



# MONOCACY VALLEY MONTESSORI PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

Address: 217 Dill Ave / Frederick, MD 21701  
Entrance & Parking via Evergreen Place Alley

Phone: 240-236-6100 / Fax: 240-236-6101  
[www.mvmpcs.org](http://www.mvmpcs.org)

July 30, 2020

*Dear MVM Families,*

Greetings to you all! It is my sincere hope that you are well and in good spirits and that you may even have begun to find some blessings and/or silver linings in our current situation. This has been a most unexpected turn of events, but our community is strong and will continue to be there to support one another. Now that we know the FCPS reopening plan is for full virtual learning for semester one, we will be reaching out to you more regularly as plans are developed and finalized. We anticipate many opportunities for family engagement and hope to grow and strengthen our Meerkat community!

Here is the very tip of the iceberg for your consideration.

## FROM FCPS

*During this spring's school building closure, Frederick County Public Schools (FCPS) staff gathered student, parent and educator feedback and reflected on learned experiences. As a result, FCPS has adopted enhancements that will improve the virtual learning experience for students, parents and educators. These enhancements include:*

- *Increased live digital interactions/expectations between students and educators*
- *A single digital platform for students and parents to access instruction, communication and feedback*
- *Virtual courses that are more rigorous and challenging*
- *Robust professional learning opportunities for educators to increase their skill set for teaching in a virtual environment which include on-demand professional learning videos and courses for educators*
- *New parent resources*
- *Student training videos that will enhance their abilities to access and learning in a virtual environment*
- *Strategies to provide a significant focus on tending to individual student needs*
- *Continued efforts to connect each and every child digitally*

*FCPS is strongly positioned to teach students in a virtual environment and is excited to start the 2020/2021 school year.*

## FROM THE BOE

*The Board of Education has charged staff to identify targeted small groups of students to participate in face-to-face instruction to support individualized educational needs, to ensure access to virtual options, and to address specific courses requiring in person instruction.*

*More information will be provided to parents regarding these options. Parents/guardians will ultimately reserve the right to decline these services if they have concerns regarding their child's health in a face-to-face FCPS school building. Specific health measures will be in place to protect the health of both students and staff.*



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## FROM MVM

- ***Thank You!*** When you provide feedback in both FCPS and MVM surveys, we can identify what works well for our families and areas of potential fine-tuning. Where we can make adjustments, we will focus on doing so. Where we face limitations, we will find good workarounds. Your participation in school surveys is invaluable because it helps to inform our decisions as we do our best to meet your child's needs.
- ***New & Improved!*** Spring continuity of learning focused on maintaining skills and discovering the best way to deliver instruction. Fall full virtual learning will focus on teaching state standards using evidence-based practices that supports our Montessori approach to learning. MVM's teachers have been sharpening their skills this summer through professional learning, and we are already brainstorming ways to deliver high-quality, Montessori based instruction virtually. I am actually excited to begin this process and know (with confidence!) that your children will be in very capable hands.
- ***Good things take time!*** Now that we have a clear path forward, I anticipate communicating with you more regularly. Schedules, class assignments, school supply lists, etc. will be forthcoming. We will continue to send out notifications through eNews, but MVM will also begin to use FOF.
- ***Support, please!*** Included in MVM's full virtual learning plan are parent outreach and support sessions, study halls, tutoring sessions, resource libraries, volunteer opportunities, etc. We know that you have your hands full, and we don't expect you to do this alone! We also ask that you support us by establishing routines at home that prioritize participation in instruction, and we encourage you to reach out to us when needed. As in the spring, we will have a Care Team who will continue to monitor student progress and well-being. Please know that we are here for you!

Another way to stay informed is to attend the monthly GC meetings which occur on the first Monday of each month and begin at 6:30. Community participation is encouraged. I look forward to our continued partnership in building a strong Meerkat community!

Sincerely,

Amy V. Dorman  
Principal

Monocacy Valley Montessori Public Charter School