Dear Deer Park Middle Magnet School Parents/Guardians and Students:

Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year! I hope your summer was safe and filled with fun. The administration and the teachers are excited and preparing for your arrival. The first day of school for all students is Monday, August 30, 2021. Included in this newsletter is important information that will help you prepare for the opening of school. Please read all information very carefully as the information contained in this newsletter may answer many of your questions.

REMINDER: Universal masking for ALL students and staff indoors. Safety and mitigation strategies will be incorporated to keep our staff and students as safe as possible.

- **Homeroom, schedule, and transportation/bus information:** You will receive a postcard in mid-August. The mailing label on the postcard you will receive contains your homeroom teacher (Teacher’s name). This information is important for the first day of school. The final class schedules will be provided in homeroom. The schedules in FOCUS are not final and may be changed. The postcard will also ask you to access the school’s website for transportation and bus information.

- **Emergency Contact Information:** Parents may begin electronically updating Student Privacy Options through the student information tile in BCPS One. This form will no longer be printed with the Annual Student Review Form (formerly the Emergency Contact Form).

- **Residency:** Incoming grade 6 students should have verified residency before leaving their BCPS elementary school. If you have not verified residency (Gr.6) or if you have a shared domicile renewal that has not been submitted, you will not receive the post card and your child will not have a class schedule. Shared domicile letters were mailed with the renewal process. Please contact the school to receive the information necessary to verify residency.

**CELL PHONES ARE AWAY FOR THE DAY!** Deer Park Middle Magnet is a cell phone free environment for the 2021-2022 school year. Students are permitted to bring cell phones to school but the expectation is that cell phones are off and away throughout the school day. The school does not assume responsibility for students’ cell phones. School staff are able to assist students immediately if issues arise. For emergencies, please contact the main office at 443-809-0726.

It is our mission to prepare you to be competitive, creative, and innovative problem solvers who have a strong foundation for high school and subsequently college. We will achieve our goals through a partnership with your families and the school community. As always, the teachers, staff, and administration are available to support you. Enjoy the rest of your summer. We look forward to seeing grade 6 and 7 students on August 27, 2021, and all students on August 30, 2021.
If you are sick (and talk to your doctor about whether you should be tested for COVID)

If you have a positive COVID test (and tell your school nurse or supervisor)

If you have had contact with a person with COVID (and tell your school nurse or supervisor)

If you have been tested for COVID (until the results come back)

Baltimore County Public Schools 7-27-2021
The First Day of School – 8/30/21

On the first day of school, students will enter the building at 8:00 a.m. Breakfast will be served in a grab and go manner starting at 7:55 a.m. for those students who want breakfast. Upon entering the building, students will report to their first period/homeroom class. Students should seek the assistance of a staff member if they are uncertain of where to report. Once in their first period, students will receive their final class schedules.

Dismissal begins at 2:55 p.m. Sixth grade students will dismiss a few minutes earlier on the first week of school. Students will report to their buses and once communicated their bus rooms. It is important for students to know and remember their bus number. Students report directly and board their buses in the afternoon.

All buses arrive and park on Deer Park property. Cars will not be permitted in the bus loop during arrival and dismissal. Students who walk will be dismissed to walk home and those awaiting rides will dismiss to the parent pick-up loop or the flag pole to await their rides.

STUDENTS should not arrive prior to 7:35 a.m. and should be promptly picked up by 3:00 p.m. This is vital as staff are not available for supervision before 7:55 a.m. and beyond 3:10 p.m.

ARRIVAL PROCEDURES

The outside doors open at 8:00 a.m. First period and attendance begins promptly at 8:10 a.m. Students should enter the building by grade level entrances at the following entry points:

**Grade 6-Front of the school**

**Grade 7-Rear of the building using tennis court sidewalk to rooms**

**Grade 8-Cultural Arts Center entrance**

SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY UPDATES

Safety is a top priority for all students and staff in Baltimore County Public Schools. All schools in Baltimore County will utilize a system for checking in ALL visitors. The system is called V-soft by Raptorware or Raptor. When you visit the school for the first time, you will be asked to present a valid state or government issued photo identification card to the school’s receptionist. This ID is scanned into the V-Soft system and the personal information from the ID is cross-referenced against names of Registered Sexual Offenders (RSO). If a person’s name appears on any RSO list or you refuse to provide your identification, you will not be allowed to access the school. The system will automatically contact the police and school leaders.

The information collected from the ID will be utilized to print out a visitor’s pass, which includes the person’s name, photo, date of visit, and destination within the building. If you have your ID scanned, you will be asked to show your ID only on future visits and your name will be selected from an existing list of previous visitors. Any information collected will not be shared outside of the school and is kept on a secure server. We thank you for your partnership in keeping our students safe.

DEER PARK MIDDLE MAGNET SCHOOL

**DPMMS Uniforms**

- **Grade 8**
  - Black Polo Shirt with Khaki tan/brown Bottoms
- **Grade 7**
  - Green Polo Shirt with Khaki tan/brown Bottoms
- **Grade 6**
  - Red Polo Shirt with Khaki tan/brown Bottoms
- **All Magnet**
  - Purple Polo Shirts with Khaki tan/brown bottoms

**NOTE:** Magnet shirt is embroidered on left with: D.P.M.M.S. (top line) and the child’s magnet (second line). The magnets are: Theatre Arts, Dance, Vocal Music, Instrumental Music, Visual Arts, Mass Communications, Earth and Space Science, STEM, and World Languages

**PE UNIFORMS:**

Access this link to purchase PE Uniforms

[https://osp.osmsinc.com/BaltimoreCountyMD/](https://osp.osmsinc.com/BaltimoreCountyMD/)

**PTA REBOOT NEEDED!**

Positions needed: ALL Executive Board (President, VP, Treasurer, Secretary, all board positions.) Please contact DPMMS for additional information 443-809-0726.
Bullying, Harassment, or Intimidation Form

Bullying, harassment, or intimidation are serious and will not be tolerated. Bullying is unwanted, aggressive behavior among school-aged children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behavior is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time. The Bullying Harassment, or Intimidation form is used to report alleged bullying harassment, or intimidation that occurred on school property; at a school-sponsored activity or event off school property; on a school bus; or on the way to and/or from school, in the current school year.

The Board of Education of Baltimore County (Board) prohibits students engaging in intentional conduct involving bullying, harassment, or intimidation that substantially interferes with a student’s educational opportunities. The Board prohibits any reprisal or retaliation against an individual who reports an act of bullying. If you are a student victim, the parent/guardian of a student victim, or a close adult relative of a student victim, or a school staff member and wish to report an incident of alleged bullying harassment, or intimidation, complete the indicated form and return it to the Principal at the student victim’s school. Forms are available on Baltimore County’s Website under the student and parent tabs, or you can contact the school for additional information or assistance at any time.

Excellent Student Attendance Goals

Students have the responsibility to comply with the attendance procedures detailed in Board of Education Policy and Superintendent’s Rule 5120, Student Attendance and Excuses.

A student absent from school shall present a note signed by the parent immediately upon return to school. If a student is absent for one of the lawful reasons, teachers will assist the student in making up missed work whenever possible. Lateness and absences without a written note are coded unexcused.

The student is expected to assume the responsibility for maintaining the continuity of learning regardless of the reason for absence. If a student is absent for an extended period of time because of illness, a written statement of explanation may be required from a physician on the day of the student’s return to school.

Please schedule doctor, dentist, and other appointments for after school hours so that your child will not miss school hours. Maryland State Department of Education mandates 95% attendance rate for a student’s attendance to be considered satisfactory. Daily attendance calls will be made to the homes of students marked absent or tardy for the day.
Parents/guardians reminders:

- Discretionary medications may be given to students only with parent/guardian signature on Form BEBCO 0881, which will be given to your student the first day of school.
- It is imperative that each parent/guardian ensure that the student’s medical and emergency contact information is current. Parents must have working phone numbers for themselves or others family members that are designated/documented emergency contacts for student pickups.
- In an effort to adhere to Covid Protocol we are prohibited from keeping student for extended periods of time in the health suite. Sick children must be picked up.

SCHOOL LOCKERS

Students will have a school locker and physical education locker assigned to them for the safekeeping of their personal items during the 2021-2022 school year. Deer Park Middle Magnet School is not responsible for students personal items and students should not bring electronic or expensive items to school.

Students should not share lockers with other students or share their locker combination. Locker combinations are changed each school year to provide a secure locker for students.

Procedures for Medication & Discretionary Medication Forms

Prescription or over-the-counter (OTC) medications may be administered to students only upon the order of a physician and under the supervision of the school nurse or principal’s designee. Medical orders for prescription and OTC must be updated at the beginning of each school year. All medications, whether prescription of OTC, must be in a current, properly labeled bottle with written orders from the physician for giving the medication in school. Parents of students who take daily medication need to bring in the medication with the signed medication form on the first day of school or as soon as they have both items completed.

Any questions or concerns regarding the medication policies or student health issues should be directed to the school nurse at 410-496-5034.

COMPUTER DEVICES

Baltimore County Public Schools has been the leader in digital education with all of its students having an assigned computer device that they bring to school daily and take home. Students use the same device throughout the year.

Students are expected to care for and use their devices according to the Baltimore County Public School’s Technology Acceptable Use Policy called “TAUP Rule 6202.” Your student will receive instruction on digital citizenship including online safety, security, and responsible use of their device. All devices have web-filtering software which prohibits the use of sites not appropriate for students. Students who do not use their device according to the Technology Acceptable Use Policy will be assessed progressive discipline as outlined in the BCPS student handbook.

Students are expected to charge their device overnight and it will hold a charge for the entire school day. Students should not bring in their chargers because they are an item that frequently gets lost. Students should not decorate or alter the device but students are asked to put a label on their device so they can easily identify it as theirs. Students may not download any software that overrides our web-filtering software so they can access sites deemed inappropriate by BCPS Department of Instructional Technology. All lost or stolen devices will be reported to the School Resource Officer, (SRO). All BCPS devices have tracking software which will only be activated when a police report has been filed.

Accidental damages to your device are covered by BCPS. This includes accidental liquid spilled on a device, drops and collisions.

Intentional damage such as, purposely throwing, striking the screen, modifying, destroying / deleting equipment programs, files or setting; receipt, sale, and possession of stolen BCPS property: all of these types of damage will not be covered by BCPS.
Get Ready! SIXTH, SEVENTH GRADE, & New Families Virtual Orientation is August 26, 2021

In order to answer the questions of our new families, incoming sixth graders and our seventh grade students accessing the building for the first time, to help create a smooth transition to middle school, we are hosting a virtual orientation program for our students and their parents. On Thursday, August 26, 2021, at 5:00 p.m., please join us for this informational session. The link will be provided closer to this date. If you have any questions, please contact Assistant Principal, Mrs. Crabbe at rcrabbe@bcps.org.

During this orientation, faculty and support staff will outline the academic and behavioral expectations for our students at Deer Park Middle Magnet School. Parents and students will also be able to ask questions (at the end of the program) about policies/procedures, supplies, schedules, and lockers. We certainly hope you will attend.

GRADE 6 and GRADE 7 Early Entry Day August 27, 2021 (students only)

In support of our students’ successful transitions to Grades 6 and Grades 7, we invite students to participate in an Early Entry Day program. Baltimore County Public Schools is excited to announce that it will host a half-day “Early Entry Day" on Friday, August 27, 2021, for students entering Grade 6 and 7 for the 2021–2022 school year. Students will participate in a wide variety of activities – designed based on student feedback – to become more familiar with their new school setting prior to the start of school. Students will review their class schedules, visit their lockers, take school tours, and meet all their teachers and the school counselors.

Transportation will be provided for those students who are scheduled to take a bus to school. Those students will be picked up at their assigned bus stops at their regularly scheduled times and will be transported home at the end of the half-day schedule. Lunch will be served to all participating students.

The Early Entry Day is for students only. We are looking forward to welcoming our Grade 6 and Grade 7 students on Friday, August 27, 2021, and while not required, we hope your child will take advantage of this opportunity. Students should wear their uniform.
BCPS provides bus transportation for zoned students who live more than one mile from the school. The bus drivers assigned to serve Deer Park Middle Magnet School work closely with the school to provide safe transportation to and from school. In addition, the drivers build relationships with our students making them valuable stakeholders in your students’ education. They are the first and last school personnel your students see during the school day.

Keeping in mind that students are transported during the busiest time of day, we have safety protocols in place to assist bus drives in having a distraction free ride and making sure your child is safe during the transport. Bus drivers are not allowed to use phones during the transport except in an emergency, and they must monitor the students within the limits of driving safely which makes their task complex.

The buses are equipped with cameras to assist in the monitoring of students which is limited by the bus driver’s responsibility to keep their eyes on the road.

Parents and Guardians, you can help our transportation process by reinforcing with your student that they are expected to comply with all BCPS transportation regulations, such as:

- Report promptly to their bus room to avoid missing their bus
- Only riding their assigned bus,
- Not putting their arms, legs, and head outside of the window,
- Staying seated at all times during the ride,
- Not having physical contact with other students, and
- Keeping a conversational tone that does not interfere with the privacy of other students and does not include offensive language.

- **MASKS are required on the bus at all times**

If your child listens to music, it should be played through headphones or air-pods. If your student has a problem during the bus ride, they should report it to the driver who will alert the school administration. **Students who do not comply with these transportation regulations may be assessed a suspension of these privileges to and from school for a period of time determined by the school administration.** We value and commend our school transportation staff who for the last 5 years, have provided safe travel to over 7,500 students. Help us to keep this record of excellence by setting high expectations with your student on the importance of safe bus travel. Please reference the bus information provided on our website to determine your child’s stop land room location.

**REGARDING YOUR CHILD’S BIRTHDAY**
We ask all parents and students to understand that birthday celebrations cannot be held at school. Please do not send cupcakes, gifts, balloons, etc. to school with your child or bring them during the school day. This practice is disruptive to instruction. Additionally, taking helium balloons home on the bus is not permitted for safety reasons. All birthdays are special; please celebrate them in the evening or over the weekend with your family.

**IMPORTANT TRANSPORTATION QUESTIONS**
Does my child know their address?
Does my child know the name of their housing development?
Does my child know their bus name?
Does my child know their bus room number?
WHO DO I CONTACT WITH A CONCERN?

Our chain of command is in place to encourage a relationship between the classroom teacher and the parent/student. Therefore:

1. The first conversation should start with the teacher.

2. If you do not hear from the teacher in a reasonable time frame or you cannot resolve the issue with the teacher regarding an academic concern, the next step is to contact the department chairperson.

   - Art, Music, Dance, Magnet: Mrs. C. Patillo, cpatillo2@bcps.org
   - Language Arts/Reading/Drama/AVID: Ms. O. Hoppie, ohoppie@bcps.org
   - Math: Ms. D. Haskins, dhaskins@bcps.org
   - Physical Education/Health/Athletics: Mr. R. Baker, rbaker3@bcps.org
   - Science: Mr. K. Johnson, kjohnson9@bcps.org
   - Social Studies: Ms. B. Ross, bross3@bcps.org
   - Special Education: Dr. J. Gaines, jgaines@bcps.org
   - World Languages: Ms. I. Webster, iwebster@bcps.org
   - Counseling Office: Ms. A. Olumiji, aolumiji@bcps.org
   - AVID: Ms. L. Gooden, lgooden@bcps.org

3. If you have not resolved the issue, you would then contact the grade level administrator.

   - Grade 8: Mr. D. Barnes, dbarnes4@bcps.org
   - Grade 7: Mr. B. MoragneEl, gmoragneel@bcps.org
   - Grade 6: Mrs. R. Crabbe, rcrabbe@bcps.org
   - Special Ed: Mr. S. Butsch, sbutsch@bcps.org

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS RELATED TO:

- The School Building and School Grounds: MRS. CRABBE
- Transportation and Computer Devices: MR. MORAGNEEL
- Schedule and Grade Reporting: MR. BARNES
- Special Education and Testing: MR. BUTSCH
- Magnet Programming and Activities: MRS. PATILLO
- Academic Advisement, Social Emotional, High School: MS. OLUMIJI
Once an administrator calls for one of the universal emergency responses below, students, employees, service providers, and visitors are to immediately follow the procedures provided. Notification is to be given in an age appropriate manner. Parents should not come to a building while the occupants are under one of the procedures below as it may endanger the parent and/or students and staff. Staff will communicate with parents as soon as they are able to do so.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>EVACUATION</th>
<th>FOR USE WHEN CONDITIONS OUTSIDE ARE SAFER THAN CONDITIONS INSIDE.</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>When a school’s or office’s occupants are told to follow their evacuation procedures, there is a condition within the building that makes it safer for them to be out of the building. Each school or office building has designated meeting locations for an evacuation with alternate locations if necessary.</td>
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<tr>
<th>DROP, COVER, AND HOLD</th>
<th>FOR USE IN AN ENVIRONMENTAL THREAT SUCH AS AN EARTHQUAKE.</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>When the drop, cover, hold response is called, occupants of a building will take cover away from windows or any areas that are likely to be affected.</td>
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<tr>
<th>LOCKDOWN</th>
<th>FOR USE IN PROTECTING BUILDING OCCUPANTS FROM IMMINENT DANGERS IN THE BUILDING OR IMMEDIATELY OUTSIDE.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>When a school or office building is on lockdown, no one can enter or leave the building. Movement within the building is restricted, and individuals within the building remain behind locked doors until cleared to move by first responders or when the event is deemed over.</td>
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<tr>
<th>LOCKOUT (Replaces Alert Status)</th>
<th>FOR USE IN SECURING ACCESS TO BUILDINGS, USUALLY RESULTING FROM AN EVENT IN THE COMMUNITY.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>When a school or office building is on lockout, no one can enter or leave the building without the principal’s or office head’s permission. The building’s external doors are secured but classes are conducted as normal. This permission is granted on a case-by-case basis and usually granted in conjunction with approval by the Baltimore County Police Department.</td>
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<tr>
<th>SEVERE WEATHER SAFE AREA</th>
<th>FOR USE IN SEVERE WEATHER EMERGENCIES.</th>
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<td>When a severe weather response is called, occupants of a building will take cover away from windows or any areas that are likely to be affected. Dismissal may be delayed.</td>
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<tr>
<th>SHELTER IN PLACE</th>
<th>FOR USE IN SECURING ACCESS TO A BUILDING AND FOR CONTROLLING MOVEMENT WITHIN A BUILDING.</th>
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<td></td>
<td>When occupants of a building are told to shelter in place, they remain in their locations. Activities within that location can continue but students do not move from one location to another. If there is a threat of chemicals from outside of the building, staff makes every effort to seal the building from outside toxins by shutting down their air handling systems and blocking fumes from entering the building.</td>
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<tr>
<th>ALICE PROTOCOL</th>
<th>USED IN A SITUATION INVOLVING AN ACTIVE ASSAILANT OR THE IMMINENT THREAT OF AN ACTIVE ASSAILANT.</th>
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<td>When an ALICE protocol is called, occupants will respond by evacuating or locking down based on information they have about the location of the assailant. ALICE stands for alert, lockdown, inform, counter, and evacuate.</td>
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