

WAVE NEWSLETTER

September 5, 2024

Important Dates:

September 10 & 11 ~ Back-to-School Nights (Details Below)

September 18 ~ Schools Close Three Hours Early - Professional Work and Wellness Day

September 20 ~ Ice Cream Social, 6 - 8 pm (rain date: 9/27/24)

On Deck With Your Administrators

Dear Dayton Oaks Families:

Welcoming students and families back to school is one of our greatest joys. It was delightful to see so many smiling faces as we kicked off the first week of school. Both students and families navigated arrival and dismissal procedures smoothly, setting a positive tone for the year ahead!

In these initial days and weeks, our teachers and staff are focused on getting to know one another, reviewing procedures and expectations, and fostering a strong sense of community and belonging. Students will be engaged in activities that promote collaboration, teamwork, mutual respect, and problem-solving, all while learning the expectations that contribute to a productive and respectful learning environment.

Ms. Lorch and I will be conducting D.I.V.E. team visits to review our behavioral expectations with grade-level teams. We will highlight how our D.I.V.E. values—Dependable, Involved & Organized, Very Respectful, and Effortful—should be evident throughout the school day and in various areas of the building. We appreciate your support in reinforcing these expectations with our students.

We value the trust you have placed in us and are eager to build a strong, collaborative relationship with our families. To further enhance our partnership, we are excited to invite you to our Back to School Nights next week. We hope to see you there!

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location(s)</u>
Back to School Night (RECC/Pre-K, GT, Grades 1 and 2)	Tuesday, September 10, 2024	6:00-7:00 p.m.	6:00 p.m. Grade 1 - Media 6:00 p.m. Grade 2 - Cafe 7:00 p.m. RECC/PreK - Media 7:00 p.m. GT - Cafe
Back to School Night (Kindergarten, Grades 3, 4, 5)	Wednesday, September 11, 2024	6:00-7:00 p.m.	6:00 p.m. Grade 4 - Media 6:00 p.m. Grade 5 - Cafe 7:00 p.m. Kindergarten - Media 7:00 p.m. Grade 3 - Cafe

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

Counselor's Corner

Dear Families,

One of the many roles of the School Counseling Team is to support the positive behavior program at Dayton Oaks. DOES is a Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) School. You can find more information about [HCPSS PBIS Initiative here](#) (links to external site).

During the first month of school, students are learning our D.I.V.E. Expectations, which is our set of school-wide rules to supportive positive and safe behavior. Throughout the year, we will revisit these expectations to continue to support a positive learning environment:

D: Dependable
I: Involved & Organized
V: Very Respectful
E: Effortful

Students can earn blue Dolphin Tickets for positive behavior choices and as a class the students work together to move their class dolphin to the 20th buoy on the class Swimming to Success chart. At DOES, we like to celebrate success so students can cash in Dolphin Tickets for tiered incentives and the class will earn a celebration through the class system. We also look forward to planned school-wide events for all students to support a strong sense of belonging among students and staff. Information on school-wide events will be in the WAVE newsletter.

Below is a list of questions you can use to engage with your child about the rules, routines, incentives, and events at Dayton Oaks!

- Which DIVE Expectation are you good at following?
- What do you plan to cash your Dolphin Tickets in for?
- Which DIVE Expectation does your class follow best?
- What part of the day do you earn the most Dolphin Tickets?
- Which DIVE Expectation do you earn the most Dolphin Tickets for?
- Which DIVE Expectation do you feel is most important for students?

If you have questions about the PBIS program at DOES, you can contact Stephanie Dix, School Counselor and PBIS Coach.

Stephanie Dix and Alyson Hannan
School Counselors

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 \(howardcountymd.gov\)](http://www.howardcountymd.gov)

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.

Band, Orchestra, and Chorus Opportunities at DOES - Registration closes, Friday, September 6, 2024

Just a friendly reminder that registration for our Band and Orchestra programs is due by this Friday, September 6th (registration for Chorus will be open a bit longer).

[Click here to find all the information you need to register--and so much more.](#)

Ms. Park, Mrs. Whitaker, Mrs. Syversen, Ms. Sutton, and Mr. Hamilton have been working hard to prepare for a fun, engaging and inspiring school year at Dayton Oaks.

Please be sure to check out the [online music slides](#) which include comprehensive information about Chorus, Band and Orchestra as well as video performances from each discipline.

Hope to see your child in the music program at Dayton Oaks this year!

The Dayton Oaks Music Department

Ms. Sutton & Mr. Hamilton, Orchestra Directors

Mrs. Syversen, Band Director

Ms. Park and Mrs. Whitaker, Chorus Directors

Reminder to Complete or Renew Your FARMS Application by Oct. 31

HCPSS participates in the Free and Reduced-price Meals (FARMS) program.

[QualificationLinks to an external site.](#) is based on family size and income, and enrollment is confidential.

Participation in FARMS qualifies students for a wide range of opportunities and resources beyond breakfast and lunch, including free college applications, free or reduced JumpStart tuition, discounted internet through the Comcast Internet Essentials program, and more.

Families must submit a new application every school year by Oct. 31. During the first 30 school days, students with FARMS eligibility from the prior school year will continue to receive benefits. Any student whose family has not filled out an application by the 30th school day will have their status changed to full pay until a new application is received.

Parents/guardians are highly encouraged to fill out the applications as soon as possible. It is very important that applications are filled out accurately and completely. Families can:

- [Apply onlineLinks to an external site.](#)
- Apply by mail: Paper applications can be picked up in the Food and Nutrition Service Office (5451 Beaverkill Rd, Columbia, MD 21044). Applications can be returned to your child's school or mailed to: HCPSS Food & Nutrition Service Office, 10910 Clarksville Pike, Ellicott City, MD 21042.

If you have questions regarding the program, please visit www.hcpss.org/FARMSLinks to an external site. or call Food and Nutrition Services at 410-313-6743.

Strategic Plan Stakeholder Input Meetings

Community members are invited to attend one of these meetings to help inform the system's new strategic plan by providing their input about stakeholder values during this virtual, hour-long opportunity facilitated by HCPSS staff. No registration is required.

- September 9, 2024 – 5:00–6:00 pm – [Google Meet link](#)
- September 10, 2024 – 7:00–8:00 pm – [Google Meet link](#)
- September 17, 2024 – 5:00–6:00 pm – [Google Meet link](#)

Parent Academy Kickoff

HCPSS will be hosting a [Parent Academy Kickoff](#) on September 25, 2024, at Wilde Lake High School! The Office of Early Childhood Programs will be hosting an information session for parents of children ages PK - Grade 1. We are seeking early childhood teachers to co-present with the Office of Early Childhood Programs. Details are as follows:

- Date: Wednesday, September 25, 2024
- Location: Wilde Lake High School
- Hours: 6:30-8:30
- Session Topic: *Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow: Establishing Routines for School* (offered 2x @ 40 min).

Fall 2024 After-School Classes

Attached is the Fall 2024 Howard County Recreation & Parks Before & After school classes for students at Dayton Oaks ES. These classes provide fun, structured, educational, and enriching activities for students, benefitting both the child(ren) and parents!

[Dayton Oaks ES Fall 2024 Before & After School Classes Flier](#)
[Dayton Oaks ES Registration Page.](#)

Arrival and Dismissal Procedures

To ensure a smooth and safe arrival and dismissal for our students, please read the information below. It is encouraged that families send their students to school the way they normally arrive and dismiss beginning on the first day of school. This establishes routines and avoids confusion for students and staff.

SCHOOL HOURS: 9:15 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.

ARRIVAL TIMES:

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

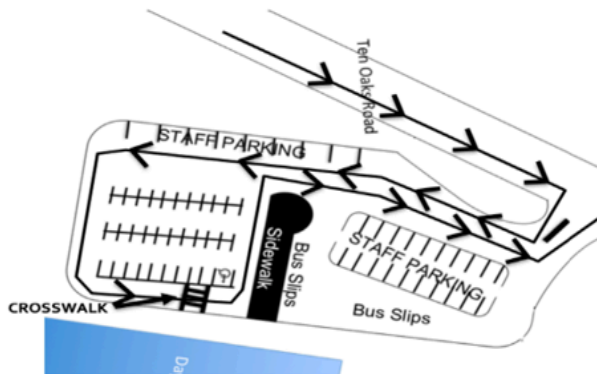
9:15 a.m. Second/Late bell rings/students should be in the classroom.

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.

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.

Family File

It is time to update and submit your child's Family File. This must be completed for new and returning families **each year**, even if none of your information has changed.

To complete/update your family file information please see the directions 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

We appreciate your efforts to complete this very important task right as soon as possible.

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.

Fall Clothing Giveaways

[Grace Clothing Giveaway \(2\).doc](#)

[MSC.FallWntr2024.EVENTflierENG \(1\).pdf](#)



POP-UP FARMER'S MARKET

At Howard County Health Dept.

8930 Stanford Blvd. Columbia MD 21045

Tuesday, July 16th - 11a-1p

Friday, August 9th - 10a-12p

Tuesday, Sept. 17th - 11a-1p

Tuesday, Oct. 15th - 11a-1p

Stoecker Farms will be offering local, organic/natural produce.

For questions,
call 410-313-5891.

Cash, cards,
SNAP, eWIC
& WIC FMNP
accepted

Community News

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