

WAVE NEWSLETTER

November 28, 2024



Important Dates:

November

28 & 29 ~ Schools and Offices Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

December

02 - 06 ~ Book Fair (Details Below)

09 ~ Grade 2 Field Trip to Chesapeake Art Center

19 ~ Winter Orchestra Concert, 5:30pm

23 - 31 ~ Schools Closed for Winter Break

January

01 ~ Schools and Offices Closed - New Year's Day

On Deck With Your Administrators

Dear Dayton Oaks Families:

On this Thanksgiving Day and as we reflect on all the things we are grateful for, we want to take a moment to share a few of them with you:

- We are truly thankful for our students, who come to school each day ready and excited to learn; they remind us why we are here and what truly matters.
- We are grateful for our families, whose partnership and support create a strong foundation for student success.
- We appreciate our incredible team of teachers, assistants, health assistants, bus drivers, secretaries, nurses, lunch and recess staff, support staff, and therapists. Their unwavering dedication to student success and their genuine care for our students' well-being inspire us daily.
- We are also thankful for our wonderful volunteers, who give so much of their time and energy to enrich our school community.

Every day, we witness the hard work and commitment of individuals who go above and beyond to ensure great things happen at our school. More importantly, we are profoundly thankful for

our families who trust us with their most precious treasures—their children. Your advocacy, partnership, and dedication to their education, safety, and well-being mean the world to us.

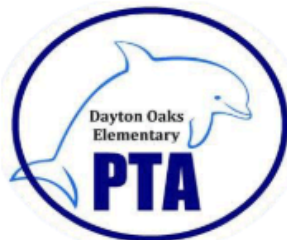
On behalf of the entire staff of Dayton Oaks, we wish you a restful, healthy, and safe Thanksgiving holiday!

Educationally yours,

Ms. Williams-McKinney, Principal
Ms. Lorch, Assistant Principal

THE DOES BOOK FAIR IS COMING! December 2nd - December 9th

Shop for your favorite books in the Dayton Oaks Media Center!



- Mon 12/2 Student Preview Day
- Tue 12/3 9:00 am - 7:00 pm
- Wed 12/4 9:00 am - 8:30 pm*
- Thu 12/5 9:00 am - 7:00 pm
- Fri 12/6 9:00 am - 7:00 pm
- Mon 12/9 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

**Open before & after the PTA Meeting*

Can't make it? **Order online** →→→→
Type "Dayton Oaks" in the order comments

←←←← **Want to volunteer and help?**
Check out the Volunteer SignUpGenius



Pay with cash, checks, or credit cards. Checks payable to "A Likely Story"

Band Musicians of the Month

Congratulations to the Band Musicians of the Month for December. These students will have their names displayed on the Band Bulletin Board and have their names listed in the Howard County Times Newspaper. Keep up the great work and awesome attitudes!

Clayton Frantz - Alto Saxophone
Muskaan Patel - Clarinet
Victoria Francin - Flute
Samir Asliyalfani - Percussion
Carl Tan - Percussion
Xaiden Beasley - French Horn
Owen Uyehara - Trumpet
William Burke - Clarinet
Simon Narvaez - Trombone
Sulaiman Hassan - Percussion
Cora Steckler - Trumpet
Kenzie Townsend - Trombone

Trenton Bahen - Percussion
Ari Adler - Alto Saxophone
EJ Breland - Clarinet
Vivien Moss - Clarinet
Alex Urquhart - Trumpet

Musically yours,
Amy Bejm Syversen (she/they/them) - Director of Bands

NEWS WORTH REPEATING

Play and Learn Series for HCPSS PK3 Students

In partnership with Early Childhood Programs and Early Intervention Services, the Howard County Family Support Center (FSC) will offer a **FREE** three-week Play & Learn series for HCPSS PK3 (Preschool, MINC-PS) students and their families.

Intended to complement the 4-day PK3 program, the series is held on Wednesdays. Families can select a morning or afternoon session; *registration is required*.

- Children will participate in play groups and skill-building activities;
- Parents will attend hands-on educational workshops;
- Sessions will end with activities for parents to engage in with their child.

Family Support Center Play and Learn Series.pdf -

<https://hcpss.instructure.com/courses/748/files/69916466/download>

Attention Parents of Rising Kindergarteners: Don't Wait for Summer to Address Developmental Concerns!

If you have concerns about your child's development - whether it's their speech, motor skills, social skills or learning - it's important to act now. Waiting until the summer for a referral can delay crucial support that your child may need before starting kindergarten. Contact us today to schedule a screening. Let's work together to ensure your child has the best possible start in kindergarten! Call 410-313-7046 or email ChildFind@hcpss.org.

Maryland Accreditation of Pre-K Programs at DOES

Our Pre-K program at Dayton Oaks Elementary School will participate in Maryland Accreditation during the 2024- 2025 school year.

Maryland Accreditation is...

- A way for programs to demonstrate their commitment to providing high-quality learning environments.
- A process for demonstrating and verifying program effectiveness and continuous improvement using the [Maryland Accreditation Standards](#).
- A process in which programs commit to and demonstrate continuous quality improvement to benefit children, families, and staff.

As part of this process, we are building a self-appraisal team that consists of teachers, administrators, and community members to help us take a deeper look at the quality of our program through a self-appraisal process. We will be sharing updates throughout the process with our school community.

Reminders About Arrival and Dismissal Procedures

To ensure a smooth and safe arrival and dismissal for our students, please read the information below.

SCHOOL HOURS: 9:15 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.

ARRIVAL TIMES:

9:00 a.m. First bell rings/students may enter the building.

9:15 a.m. Second/late bell rings/students should be in the classroom.

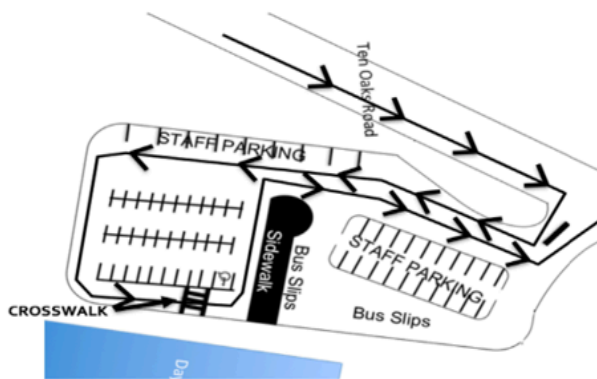
Students should not be dropped off or let out of your vehicle until 9:00 a.m. Supervision is not available for students before this time. Before and after care is available through Howard County Parks and Recreation as well as other before and after school providers in the community.

All children who are late must be accompanied by a parent and be signed into school in the front office.

DISMISSAL TIMES: Dismissal begins at 3:45 pm.

If you have to make a change to your student's dismissal, please send a note and/or email to their teacher, and notify the front office. If you have to make a change during the day, after your student has arrived at school, please email your child's teacher AND email the front office staff at: doesfrontoffice@hcpss.org. **No students will be released from the front office for early dismissal after 3:30pm.** This will help to ensure the safety of our students and cut down on confusion at the end of the day as afternoon dismissal begins.

Arrival and Dismissal Procedures and Expectations: Please see the visual below for the flow of our car loop. Below the visual are the expectations and instructions for making arrival and dismissal of your student(s) as efficient and safe as possible.



Reminders for arrival and dismissal:

Use the car loop to drop off students. When you enter the parking lot, you must make the full loop around.

- There is NO PASSING in the carpool loop, unless directed by a DOES staff member.

- Never leave a car unattended in the carpool loop/line.
- Pull up as far as possible (to the peninsula sidewalk) before letting your child exit the vehicle. Please make sure there are no spaces between cars.
- Children will be let out of the passenger side of the vehicle only. Staff will assist children with getting in and out of the car. Parents should NOT get out of the car.
- Do not turn left to enter the bus loop area between 8:45 a.m. and 9:15 a.m. or between 3:15 p.m. and 3:45 p.m.
- It is extremely unsafe to walk behind or between buses in the bus loop. Take the extra minute in line to ensure everyone's safety.
- Parents should avoid parking and walking in unless they have an appointment within the building. The car loop area is safer with less pedestrian traffic and fewer cars moving within the parking lot.
- If you need to park, you must park in the larger lot by the carpool loop. This is the only area with a crosswalk to ensure safety when walking toward the building.
- The parking spots parallel to Ten Oaks Road are designated as Staff Parking during arrival and dismissal. Entering or exiting your vehicle is unsafe from these parking spaces while traffic from the car loop is flowing.
- All traffic must flow in one direction.
- If you are leaving a parking spot during arrival or dismissal, follow the directions of school staff. You may need to wait for cars to continue through the car loop before you are directed to pull out of the lot. The priority is to keep the car loop flowing.
- Please be courteous and respectful to both staff and other families.

The Young Authors' Contest

The Howard County Literacy Association invites students in grades 1-5 to submit their original poems and/or short stories to the annual writing contest called **The Young Authors' Contest**. Please see the attached [Young Authors' Contest Guidelines](#) for information about the rules and guidelines. All entries must have a completed [YAC Cover Sheet](#) sent as a PDF. Submissions may be emailed to jennifer_hipp@hcpss.org by December 20, 2024. Contact Mrs. Jennifer Hipp with any questions. All Young Authors' Contest information can be found on the [HCLA website](#).

Howard County Literacy Association welcomes parents as members. Visit the [HCLA Welcome Page](#) for information about joining.

Volunteer in the Media Center!

The Media Center is looking for volunteers to help with shelving and other small projects. Please consider signing up to volunteer by clicking on the link below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0E4AAEAE29A0FE3-51264532-media>

Health Room Reminders

Any medications required during school hours including prescription, "over-the-counter" (OTC) and homeopathic/herbal medications require a medication order signed by an approved health care provider and are subject to the HCPSS medication policy and procedure.

[Medication form](#)

- Have a student with allergies? Learn more about [ordering an epipen and our allergic reaction protocols](#).

School health room staff administer medications, store medications in the school's health room

and keep records of when medications are taken by the student.

Approved Non-Medications:

The items below are not considered medications. Students may bring the items to school without a medical prescription. Health Services requests that a parent/guardian note accompany the item to serve as permission to bring to school.

- Sunscreen
- Chapstick
- Hand lotion
- Non-medicated cough drops
- Saline contact solution

Sunscreen must be supplied by an individual student and is not to be shared with other students due to potential allergens and skin reactions.

Please contact the health room at 410 313-1575 if you have any questions.

Immunization Clinics:

The Howard County Health Department is hosting clinics for students that are in need of immunizations for the start of the school year.

[Childhood Immunization | Howard County \(howardcountymd.gov\)](https://www.howardcountymd.gov/childhood-immunization)

Student Technology Reminder - Personal Devices

[HCPSS Policy 8080 Links to an external site.](#) - 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.

Attendance/Reporting Absences

Parents can email 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.

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.

2024-2025 School Meals Information

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

Pricing for school meals for 2024-25:

- 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.

Community News

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