

# WAVE NEWSLETTER

**May 16, 2024**

## **Important Dates:**

May 17 ~ Schools Close Three Hours Early - Professional Learning Day  
May 17 ~ Deadline to Order Memory Books  
May 22 ~ First Grade Field Trip to the B&O Railroad Museum  
May 24 ~ Second Grade Field Trip to Science Center  
May 24 ~ Third Grade Field Trip to Sharp's Farm  
May 24 ~ Spring Band and Chorus Concert, 5:30 - 9:00 pm  
May 27 ~ Schools and Offices Closed - Memorial Day  
May 29 ~ Kindergarten Storybook Plays and Picnic; 10:15 am  
May 30 ~ Fifth Grade Middle School Visits  
May 30 ~ RECC In-House Field Trip - Zoo to You  
June 4 ~ PTA General Membership Meeting, 7:00 pm  
June 5 ~ Schools Close Three Hours Early - Professional Work Day  
June 5 ~ Fourth Grade Picnic; 10:30 am  
June 6 ~ Orchestra Concert; 6:00 pm (Beg. Orchestra) and 7:15 pm (Adv. Orchestra)

## **On Deck with your Administrators**

Dear Dayton Oaks Families:

As usual, there's lots going on at Dayton Oaks. On the evening of May 9, 2024, students, staff, families, and community members converged on DOES for our Annual Student Showcase. The DOES Academic Initiatives Committee led the planning and execution of this extraordinary event, which sought to spotlight all of our students in grades RECC through Grade 5. In addition to the grade level exhibits, visitors also perused the Cafetorium where students displayed their STEAM projects. It was an amazing evening that spotlighted the talents and accomplishments of our Dolphins!

On Friday, May 10, our Grade 5 students participated in their Simulated Congressional Hearings (SCH). SCH is a multidisciplinary activity that allows our students to engage with various aspects of the United States Constitution. Grade 5 students did a fantastic job with their speeches and were very confident as they responded to questions from the SCH judges. The judges were impressed with our students and spoke highly of our school. Many thanks to our Grade 5 teachers and support staff that worked tirelessly to ensure that our students were prepared for this rigorous and highly anticipated event.

In the coming weeks, we will also recognize and celebrate students during orchestra, band, and choral concerts, as well as various end of the year activities. Thank you for your ongoing support and engagement as we continue to seek to inspire our students.

Educationally yours,

Adrienne Williams-McKinney, Principal  
Shari Lorch, Assistant Principal

## **Dayton Oaks' Memory Books**

What an unforgettable year at Dayton Oaks Elementary School! Catch all the fun traditions, events, and memories that are captured in this year's 100 page Memory Book. You don't want to miss out on getting your copy. **Deadline to order is: Tomorrow, May 17, 2024!**

Place your order on our digital storefront:

<https://shop.yearbookmarket.com/daytonoakselementary>

## **Are You Moving Over the Summer?**

If your child(ren) will be relocating out of the Dayton Oaks Elementary School district over the summer, please notify the front office staff as soon as possible. You may reach us at 410-313-1571 or via email at [mary\\_lewis@hcpss.org](mailto:mary_lewis@hcpss.org) or [loretta\\_orent@hcpss.org](mailto:loretta_orent@hcpss.org). Thank you for your consideration.

## **Howard County Children's Chorus 23-24**

On May 5th, the Howard County Children's Chorus held its final concert of the year, featuring participation from several of our DOES students. They performed so beautifully, and it was such a joy to be one of their directors this year. Please join us in congratulating the following students:

- Quinn Bogard
- David Siwajuola
- Ella Pulver
- Neva Schreiber
- Yuvin Kim
- Quinn Dempsey
- Ava Allen
- Sonia Monroe

## **Health Room Medication Pick Up**

If your child has a medication currently in the DOES Health room, please make arrangements to pick it up by 12:00 pm on Friday, June 14, 2024. Medications cannot be stored in the health room during the summer. Please come to the DOES front office and let them know that you are picking up your child's medication from the health room. The health room staff will be available during regular school days/hours, June 12th and 13th. Please call 410-313-1575 or email [Rachel\\_Tulis@hcpss.org](mailto:Rachel_Tulis@hcpss.org) with any questions.

*\*If your child is attending summer school at DOES, their medication can remain in the health room.*

## **Media Center Books**

All media books should be returned to the Media Center no later than Friday, May 31st. Please be sure to check backpacks, desks, bedrooms, under beds, etc.! We will be sending notifications for lost or overdue books. If you have any questions, please contact Valarie Graham at [valarie\\_graham@hcpss.org](mailto:valarie_graham@hcpss.org) or Laura Hahn at [laura\\_hahn@hcpss.org](mailto:laura_hahn@hcpss.org). Thank you for your cooperation!

## **2024 Free Summer Meals Program**

To continue meeting the growing need to feed hungry children and families in Howard County and fill the nutritional gap over the summer months, HCPSS once again will provide free summer meals Monday-Friday, June 24-Aug. 2, at locations throughout the county. Meals will be served only on days schools are open and there will be no meal service Thursday, July 4. Complete details on the HCPSS [2024 Summer Meals Program](#) are available online.

## **Total Love Project**

The purpose of this training series is to teach parents effective parenting skills that create an atmosphere of warmth and mutual respect. Integrated in this approach, parents will learn expectations, needs of children for successful experiences, and direct expression of feelings. This event series is hosted by [Therapeutic Connections](#) and funded by the Howard County Health Department. Call 301-456-0870 for more information.

Presentation Dates/Times:

- May 29, 6pm-8pm: Structuring and Reinforcement
- June 27, 6pm-8pm: Boundaries and Consequences

[Total Love Project event registration form](#)

[Event Flier](#)



## **NEWS WORTH REPEATING**

### **Message from the Office of Safety and Security**

We appreciate everyone's help in making sure that our school is as safe as possible. All exterior doors are locked at all times. To maintain safety and security it is important that we all do our part:

- Do not let anyone in through exterior doors around the school.
- All visitors or anyone arriving late needs to check-in at the front lobby using the buzzer. We know it is in our nature to be nice and hold the door, but please do not let in people you do not know. The front office staff will be focusing on groups coming to the buzzer and ensuring that all parties check-in properly.
- Doors should not be propped open.
- If you see something suspicious, report it to a teacher, administrator, or other staff member.

Thanks for doing your part to help keep our school safe.

### **Health Room News**

Spring is blooming all around us and that means it is seasonal allergy time. Seasonal allergies can affect anyone and can affect you anytime. We hear "I have not been diagnosed with allergies" or "I have never had allergies before" frequently. Seasonal allergies are something to consider if cold-like symptoms are not resolving.

Signs and Symptoms include:

- nasal congestion or runny nose
- scratchy throat
- sneezing
- dry, hacking cough or a repetitive cough
- itchy, red or watery eyes
- headache
- dizziness
- nausea
- difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- wheezing and flare ups of asthma is common

Treatment includes:

- Consult doctor or pediatrician
- Washing hands with soap and water after being outside.
- Rinsing face with cool water
- Wiping off hair with a wet paper towel after being outside
- Drink plenty of water
- Take over the counter allergy medication
  - There are several to choose from and you need to find the one that works for you
  - It may take several days for the medication start to working

Any medication that needs to be taken at school requires an [HCPSS Medication Form](#) to be filled out by the student's doctor/PCP. This includes **ALL** over the counter medications and eye drops.

**Students may not stay inside for PE or recess unless the health room has a doctor's note with information about pollen count restrictions and duration of the restriction.**

If you have questions or concerns please call the health room at 410 313-1575.

### **2024-2025 Bus Service Registration**

Parents/guardians whose children are eligible for bus transportation are asked to register to receive bus service each year to help the school system plan for student transportation needs. The transportation registration process will run through May 31st. The process will be completed online via HCPSS Connect Synergy. Registration must be done for each eligible student.

To be eligible for bus service, your child's home address must be outside of a school's walk zones. You can verify address eligibility in the [HCPSS School Attendance Area Locator](#). After inputting your address, a window will appear that will indicate either bus or walk for each school level. Please note, the attendance area locator also includes a link for the bus stop locator, which is set for the current school year. Bus stop information for the 2024-2025 school year will be available in August.

You do not need to take any action if:

- Your child is not eligible for bus transportation
- Your child receives transportation as part of their Individualized Education Program (IEP) or 504 Plan, or
- Your child is a graduating senior

Details on [Bus Transportation Registration](#) [Links to an external site.](#) are available on the HCPSS website.

### **Reminders Regarding Student Arrival**

This is a gentle reminder that our school start time is 8:30 a.m. We appreciate your enthusiasm for getting your children to school on time, but please remember that dropping off too early can create safety concerns and supervision challenges as no adults are assigned prior to 8:30 a.m. Thank you for your cooperation in ensuring a smooth and safe start to the day for all students.

### **2024-2025 Kindergarten Registration**

**Do you have a relative, friend or neighbor that has a child who will be 5 years old by September 1, 2024? Tell them it's time to register for kindergarten!**

Kindergarten [registration](#) kicked off Monday, March 4. Parents can begin the enrollment process online, after which a member of our front office team will contact you to complete the registration process. Current HCPSS prekindergarten students do not need to be re-registered for kindergarten because they are already enrolled as an HCPSS student. If you have any questions, please contact us at 410-313-1571.

### **Learning Together Peer (LTP) Program**

The Dayton Oaks Elementary Regional Early Childhood Center (RECC) prekindergarten programs are making preparations for classes for the upcoming 2024-2025 school year and are accepting applications for students to participate as peers through the Learning Together Peer (LTP) Program. These classes include children with and without disabilities. The program's focus is helping all children develop communication, literacy, math, problem solving,

motor, and social skills. Parents of children who will be 3 or 4 by September 1st, can pick up an application in the Dayton Oaks Elementary School's front office.

In alignment with [Maryland's Blueprint for the Future](#), a limited number of new applications for students turning 4 by September 1 will be available. The Howard County Public School System continues to offer a prekindergarten program for income eligible children who will be four years old by September 1. For additional information, visit:

<https://www.hcpss.org/schools/pre-k-programs/>

HCPSS is committed to providing instruction based on the statewide Early Learning Standards which are in alignment with Kindergarten Readiness. The fees listed in the application will be collected monthly regardless of the learning model determined by HCPSS throughout the upcoming school year (virtual, hybrid, in person, or class quarantine). If you have any additional questions, please contact Megan Battle at [Megan\\_Battle@hcpss.org](mailto:Megan_Battle@hcpss.org) or (410) 313-1571.

### **Handicapped Accessible Parking Spaces**

In response to our need for additional handicapped accessible parking for this year, the county offices have provided several additional spaces. These are located in our front lot adjacent to the school.

As a reminder these spaces should be utilized only by those who currently hold a State of Maryland issued plate or placard allowing for use.

### **Volunteer in the Media Center!**

The Media Center is always looking for parent volunteers. Please consider signing up to volunteer by clicking on the link below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080A44A5AD2EAA8-47151726-winter>

### **Student Technology Reminder - Personal Devices**

Recently, we have noticed an increase in the number of students bringing personal technology devices to school. These include cell phones, Apple watches, Gizmo watches, and other personal devices that include text messaging capabilities. These items have been disruptive to classroom instruction, therefore, we wanted to uplift the HCPSS Policy regarding personal technology devices in elementary schools:

[HCPSS Policy 8080](#) - Responsible Use of Technology, Digital Tools, and Social Media states that elementary school students “will keep personal technology devices in backpacks during the school day, unless otherwise authorized by school administrators or instructional staff.”

If your child has a personal device, please review this policy with them. As stated in Policy 8080, students who bring these devices to school will be instructed to place them in their backpacks for the duration of the school day. Thank you for your partnership.

### **HCPSS Emergency Notifications**

As we head into winter weather, [families are reminded](#) that in emergency situations (including inclement weather), information will be shared with the community only through the HCPSS website, email and text, Twitter and the HCPSS weather hotline. [Be sure your Family File is up to date](#) and that you have [opted into texts](#) to receive emergency messages.



## **Volunteer Training Required for Volunteers and Visitors**

Anyone volunteering at school in any capacity, including parents joining their children for lunch, are required to complete volunteer training prior to their first visit. Please visit [HERE](#) for more information. Thank you in advance for your willingness to support our staff and students at DOES.

## **Attendance/Reporting Absences**

Parents can email [DOESabsence@hcpss.org](mailto:DOESabsence@hcpss.org) to report a student's absence. Please include your child(ren)'s full name, parent's/guardian's full name and phone number, the date your child(ren) was absent and the reason. Parents may instead choose to send in a paper excuse note to their child's teacher with the same information when the student returns to school.

For families requesting local discretionary absences, please complete a [Local Discretionary Absence Request Form](#) and submit it to the front office at least one week in advance.

## **2023-2024 School Meals Information**

Click [HERE](#) to learn more about HCPSS meal information.

Pricing for school meals for 2023-24:

Breakfast (\$2.00)

Lunch (\$2.80)

Many HCPSS families are eligible to participate in the [Free and Reduced Price Meals \(FARMs\) program](#), which provides children with a wide range of benefits including free or discounted college tuition, testing and application fees, academic and athletic program fees and many others in addition to free or discounted meals. Families are urged to check their eligibility and complete a [FARMs application](#) as soon as possible. Families must submit a new application every school year.

[Details on the Free and Reduced Meals program](#), including a link to apply, are available online.

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

Please visit the HCPSS website [Community News and Programs site](#) for upcoming events and programs sponsored by non-profit organizations.