



July 21, 2021

Dear Families,

I am writing to you today to inform you that Recreation & Parks is unable to open the School Age Care (SAC) program at the following locations in time for the beginning of the school year. While this news is likely unexpected and may create a hardship for your family, the department understands the importance of advanced notice for your family to make decisions.

Delayed Openings: Banneker Elementary, Leonardtown Elementary, Lettie Dent Elementary, Oakville Elementary

Active recruitment for qualified staff has continued for the last several months. It has been a challenge to hire qualified staff to fill positions due to the strict guidelines set by the Maryland State Department of Education. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Recreation & Parks SAC program was unable to open last school year and many of the staff have moved on to other positions. Continued efforts are being made in the search for highly qualified staff to provide the best of care for your children.

As the search will continue for staff recruitment, you will be contacted monthly to assess your continued interest and need for care. Additional sites will open as qualified staff are hired and trained. At this time, there are no details on when additional sites may open, however priority will be given to those with the most interest and need.

In the event we are unable to adequately recruit staff for this location, you will be provided a refund of the \$55 registration fee. If at any time you find other care and do not want to be considered for placement in this program for a delayed opening, you can submit a written request to be removed from the list and receive a refund for the \$55 registration fee. No action is necessary currently if you wish to keep your child's name on the list for when we potentially reopen.

If you have any questions, please contact Cherie Nelson, Program Coordinator by email at cherie.nelson@stmarysmd.com