Administration
Dr. Kandice Taylor, Principal
ktaylor9@bcps.org
Mr. D. Barnes, Assistant Principal
dbarnes4@bcps.org
Grade 6
Mrs. R. Crabbe, Assistant Principal
rcrabbe@bcps.org
Grade 7
Mr. B. MoragneEl, Assistant Principal
gmoragneel@bcps.org
Grade 8
Mr. S. Butsch, Assistant Principal
sbutsch@bcps.org
Special Education
Guidance & Counseling
Mrs. S. Taylor, Counseling Dept.
staylor11@bcps.org
School Resource Officer
Ofc. Gill
jgill2@bcps.org
SCHOOL HOURS
8:00 a.m. – 2:40 p.m.
OFFICE HOURS
7:30 a.m. -3:45 p.m.
Students are late after 8:10 a.m.

Back-to-School Night
September 11, 2019
5:00–7:30 p.m.

Thank You
for Not Using a Cell Phone!

Deer Park Middle Magnet School
August 2019

Back-to-School Edition

Principal’s Message

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

Welcome to the 2019-2020 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 **Tuesday, September 3, 2019**. 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.

- **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 (T/Teacher’s name). This information is important for the first day of school. The final class schedules will be provided in home-room. The schedules in BCPSOne 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!** After conversations with various community members, staff members, and other BCPS administrators, I made the decision that Deer Park Middle Magnet will be a cell phone free environment for the 2019-2020 school. Students are permitted to bring cell phones to school but the expectation is that cell phones are off and away throughout the day. Students will not be permitted to carry their cell phones with them or be permitted to use them throughout the school day. Cell phones have become a tremendous distraction to students ability to learn. We are a 1:1 school which means that each student will have an assigned computer. The 1:1 program eliminates the need for students to use their cell phone for educational purposes within the school.

School staff are able to assist students immediately if issues arise. For emergencies, please contact the main office at 410-887-0726. Consequences will be enforced if a student violates the cell phone off and away policy. Consequences will be progressive and a suspension may be issued in the event the Electronic Device and Cell Phone policy is chronically violated.

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 students on August 30, 2019, and all students on September 3, 2019.

Dr. K. Taylor
CELL PHONES OFF AND AWAY DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

Research supports an "Away For The Day" policy. When students do not have the freedom of accessing their phones during school hours, they are more engaged socially and academically.

Possible Outcomes of Student Cell Phone Use in School

**Distractions:** When a child is in school, his or her purpose is to learn. Young people can be easily distracted from their studies - and having easy access to a mobile phone during class can make it easier for them to lose focus and ultimately, decrease their achievement.

**Illicit Pictures:** Given that nearly every cell phone has built-in cameras, it becomes easy to take a picture of someone without the person even noticing. These photos are easily uploaded and shared over the internet, social media, air-dropped, or texted to friends.

**Cyberbullying:** Along the same lines as distributing illicit pictures, cell phones make it easier to cyberbully, which is when a person uses electronic communication to intimidate, threaten or humiliate a person. Not only can cell phones make it easier for rumors to spread through the school with a simple click of a button, but students can also send mean or hurtful texts to students and post inappropriate pictures of students. Data from the Cyberbullying Research in 2016 showed that 33.8% of students have been bullied in their lifetime; 11.9% have been threatened through a cell phone text and 11.1% have had a hurtful image of them posted. In addition, 25.7% have had one or more different types of cyberbullying done to them. With cell phones readily available in schools, cyberbullying can become a lot easier to accomplish.

**Target for Predators:** Many students use the internet or access social media sites without teacher or parent supervision. These students can be targeted by predators. Predators lurk in chat rooms, on social media sites, and other websites that are of interest to students. With the use of smartphones, it can be hard to monitor a student's online activity.

**Harmful Physical Effects:** The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has regulations that discourage too much exposure to technology and allowing students to have cell phones in school can increase their screen time during the day. Cell phones give off a low level of non-ionizing radiation for which the long-term effects at low levels are still being studied. However, allowing students to use their cell phones during school adds to their exposure to this radiation, which can in turn have increased harmful effects on the developing bodies and minds of teenagers.

THE ACADEMIC IMPACT OF CELL PHONES ON STUDENTS

Studies reveal that potential for negative outcomes on academic success:

- 75% of teachers reported that the attention spans of students has decreased.
- 10.6% lower test scores among students regularly interrupted by text messages.
- 62% of college students not using their phones scored higher on multiple choice tests.

**STUDY TITLE:** THE IMPACT OF MOBILE PHONE USAGE ON STUDENT LEARNING
**STUDY TITLE:** TEXTING AS A DISTRACTION
**STUDY TITLE:** BRAIN DRAIN: THE MERE PRESENCE OF ONE’S SMART PHONE REDUCES AVAILABLE COGNITIVE CAPACITY
**STUDY TITLE:** THE ATTENTIONAL COST OF RECEIVING A CELL PHONE NOTIFICATION
**STUDY TITLE:** NON-ACADEMIC INTERNET USE IN THE CLASSROOM IS NEGATIVELY RELATED TO CLASSROOM LEARNING REGARDLESS OF INTELLECTUAL ABILITY
Deer Park Middle Magnet School

Dress Code
School Year 2019-2020

In accordance with BCPS policies:

• No earbuds/headphones (outside of use with 1:1 devices)

• No hoods, hats, durgs, bandanas, or sunglasses

• Any item that is not safe, is unhealthy, or distracts others from learning

DPMMS Uniforms

Grade 6
Black Polo Shirt with Khaki tan/brown Bottoms

Grade 7
Red Polo Shirt with Khaki tan/brown Bottoms

Grade 8
Green Polo Shirt with Khaki tan/brown Bottoms

All Magnet
Purple Polo Shirts with Khaki tan/brown bottoms

NOTE: The magnet shirt MUST be embroidered with D.P.M.M.S. (top left line 1) and the child’s magnet (line 2). The magnets are: Theatre Arts, Dance, Vocal Music, Instrumental Music, Visual Arts, Mass Communications, Earth and Space Science, and Spanish

The First Day of School – 9/3/19

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 2:40 p.m. Sixth grade students will dismiss a few minutes earlier on the first week of school. Students will report to their buses.

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 2:55 p.m.

This is vital as staff are not available for supervision before 7:55 a.m. and beyond 2:55 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 in between the main building and the Cultural Arts side of the building near rooms 12/13

Grade 7 - Rear of the building using tennis court sidewalk to rooms 45/46

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 re-fuse 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.

BCPSOne @ DPMMS

BCPSOne is a digital ecosystem available anytime, anywhere for all BCPS staff, educators, students and parents. BCPSOne supports teaching and learning by providing users the opportunity to engage in the educational process through access to online tools, resources, and grades.

Parents & Guardians:

Create a myBCPSOne account to stay involved in your student’s education! Parents/guardians who create a myBCPSOne account are provided access to all BCPSOne resources including Schoology. In BCPSOne and Schoology, parents/guardians may access student class information, grades, assignments, digital content, and message teachers. To learn more about BCPSOne in particular visit bcpsone.bcps.org and click the Support & FAQs link.

Only parents/guardians identified in the BCPSOne Student Information System (SIS) as a contact authorized to make educational decisions for the student will be allowed access to their student’s information in BCPSOne. A parent/guardian email address, first name, and last name, must be on file with the school and associated with each student that they are authorized to make educational decisions for. Parents can change their BCPSOne contact information (name and email address) by updating their myBCPSOne account profile.
Bullying, Harassment, or Intimidation Form

Bullying, harassment, or intimidation are serious and will not be tolerated. 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.

SCHOOL LUNCH INFORMATION

Many children throughout the county are eligible to receive breakfast and lunch for free. In order to determine whether or not your child can take advantage, you must complete the eligibility form. Deer Park Middle Magnet provides free breakfast to all students.

Only one form needs to be completed for the entire family. The form is also available online for faster service at www.bcps.org under Our System, Offices, Food/Nutrition. There is a hard copy of the form also available.

Students who received free or reduced meals last year will be served meals during the first week of school. A new form must be completed.

2019-2020 lunch and breakfast meals prices:

Breakfast Full Price
FREE at DPMMS

Lunch Full Price
$3.00

Please be sure to complete or return your form as soon as possible.

Prepay your child’s meals at http://www.myschoolbucks.com/
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. 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. Please be sure to ask your child for this form. It is imperative that this form is updated annually by the parent/guardian to ensure that the student’s medical and emergency contact information is current. Any questions or concerns regarding the medication policies or student health issues should be directed to the school nurse at 410-496-5034.

Procedures for Medication & Discretionary Medication Forms

SCHOOL LOCKERS

Students will have a school locker and physical education locker assigned to them for the safekeeping of their personal items during the 2019-2020 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.

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY

BCPS provides bus transportation for zoned students who live more than one mile from the school. Our school bus drivers work to provide safe transportation to and from school for our students. Most of BCPS buses have been equipped with video cameras. This technology is intended to enhance a safe and orderly environment while transporting students to and from school and school related activities. Students are expected to ride their assigned bus and comply with all BCPS transportation regulations. Failure to comply with transportation regulations may result in the suspension of transportation privileges to and from school.

1:1 Computer Device Roll-Out

Students will receive their assigned device that will travel between home and school with them. Students will use the same device throughout the year. Should a child change schools, he/she will turn in the device with all of the accessories and will be assigned another device at the new school.

All devices have web-filtering software. Students are expected to care for and use devices appropriately at school and at home according to BCPS’s Technology Acceptable Use Policy (TAUP) for Students (Rule 6202 TAUP for students) and they will receive instruction on digital citizenship including online safety, security, and responsible use. Students abusing the telecommunications policy will be subject to progressive discipline as outlined in the BCPS Student Handbook. Students should keep their device in the BCPS issued bag inside their backpack when traveling to and from school.

Students are expected to bring a fully charged device to school daily and carry it in the BCPS issued bag throughout the day. The device and the bag should not be decorated or altered in any way and students should carry only the device and the accessories in the bag.

Accidental damage, including liquid spills, drops, and collisions, are covered by BCPS. Intentional damage, including throwing the device, striking the screen, accessing, modifying, or destroying equipment programs, files or settings, receipt, sale, and possession of property stolen from BCPS, will not be covered by BCPS. All lost or stolen devices will be reported to the police. All devices have tracking software installed. BCPS only activates the tracking software when a police report has been filed. Parents will have to sign a contract for their child to be assigned a device.
In order to answer the questions of our incoming sixth grade students and to help create a smooth transition to middle school, we are hosting a Sixth Grade Prep orientation program just for incoming sixth-grade students and their parents. STUDENTS MUST BE ACCOMPANYED BY AN ADULT.

On Thursday, August 29, 2019, from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m., please join us for this informational session. Upon entering the building, simply report to the cafeteria. We will begin promptly at 9:00 a.m.

During this sixth grade orientation, faculty and support staff will outline the academic and behavioral expectations for our students at Deer Park Middle Magnet School. Parents will receive information about computer devices that all students will receive. Parents and students will also be able to ask questions about policies/procedures, supplies, schedules, and lockers. Community resources and school PE uniform shirt samples will be available. The cost of the PE uniform shirt is $4.00. We only accept cash or money orders. We certainly hope you will attend.

SIXTH GRADE Early Entry Day is August 30, 2019 (SIXTH GRADE students only)

In support of our students’ successful transitions to Grades 6, 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 30, 2019, for students entering Grade 6 for the 2019–2020 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.

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. A complimentary lunch will be served to all participating students, and students will be able to add funds to their cafeteria accounts in preparation for the first day of school.

The Early Entry Day is for students only. We are looking forward to welcoming our new Grade 6 students on Friday, August 30, 2019, and while not required, we hope your child will take advantage of this opportunity. Students should wear their uniform.

Deer Park Middle Magnet School: A learning community that inspires every individual to rise above every challenge, every day. We are

**Dedicated, Prepared, Motivated, Mindful, and Successful.**

All book bags used during the school day must be clear or mesh. Book bags that are not clear plastic or mesh must be placed in the locker during the school day.
Becoming a member of the PTA is important to the success of our children and our school. Research has proven that children do better when their parents are involved both at home and at school. Please help to support the many ways the PTA enriches the education program at DPMMS.

Become a member for $15 (per year for an individual membership). We also offer a business membership for $50 per year and will be a one time donation. Dues help pay for administrative costs and to support student and teacher initiatives. Dues can be paid through the following methods: PTA website or cash/check payable to DPMMS PTA can be brought into the school’s main office. Receipt and PTA card(s) will be delivered and/or mailed to you. PTA membership forms will be located in the office.

The first PTA meeting will take place on Sept 9, 2019, at 7:00 pm in the Cultural Arts Center. All meetings will be held the second Monday of the month. Access the PTA Website using the school’s website. By August 23, 2019, you will note an updated PTA website with additional methods of payment.

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 always be 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. N. Counts, ncounts@bcps.org
   Math: Ms. D. Haskins, dhaskins@bcps.org
   Physical Education/Health: Mr. R. Baker, rbaker3@bcps.org
   Science: Ms. A. Wiegmann, awiegmann@bcps.org
   Social Studies: Ms. K. Fowler, kfowler3@bcps.org
   Special Education: Dr. J. Gaines, jgaines@bcps.org
   World Languages: Ms. I. Webster, iwebster@bcps.org

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

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

4. If the issue is still unresolved, then you would contact the principal.

   Principal: Dr. K. Taylor, ktaylor9@bcps.org

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.

DPMMS does not accept food deliveries for students. All food deliveries (from restaurants) will be returned.
INTRODUCING LIVESCHOOL@ DPMMS (PARENTS and STUDENT ACCESS)

What is LiveSchool?
LiveSchool is an award-winning app that helps make your school more fun and fair. You receive points based on your behavior, which help you earn rewards. LiveSchool also helps your teachers communicate with your parents so they know how you are doing in school.

What can I see in the LiveSchool app?
You can see bank account, a timeline of points and comments from all your teachers, and a listing of the rewards that you can buy. Stay tuned – we’ll be adding more this year!

What devices can I use to get LiveSchool?
You can download LiveSchool onto your iPhone, iPad, or Android phone - just search for “LiveSchool” in the app store. You can also use LiveSchool on a laptop or PC.

Can other students see my behavior?
Only you, your parents, and your teachers can view your behavior in the LiveSchool app. Be sure to keep your password safe so that other students can’t log in to see your points.

How can I get more points?
Ask your teachers for feedback on how you can earn more points. Be sure to wait to ask until an appropriate time like after class!
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>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IMPORTANT UPDATES</th>
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**EVACUATION**

*FOR USE WHEN CONDITIONS OUTSIDE ARE SAFER THAN CONDITIONS INSIDE.*

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.

**DROP, COVER, AND HOLD**

*FOR USE IN AN ENVIRONMENTAL THREAT SUCH AS AN EARTHQUAKE.*

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.

**LOCKDOWN**

*FOR USE IN PROTECTING BUILDING OCCUPANTS FROM IMMINENT DANGERS IN THE BUILDING OR IMMEDIATELY OUTSIDE.*

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.

**LOCKOUT** (Replaces Alert Status)

*FOR USE IN SECURING ACCESS TO BUILDINGS, USUALLY RESULTING FROM AN EVENT IN THE COMMUNITY.*

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.

**SEVERE WEATHER SAFE AREA**

*FOR USE IN SEVERE WEATHER EMERGENCIES.*

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.

**SHELTER IN PLACE**

*FOR USE IN SECURING ACCESS TO A BUILDING AND FOR CONTROLLING MOVEMENT WITHIN A BUILDING.*

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.

**ALICE PROTOCOL**

*USED IN A SITUATION INVOLVING AN ACTIVE ASSAILANT OR THE IMMINENT THREAT OF AN ACTIVE ASSAILANT.*

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.