



# JOSEPH A. WILLIAMS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2021

#wildcatpride



## IMPORTANT DATES

- 10/26: Q1 Report Cards Go Home
- 10/27: Wear Red to support Red Ribbon Week!
- 10/28: Title 1 Virtual Presentation
- 10/29: Costume Day at school, 5:00-6:30 Drive Through Trunk or Treat
- 11/3: 8:00 am PTA Meeting
- 11/7: Set clocks back 1 hour
- 11/11: Veteran's Day Holiday
- 11/18: Q2 Interims in Skyward
- 11/18: SAC Meeting
- 11/22-11/26: Thanksgiving Holidays
- 12/20-1/21: Winter Holidays

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Our theme for this school year is: **BUILDING A GREAT YEAR TOGETHER!** We ask that you partner with us in building an enriching year for all of our students.

October is always an exciting time of year. We are in full academic swing. We are revving up instruction and building our students to their greatest potential. We want to thank you in advance for your support. We thank you for getting students here on time and ready to learn. Tardies to school had decreased tremendously. And absences are improving.

As we continue to practice COVID safety protocols we thank you for making sure that masks are on and students arrive feeling well.

At this point, all parents should be able to log in and access the family portal in Skyward. Families are being asked to update all student information, such as phone numbers, addresses, and email addresses online in Skyward. Please be sure that if there have been any changes to your student's information that you log in and update it in Skyward.

It is good practice for all of our parents to regularly check your emails for messages from the school and from classroom teachers. That is our primary mode of communication.

We continue to be committed to our school wide expectations to **BE RESPECTFUL, BE RESPONSIBLE, and BE KIND.** We thank you for your support and look forward to **BUILDING A GREAT YEAR TOGETHER.**

Your partner,  
Anyana Stokes, Principal      [#buildingtogether](#)    [#wildcatpride](#)



### Skyward

Parents can use Skyward on a computer or mobile device to access student information, such as: Grades, Attendance, Discipline  
Contact [hartsamsb@gm.sbac.edu](mailto:hartsamsb@gm.sbac.edu) to set up your account.

### myPortal

Students use [myPortal](#) to access resources, such as: Textbooks, Discovery Ed, BrainPop, & Tumblebooks. Contact your child's teacher for more information.

**Be Respectful      Be Responsible      Be Kind**

## TITLE I NEWS

Title 1 will be holding a “What’s New for 2021-2022?” virtual presentation for families who are interested on October 28<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM.

Topics covered will be K-5 Standards and Progress Monitoring, K-5 New Core Curriculum, UFLI Foundations, UFLI Parent Resource Hub, National Bullying Prevention Month, Title 1 Intervention Services, and Title 1 Resources and Social Media. Please visit [www.sbac.edu/title1](http://www.sbac.edu/title1) for more information.

### Sponsored by:



Mission Statement: We are committed to the success of every student.



To register,  
scan the QR  
Code or



## POSITIVE BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION SUPPORT (PBIS) NEWS

from our BRT's, Dr. Farnell and Mrs. Sherri Brown-Peoples

Thanks to our Wildcat Family for your support during our Fundraisers with David's BBQ and Chipotle Restaurants! We really appreciate you!

### Punishment Does Not Teach

Experts in education use a framework for creating a positive environment called Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS). PBIS has been implemented in more than 26,000 U.S. schools. The PBIS framework has been shown to decrease disciplinary removals and improve student outcomes, including grades and graduation rates. PBIS provides positives social skills, communication strategies and “restorative justice,” (working it out instead of punishing) and may prevent 80-90 percent of problem behaviors. PBIS requires an understanding that punishment fails to help a child know what to do instead, Researchers have learned that a child who is being punished enters an emotionally dysregulated state (fight/flight/freeze) that blocks learning. Adults who calmly direct a child toward a new way of problem-solving can interrupt or prevent an escalation.

### Here are some de-escalation strategies:

- Remove what is causing the behavior
- Get down to eye level
- Offer empathy; the ability to understand and share the feelings of another
- Provide choices
- Re-teach expectations
- Reinforce desired behaviors
- Communicate care instead of control

## VOLUNTEERS

We are starting to welcome some volunteers back onto campus and into our classrooms. Volunteers working with teachers and students on academic or educationally enriching activities like classroom helpers in learning stations, math, or reading tutors will start first. Mentors paired with small groups or individuals may also return to campus. Principals at each school site have the discretion to determine which volunteers/groups will serve on our campus as we re-introduce volunteers.

## PTA

### Please Join Us!

The next PTA Meeting is Wednesday, November 3 at 8:00 AM via Zoom. We are currently working on getting updated equipment, games, and supplies for Teacher PE, as well as getting ready for holiday activities. Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82418121048?pwd=SVZhTmJZckg2TjdXalpvnHNaZTICUT09>

### Have you joined the PTA?

Join online here:

<https://bit.ly/JoinWilliamsPTA>

Memberships are \$5. All are welcome.

### Williams T-Shirts for Sale!

We have Williams spirit t-shirts for sale in the front office for \$5 each. We only have M and L sizes right now.



### Questions about PTA?

Email us at

[ptawilliamselementary@gmail.com](mailto:ptawilliamselementary@gmail.com)