

# Forest Ridge Elementary School

## PROFILE

9550 Gorman Road • Laurel, MD 20723 • 410-880-5950 • fres.hcpss.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. The school has grown over the past 24 years in both population and diversity. FRES is currently home to 90+ staff members who instruct 650+ students who speak 28 languages.

Forest Ridge Elementary continues to embrace actions that support its 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."

The FRES 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. The 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!

### 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):** 679  
Official count 9/30/18

#### Ethnicity FY19

American Indian/Alaskan	≤5.0%
Asian	23.3%
Black/African American	34.5%
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	≤5.0%
Hispanic/Latino	13.6%
White	20.9%
Two or more races	7.5%

#### Students Receiving Special Services FY18

Free/Reduced Lunch	32.6%
Ltd. English Proficient	11.2%
Special Education	7.8%
Title I	0.0%

**PTA members:** 315

#### Administrators:

Genée A. Varlack, Ed.D., Principal  
Ivye Pazornik, Assistant Principal

#### 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
- Mathnasium
- Mother Nature's

Updated January 2019

## Academic Achievement

### FRES Performance on State Tests – FY18

Measure	Results
Percent Proficient Mathematics	50.8%
Percent Proficient English Language Arts	50.0%

State accountability information for FRES can be accessed at <https://hcpssne.ws/fres-reportcd>

## Special Programs

- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) Seminars
- Bright Minds Grant Winner, for desk cycles to be used in classrooms
- School-wide Science Fair
- Student Leaders – Grades 2–5
- Horizon Foundation Grant Sponsored “Girls on the Run” Program
- Ukulele Seminars Grades 2-5
- WatchDOGS (Dads of Great Students)
- PTA International Night
- PTA After-School Enrichment Programs
- 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
- Teacher Run Drama Club
- HERO Boys Running Program
- The First Tee National School Program Participant
- PTA Cultural Arts Program

## Accomplishments

- Named a PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports) Exemplary School - "Gold," 2011–17
- Healthy Howard School recognition
- The Council of Elders Student Achievement Recognition
- Re-certified as a Maryland Green School, 2017
- Rube Goldberg Challenge, 1st Place; 2018
- Howard County Children’s Chorus
- Howard County ES Honors Orchestra