

WAVE NEWSLETTER

September 14, 2023

Important Dates:

September 15 ~ Schools and Offices Closed

September 19 ~ School Pictures

September 19 ~ Standards Based Information & Reporting Parent Night
Virtual - 6:30 p.m

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/qex-ivuw-oez>

Or dial: (US) +1 240-442-2483 PIN: 780 677 934#

September 22 ~ Ice Cream Social, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. (rain date - Sept. 28)

September 25 ~ Schools and Offices Closed

On Deck with your Administrators

Dear Dayton Oaks Families:

On Tuesday and Wednesday evening this week, the halls of Dayton Oaks were filled with excited families who came to join us for Back to School Night. Each night, families had an opportunity to engage with staff to learn about routines, procedures, expectations, as well as curriculum units for the school year. Teachers were eager to connect with families as well. In the spirit of our shared value of communication at Dayton Oaks, it is important that we use these opportunities to share information but to also fortify our home-school partnerships. We hope that you found the Back-to-School Night presentations helpful as we work together to support our students this school year.

Feel free to access this [link](#) for a Back-to-School Night Flier with information for families.

Additionally, please find links to the Grade Level Back-to-School Night presentations below for your review:

- [RECC](#)
- [Kindergarten](#)
- [Grade 1](#)
- [Grade 2](#)
- [Grade 3](#)
- [Grade 4](#)
- [Grade 5](#)
- [GT](#)

Educationally yours,

Ms. Williams-McKinney, Principal

Ms. Lorch, Assistant Principal

Team Visits with Administrators

During the first three weeks of school, Ms. Williams-McKinney and Ms. Lorch visited all of the grade-level teams to discuss the [HCPSS Student Code of Conduct](#) and review the Dayton Oaks D.I.V.E. Expectations in developmentally appropriate and child-friendly ways. The HCPSS Student Code of Conduct provides a framework to support behavioral goals and disciplinary policies. While students are expected to be aware of and abide by this code, we all play a part in ensuring our school is a safe place where all students can learn. We look to partner with our families to support the social-emotional skill development of our students. Our D.I.V.E. expectations align with the HCPSS Student, Staff, Family and Community Commitments by providing descriptors to accompany the D.I.V.E. acronym:

D - Dependable

- Completes tasks
- Makes trustworthy choices

I - Involved and Organized

- Pays attention to learning tasks
- Prepared materials

V - Very Respectful

- Works well with others
- Follows directions

E - Effortful

- Takes appropriate risks
- Demonstrates persistence

At DOES, we implement programs such as PBIS to help teach and reinforce school-appropriate behaviors and build community among our students and staff. We thank you in advance for your partnership to create a safe learning environment.

Standards Based Instruction and Reporting (SBIR) Parent Night

Starting this school year, HCPSS will report student academic progress in grades PreK to 2 using standards-based reporting.

There are no changes to grade Grades 3-5 report cards. Intermediate grades will transition to standards-based reporting in 2024-2025.

Standards-based reporting for PreK-2 will include:

- New grading codes (M, P, L)
- Revised report cards
- Clearer alignment to standards
- Updated Canvas gradebook information
- Rubric-based grading
- Parent support resources

Dayton Oaks is hosting a virtual PreK-2 Standards-Based Instruction and Reporting Parent Night on **Tuesday, September 19, 2023, 6:30-7:30 p.m.**

Please use this Google Meet Link to join: <https://meet.google.com/qex-ivuw-oev>

Or dial: (US) +1 240-442-2483 PIN: 780 677 934#

To learn more about standards-based instruction and reporting, visit parent resources [at this link](#).

Counselor's Corner

Dayton Oaks will be participating in International Dot Day again this school year! This celebration of creativity, courage, and collaboration is inspired by the book "The Dot " by Peter H. Reynolds. International Dot Day will take place on Friday, September 22nd during SEL time in homeroom classes. DOES students and staff will use their individual creativity to create a piece of a project that will be displayed in the school later this month. Participating in activities like International Dot Day is one way for students and staff at DOES to have fun, build community and foster a sense of belonging. It also supports students' creative skills! You can find more information about International Dot Day here: [International Dot Day](#) (links to external website).

Books & Bundts Youth Reading Program

This year, Dayton Oaks is teaming up with Nothing Bundt Cakes bakery in Columbia, MD, to support reading in our school! Reading at an early age enriches children's brains, increases vocabulary, and helps develop their imaginations. We want to encourage reading at home and celebrate your child for reaching a goal! Each month, students will be given a reading tracker to log their reading hours. If they read 400 minutes in a month, they can take their reading tracker directly to the bakery to earn a free bundtlet cake and a reward certificate! What a *sweet* way to reward reading at home! This program will run from September 2023-May 2024. Below you can find the "Note to Families" for more information, along with a copy of the "Reading Tracker" flyer that will come home with students. *Reading just makes life a little sweeter!*

[Note to Families](#)

[Reading Tracker](#)

G/T Instructional Seminars

This year students will have the opportunity to sign up for Instructional Seminars in school. The G/T Team visited classrooms in grades 2-5 to share information with students about instructional seminars offered to their grade. All students had the opportunity to sign up for a seminar based on personal interests. Instructional seminars take place once a week during recess. Once registration is complete, G/T teachers will notify families of their student's participation through Canvas. If you have any questions about Instructional Seminars, please feel free to reach out to the G/T Resource Team: Mrs. Sonya Billey, Mrs. Joy Mangiulli, and Ms. Madeline McErlean

BSAP College and Career Opportunities Night

The HCPSS Black Student Achievement Program invites you to attend the upcoming [BSAP College and Career Opportunities Night](#) on Thursday, October 12, 2023, at Long Reach High School. This College and Career Opportunities Night invites scholars in grades 8 - 12 countywide to network with working professionals, colleges and universities, explore post-secondary opportunities, and learn more about HCPSS pathways. The evening will highlight a variety of colleges and universities as well as local businesses and organizations. To register, please complete the Registration Form linked [here](#).

Registration for BSAP Saturday Math Academy

The HCPSS Black Student Achievement Program (BSAP) Saturday Math Academy Fall Session is approaching!

This year, the BSAP Saturday Math Academy will offer an in-person enrichment program for Howard County Public School System students in all levels of math for grades 3-12 based on course availability. Registration will take place online Saturday, September 16, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. until capacity is reached. Class space is limited. Families can register by accessing the HCPSS Connect Website. For more information, please visit:

<https://news.hcpss.org/news-posts/2021/09/bsap-saturday-math-academy-virtual-fall-2021-program/>

Flyers for distribution:

[BSAP SMA Fall 2023 Flyer \(English\)](#)
[BSAP SMA Fall 2023 Flyer \(Spanish\)](#)
[BSAP SMA Fall 2023 Flyer \(Chinese\)](#)
[BSAP SMA Fall 2023 Flyer \(Korean\)](#)

River Hill High School Future Hawks Band Night - Friday, September 29th

Will your child go to RHHS? This is the event for you!

5th through 8th grade students who expect to attend River Hill are invited to join the River Hill Marching Band at our September 29th football game.

We would like to have as many young guests as possible, so please plan to be there if you can! And yes - you will get to play your instrument with us in the stands during the game!

What? The cost?? No no.....it's FREE. Here are the details:

*You need to be in at least your second year of Band

*The schedule is as follows:

5:45 - arrive at the front entrance to River Hill High School and warm-up

6:00 - rehearsal with the Band

6:25 - march to the stadium - no entry fee for Future Hawks!

7:00 - kickoff! Go Hawks!!!!

8:30 (approx.) - halftime show ends, dismissal to your parents

*At least one of your parents will need to join us at the football game, and they will need to buy a \$6.00 ticket. The Future Hawks event will end after the halftime performance, at which point you will be released to your parent's care. You may go home at that time, or you may stay and watch the remainder of the football game with your parent.

So, what should you do next? Just fill out this Google form by September 24th and click the link at the end of the form to download your music. Print it out, practice it, and get excited to perform with the RHHS Marching Band! After that I'll see you on September 29th. That's it!

Form: <https://forms.gle/guGA7Jq8i27aeBeg8>

Oh - wait.....the first 50 students to sign up will receive a free "Future Hawks" t-shirt!!! (The Google form can also be accessed from the "Future Hawks" section of our Band Booster

website: <https://rhhsband.wixsite.com/boosters/future-hawks.>)

I hope that you will join us. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Michael Blackman
RHHS Band Director
Michael_Blackman@hcpss.org

P.S. Mrs. Syversen will be attending this event with her family and will also be playing in the band!

NEWS WORTH REPEATING

Completing/Updating Family File

We still have some families that have yet to complete their Family File. The Family File provides emergency contacts, and other important information for students. Completing your Family File also ensures that you are receiving information and updates from HCPSS and Dayton Oaks. This information must be updated every school year for every child. If you have already completed your Family File, we thank you! If you have not completed your Family File for the current school year, please follow the steps below:

Log in to [HCPSS Connect](#) using your parent/guardian credentials

- Select “More Options” from the left navigation
- Select “Family File” at the top of the page
- Complete each page of Family File
- On the last page, select the blue Submit button

Once logged in, parents/guardians will be asked to provide or update all of the following information:

- Student information
- Parent/guardian contact
- Emergency contacts
- Medical information
- Arrival/dismissal procedures
- Media release (photo approval)
- Data confidentiality
- PTA/PTSA directory
- The following resources are available to assist you with Family File:

<https://www.hcpss.org/f/connect/family-file-quick-guide.pdf>

- FAMILY FILE USER GUIDE (ENGLISH):

<https://www.hcpss.org/f/connect/family-file-user-instructions.pdf>

- FAMILY FILE USER GUIDE (SPANISH):

<https://www.hcpss.org/f/connect/family-file-user-instructions-spanish.pdf>

Parents who have forgotten their login credentials for Family File may click the "[Forgot Password](#)" link on the sign-in page. If you need additional assistance, please contact the front office at 410-313-1571.

Health Room Notes

Getting Medication to School:

Step 1 - Have your family physician complete an order form and submit it to your school.

- A new [Medication Order Form](#) is required for every new school year dated on or after July 1.
- All approved medication orders for the current school year are valid through summer school.
- School nurses will evaluate the physician order for appropriate dosage amount. If any area of the order form needs clarification, the nurse will consult your family physician.

Step 2 - Label the medication

Once approved, the parent can begin readying the medication for school use.

Pharmacy Medications - Pharmacy medications must be consistent with the medication order and properly labeled. Pharmacy containers and labeling are required. To make it easier on parents, a second labeled container for school use can be obtained from your pharmacist. Physician samples must also be appropriately labeled by the physician or parent. The following information must be on the label:

- Name of the student
- Date of the medication order
- Name of the medication
- Route, time and frequency of the medication
- Dosage and strength of the medication
- Authorized health care provider name

Over-the-Counter Medications - Over the counter medications must be received in new, unopened containers and be clearly labeled with the student's name.

Step 3 - Give a dose at home, drop off the medication

- The first dose of any new prescription coming to the school must be given at home 24 hours before coming to school.
- At the start of the school year, parents can drop off their student's medication at the school after giving the first dose 24 hours before coming to school. Students *cannot* bring their own medications to school.

Step 4 - Monitor the medication during the school year

- Stopping the medication? Let your child's school know and then pick up the medication.
- Dose change? New medication? Parents have to submit a new order form.

Expired Medication - Within one week after expiration of the effective date on physician's order, the parent must personally collect the unused portion of the medication from the health room. Medication not claimed within that period will be destroyed.

At the end of the school year, all medications not picked up by the parent will be disposed of.

If you have any questions, please contact the school nurse at 410-313-1571 or rachel_tulis@hcpss.org.

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.

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.

Outdoor Lunch Returns!!!

Beginning Tuesday, September 5, 2023, students will be able to participate in Outdoor Lunch during their lunch periods on a rotating basis. A tent is located adjacent to the background and blacktop that will support outdoor lunch. Teachers will be sharing outdoor lunch rotation schedules with families soon. As in years past, we can only offer outdoor lunch when a volunteer supports with supervision of students. Attached, please find the [DOES Outdoor Lunch Volunteer Sign Up \(SY 23-24\)](#). Please select days/times that fit your schedule. Each slot for outdoor lunch needs two (2) volunteers. In preparation for volunteering, please review updated HCPSS Volunteer Policies and Procedures [here](#). Please bring proof of the completion of the [Confidentiality Training Course](#) as well as the [Child Abuse Training course](#) that is required of all volunteers when you come to Dayton Oaks. Submission of these documents are needed each school year. When you sign-in to volunteer (please bring your driver's license), please review the "TO DO" lists for Outdoor Lunch. You will also be given a name tag that must be worn at all times while on the DOES campus. Thank you for your efforts to keep our students safe. Our paraeducators are excited to welcome you to lunch and recess and are happy to provide you with direction and support related to your volunteer role as you may find that there are a few differences in procedures for different grade levels based on the developmental needs of our students. As always, if you have any questions regarding this wonderful volunteer opportunity, please let us know.

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.

Bullying Prevention

The Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) is committed to providing a safe and nurturing environment for all students. Preventing bullying is an important part of this goal. [HCPSS Policy 9460](#) states that bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, and intimidation are prohibited in HCPSS. The BCHI Reporting Form should be used to report all alleged incidents of bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, and intimidation that occur at school or have a connection back to the school setting that create a risk of harm to other students while they are at school, or interfere with the educational environment. An [online version](#) is available and can easily and confidentially be used by students, staff, and family members. Hard copies of this form are available in the main office, staff workroom, school counseling office, media center, and health services office. If you believe that a student has been bullied, please complete and submit this form as soon as possible.

Once the form is submitted, school administrators will ensure the parent/guardian of both the alleged target and alleged offender are aware of the report and will begin an investigation within two school days of receiving the report. Parents/guardians can expect a school administrator to reach out to them during the investigation. Once the investigation is completed, parents/guardians will be provided written notice of the outcome of the investigation within fifteen days of receiving the complaint, excluding extenuating circumstances.

We want to take a moment to specifically lift up cyberbullying. Cyberbullying is bullying using electronic media like computers, cell phones, and game systems. Our digital interconnectedness makes bullying different and more damaging than it's ever been before. It allows hatred and publicly humiliating gossip or photos to be instantly far-reaching and inescapable as electronic media is everywhere. It can NOT simply be ignored. In October 2013, the State of Maryland enacted Grace's Law, making misuse of interactive computer services a criminal offense. Its purpose is to prohibit anyone from using electronic media (computers, tablets, phones, etc.) to maliciously engage in conduct that inflicts serious emotional distress on a minor and/or places that minor in reasonable fear of death or serious bodily injury. A person who is found guilty of violating this law is subject to imprisonment and/or fines. While this will be reviewed with students at school, we are asking you to do the same at home. Thank you for your partnership.

More information can be found on the [HCPSS Stop Bullying website](#). If you have any questions regarding this policy or its implementation, please contact a school administrator.

Community News

Please visit the HCPSS website [Community News and Programs site](#) for upcoming events and

programs sponsored by non-profit organizations.