Dear Team BCPS families,

Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year!

First and foremost, I hope that you and your loved ones are safe and healthy and are enjoying your summer. We will continue to prioritize the health and safety of staff and students as we resume in-person learning for all students.

This school year, I look forward to continuing our focus on the equitable, high-quality teaching and learning called for in our strategic plan, The Compass: Our Pathway to Excellence. Your school has been preparing throughout the summer to support the academic and social-emotional needs of every student. We know that families and staff may be encountering a variety of challenges. Schools will provide ways to reconnect that make sense for your community.

Because wellness is so important, we are continuing to raise awareness about mental health resources for students and staff through our Mind Over Matters campaign. You should also know that every school has a counselor, psychologist, social worker, and nurse.

To safeguard in-person learning, our schools and offices are continuing to use strategies recommended by federal, state, and local experts. We work closely with the Baltimore County Department of Health to monitor COVID transmission and to make any changes. Last year, we learned the importance of remaining flexible as conditions evolve. You will always find the latest information at www.bcps.org.

Your most important connection is with your child’s school, and I enjoy experiencing those relationships during my visits throughout the county. Whether you are new to our family or returning, I am so glad that you have chosen Team BCPS. Let’s have a wonderful school year!

Sincerely,

Darryl L. Williams, Ed. D.
Superintendent

Raising the bar, Closing gaps, Preparing for our future
DUNDALK MIDDLE SCHOOL
2021-2022 SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST

STUDENTS WILL NEED:
- 2-inch binder (with three rings) or several 1 or ½ inch binders (with three rings)
- dividers and loose-leaf paper for binder
- backpack (without wheels)
- 8 GB flash drive
- Colored pencils and pencil case
- 2 pink erasers
- 3 folders with 2 pockets (we suggest plastic folders with holes in them)
- 3 folders with 2 pockets and 3 brads
- Several highlighters - multiple colors
- 2 or 3 composition books
- Ear buds for personal use
- GT Math 6; Algebra & Geometry: TI-84 Plus Graphing calculator
- GT Math 6: two spiral notebooks (70 pages)
- Grade 6 Science: one spiral notebook (120 pages)
- Grade 6 & 7 Students: screen cleaning cloth for DMS issued laptop devices
- Grade 8 Students: Graph paper (one package) 4 or 5 squares per inch
- Earbuds/Headphones

OPTIONAL ITEMS:
- Teachers will have class sets available:
  - 1 set thin dry erase markers
  - Several red pens
  - Post it notes (small/medium sized)
  - 1 large glue stick
  - 1 pair of scissors
  - reinforcements
  - Protractor
  - Compass (Staedler compass preferred for 8th grade)
  - Math 6 & Pre-Algebra 7: four function calculators with percent and square root
  - 7th graders: ruler; preferably wood ruler with units of centimeters and inches
  - Math 8 Students: Scientific Calculator
  - Geometry Students: spiral notebook with 120 pages or a 3 subject spiral notebook

DONATIONS GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED IN HOMEROOM:
- box of tissues
- bottle of hand sanitizer/Clorox wipes
- 1 package of new AA/AAA batteries

DMS ITEMS SOLD DURING CLASS:
- Physical Education Class: DMS shorts & shirt uniform ($ TBD ) and PE combination lock ($5) (both can be used multiple years)
- Instrumental Music Classes: Instrumental music books ($9-$17) depending on the instrument
- Art Class: Art Sketchbooks ($5)
- Lock for Hall Locker: ($5) sold during homeroom (can be re-used each year)

FROM MS. ADAMS, PRINCIPAL:
- Backpacks are recommended for use to and from school however backpacks on wheels are not (safety issue in hall).
- Students access their lockers during all class changes. DMS combination lockers must be used as we have master keys.
- Students will need tennis shoes & socks for Physical Education class every other day.
- Individual teachers may request other specific supplies needed.

Our DMS community gladly supports others in our Home of Owl Pride. We realize that school supplies can be expensive, and we have families willing to help with this expense. Please contact Amy Horvitz, our School Counseling Chairperson at Ahorvitz@bcpss.org for assistance or if you want to donate items.

We look forward to a great school year!

~ Natalie A. Adams, Principal
AUGUST 27TH, 2021
6TH GRADE STUDENT

What should students bring? A smile, the schedule you will receive in the mail in August, your binder and pencils/pens.

8:00-8:15 AM Students arrive and gather in the cafeteria
Sit with homeroom sections and then teachers will escort students to their homeroom/period 1.

8:15-9:25 AM Homeroom and Period 1
Welcome: Announcements & overview of procedures

9:30-11:45 AM Classroom visits: Periods 2-10

Schedule for “A” day

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Class</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:45-9:55</td>
<td>special 3A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00-10:30</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:35-10:45</td>
<td>5/6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:50-11:00</td>
<td>special 7/8A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:05-11:15</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:20-11:45</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students will have the opportunity to:
⊙ Ride their bus to school
⊙ Visit their “A” day classes and meet their teachers
⊙ Eat lunch in the cafeteria
⊙ Practice dismissal and identify bus loading stations

6th Grade Parent Back-to-School Night
Wednesday Sept 8th, 2021
6:00-8:00 PM
Greetings Parents and Students,

I hope everyone is having a great summer. My name is Ms. Adams and I am the principal here at Dundalk Middle School. This year school begins on **Monday, August 30th**. The doors open at 8:05am and students should report to their homeroom for breakfast from 8:10am-8:30am. Instruction begins daily at 8:30am. Students do not forget to bring your ID badges and students are currently required to wear masks daily in the building and on the bus.

We encourage parents to make sure your phone number is part of our CALL OUT system and you are active in FOCUS for your child’s grades. I will be making a CALL OUT on August 27th between 7-9pm. If you do not receive a phone call, email & text then we do not have your contact information. If we have a wrong number or names for emergency contacts, please change them on the pink form and have your child bring this to the office.

On August 9th, BCPS will electronically release all student schedules in **Student Portal FOCUS**. To access your child’s schedule, please visit [https://baltimore.focusschoolsoftware.com/focus/](https://baltimore.focusschoolsoftware.com/focus/). Click the grey button [Sign in with Microsoft]. Enter the student’s BCPS credentials (username/password) to log in. If you have trouble logging in to the **Student Portal FOCUS**, please call the school. Requests for schedule changes will only be considered for the following situations: 1. Need a change in the level of the course.
2. Requesting AVID or another Special.

**BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT** will take place, **September 8th**, from 6-8:00pm. It has not been determined if this event will be held virtually or in person so we will prepare for both options. If in person, we will have a socially distanced open house setting. You will be able to visit any class at any time to meet the teacher and gain information about the class. You do not have to follow a set schedule.

Sixth graders will review their schedule during **Early Entry Day on August 27th**. This day is a half day dedicated for 6th graders only. Students will take their regular transportation (bus or walk/ride). School opens at 8:00am and the day starts at 8:30am. Lunch will be provided, and the day will end at 11:45am.

All students should bring their fully charged Chromebook daily. This is a vital resource that is needed for the instructional path we are taking. Stay up to date by visiting us on the Dundalk Middle School website [http://dundalkms.bcps.org/home](http://dundalkms.bcps.org/home).

I hope you have a safe and enjoyable rest of the summer. I look forward to the new school year with you and our entire Dundalk Middle School community.

[Signature]

Natalie A. Adams
Principal

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*Raising the bar, Closing gaps, Preparing for our future*