

Forest Ridge Elementary School

PROFILE

2017-18

9550 Gorman Road • Laurel, MD 20723 • 410-880-5950 • fres.hcps.org/



Forest Ridge Elementary School (FRES) is a school built on rich history and diversity. FRES was built on rural land in 1992, opening its doors to 550 students and 56 staff members. Our school has grown over the past 24 years in both population and diversity. FRES is currently home to 90+ staff members who instruct 710+ students who speak 28 languages.

We continue to embrace actions that support our vision and mission in that "We believe that every student should be empowered to be a purposeful lifelong learner. We will teach, nurture, and encourage all students to contribute positively in our diverse community and world."

Our staff is committed to providing exemplary instruction and supports for all students, ensuring that students are engaged in their learning and are receiving rigorous instruction every day. FRES embraces collaborating with its community. Staff and community can be found volunteering their time after school to support a wide variety of initiatives. Our PTA and families energetically support school efforts. The doors of Forest Ridge are always open to new learning opportunities that enhance the richness of our diverse cultural blend of students.

Forest Ridge Elementary — a unique, enriched learning community — a Laurel Gem!

Genée A. Varlack, Ed.D., Principal
Danielle Shanks, Assistant Principal

Fast Facts

Facility opened: 1992

Additions/Renovations: 2001/2 (R)/(A),
2009 (A)

School Capacity: 713
(This does not include additional capacity provided by 5 portable classrooms.)

Total Enrollment (K-5): 693

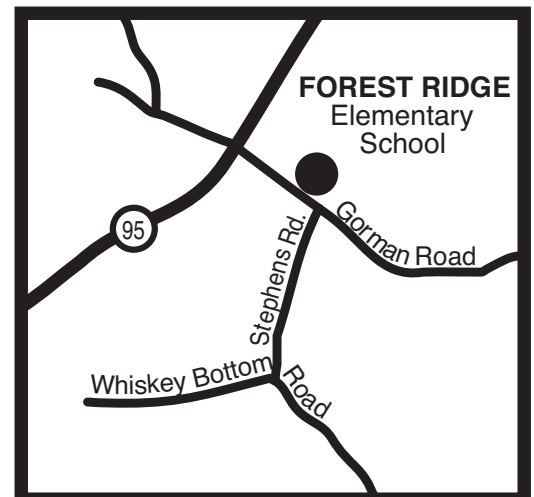
Ethnicity

American Indian/Alaskan	0.3%
Asian	25.3%
Black/African American	31.2%
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0.3%
Hispanic/Latino	13.7%
White	21.8%
Two or more races	7.5%

Students Receiving Special Services 2016-17

Free/Reduced Lunch	29.6%
Ltd. English Proficient	10.0%
Special Education	7.0%
Title I	0 or <10 students

PTA members: 315



Achievement Data

PARCC Assessment Performance Results – Forest Ridge ES

Performance Level	Mathematics			English Language Arts		
	2017	2016	2015	2017	2016	2015
Level 5: Exceeded expectations	11.5%	5.6%	<=5%	<=5	<=5	<=5%
Level 4: Met expectations	32.3%	36.9%	26.7%	38.6%	33.9%	33.4%
Level 3: Approached expectations	33.4%	24.7%	30.2%	28.8%	31.0%	29.1%
Level 2: Partially met expectations	16.4%	25.5%	27.6%	21.0%	21.4%	23.3%
Level 1: Did not meet expectations	6.3%	7.4%	10.8%	8.1%	11.6%	11.0%

State accountability information can be accessed at www.mdreportcard.org.

Special Programs

- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) Seminars
- Engineering Challenge, Rube Goldberg Contest
- School Science Fair
- Student Leaders – Grades 2–5
- iWalk/iRun 5K Technology Community Fundraisers
- Horizon Foundation Grant Sponsored “Girls on the Run” Program
- Big Buddy, Little Buddy Mentoring Program
- Simulated Congressional Hearings – Fifth Grade Students
- Battle of the Books sponsored by the Howard County Library
- Parent Evening Workshops
- Professional Development School with Towson University
- Variety of PTA Sponsored After School Programs

Accomplishments

- Named a PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports) Exemplary School - "Gold," 2011–17
- Received Healthy Howard School, 2015 Platinum Award; 2014 Gold Award; 2013 Silver Award
- Re-certified as a Maryland Green School, 2017
- Rube Goldberg Challenge, 2017
- Bright Minds Grant Winner, for desk cycles to be used in classrooms 2015
- Erica Murray, 2015 Howard County Art Teacher of the Year, Maryland Art Education Association

Educational Partnerships :

- A-OK Mentoring-Tutoring, Inc.
- Chick-fil-A, Johns Hopkins Road
- Howard County Library, Savage Branch & STEM Education Center
- Howard County MultiService Center
- Le'Chic Academy Foundation
- Mathnasium
- Mother Nature's