicate their reasoning effectively to others.

Your child should learn early on to never give up if a problem is unfamiliar or hard! They should start to search their memories for a similar problem or for what they already learned that might help. Accessing their prior knowledge will assist them in conquering new challenges and building stamina for more difficult ones along the way. They can explain the problem to themselves and try to visualize it. If one strategy does not work, they try another. They should be determined to become problem solvers ...by NEVER giving up!

As a parent you can help promote the first step in being a successful math problem solver by: <u>Making sense of problems and</u> persevering to solve them

It is important to make at home, real world connections to build a firm foundation for applying math *critical thinking* skills. When working with your child at home, help establish the groundwork for pushing through difficult, challenging problems by using these thinking stems below:

- What are you solving for in the problem?
- Can you think of a problem that you have solved before that is like this one?
- How will you go about solving it? What's your plan?
- Are you making progress toward solving it? Should you try a different plan?
- How can you check your answer? Can you check using a different method?

As parents, it is important to encourage your children to work on problems that are challenging for them, so that they can make

mistakes. We know that it is really important for students to take risks, engage in 'productive struggle,' and make mistakes. While at home, find everyday "real world" connections to apply to math. If your child begins to struggle, explain the importance of the multiple attempts and how it will make their brains grow. This is a delicate balance as you don't want to leave your children struggling to the point that they feel despondent, but always try to encourage as much struggle as you think they can cope with at that time. In the end, you want your child to learn the importance of NEVER giving up, staying committed to the challenge, persevering, and finding the solution to the problem with a mindset of "it was difficult, challenging, but I succeed...I DID IT!"

Mrs. Darling-Spinelli

### Booker T. Washington Elementary School September 2019 Lunch Menu

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
NO SCHOOL	A: Sausage, egg Cheese Pretzwich B: Meatball Sub D: Pizza Munchable Kit	A: Cheeseburger B: Mandarin Chicken D: Taco Salad	A: Taco Boat B: Grilled Chicken Melt w/ bacon D: Pizza Munchable Kit	A: Stuffed Crust Pizza B: Turkey & Cheese Sandwich D: Chicken Caesar Salad
9.	10.	11.	12.	13.
A: Chicken Fries B: BBQ Rib Sandwich D: Parfait	A: Goldfish Grilled Cheese B: Turkey & Cheese Wrap D: Pizza Munchable Kit	<ul><li>A: Popcorn Chicken Bowl</li><li>B: Ham and Cheese Pretzelwich</li><li>D: Ham &amp; Cheese Chef Salad</li></ul>	A: Hot Dog B: Chicken Cheesesteak D: Pizza Munchable Kit	<ul><li>A: Mickey's Cheese Pizza</li><li>B: Chicken Salad on Croissant</li><li>D: Turkey &amp; Cheese Chef Salad</li></ul>
16.	17.	18.	19.	20.
A: Chicken Patty B: Sloppy Joe D: Parfait	<ul><li>A: Shrimp Poppers</li><li>B: Cheesy Breadsticks</li><li>D: Pizza Munchable Kit</li></ul>	A: Cheeseburger B: Mandarin Chicken D: Taco Salad	<ul><li>A: French Toast Sticks w/ sausage</li><li>B: Tuna Salad on Croissant</li><li>D: Pizza Munchable Kit</li></ul>	A: Stuffed Crust Pizza B: Turkey & Cheese Sandwich D: Chicken Caesar Salad
23.	24.	25.	26.	27.
<ul><li>A: Chicken Nuggets</li><li>B: Philly Cheesesteak</li><li>D: Parfait</li></ul>	<ul><li>A: Sausage, egg Cheese Pretzwich</li><li>B: Meatball Sub</li><li>D: Pizza Munchable Kit</li></ul>	A: Chicken Drumstick B: Fish Sticks D: Turkey & Cheese Chef Salad	A: Taco Boat B: Grilled Chicken Melt w/ bacon D: Pizza Munchable Kit	<ul><li>A: Mickey's Cheese Pizza</li><li>B: Chicken Salad on Croissant</li><li>D: Turkey &amp; Cheese Chef Salad</li></ul>
Fresh Fruit available daily				
PB&J w/ String Cheese and Goldfish Pretzels available daily.				

The Capital School District is an equal opportunity employer. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, disability, age, genetic information or veteran's status in employment, or its programs and activities. Inquiries regarding nondiscrimination policies should be directed to the Title IX, District 504 and ADA Coordinators: Capital School District, 198 Commerce Way, Dover, DE 19904. Phone (302) 672-1500. **ADA Coordinator** 

#### Elliot Hardin Supervisor of Buildings/Grounds Capital School District 198 Commerce Way Dover, DE 19904 Tel: (302) 857-4223

#### **Special Education/Section 504**

Todd Simpson Director of Special Education Capital School District 198 Commerce Way Dover, DE 19904 Tel: (302) 857-42144239

#### Sex Discrimination (Title IX)

Mary Cooke Director of Human Resources Capital School District 198 Commerce Way Dover, DE 19904 Tel: (302) 857-4214