Davidsonville Elementary School

Welcome Back to School 2023



Welcome to the start of the 2023-2024 school year! We look forward to having our students back in the building! Here are a few updates and reminders as you prepare your family for the start of school:

SCHOOL START SCHEDULE: All students in grades 1-5 start school on Monday, August 28th. Kindergarten students have a different schedule with a parent conference on Monday or Tuesday and one staggered entrance day on Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday. Please look at your personalized letter that was mailed to you earlier this month. Our school time continues to be 8:00am—2:25pm daily. We will open our school doors for students at 7:40am. Dismissal begins at 2:25pm.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES: You can find the school supply list for your child's grade on our website at www.aacps.org/Page/4253.

STAFFING: Our school is extremely blessed to start the new school year fully staffed! We have many new additions to our Gators. Take a look at our school website and later this week check out Twitter where we have highlighted our school teams.

BUS TRANSPORTATION: Bus schedules were released last week and can be found here. These first few weeks, the drivers are just getting used to the routine of the routes. It is suggested you are at the bus stop 10 minutes prior to your assigned stop to ensure your child does not miss the bus. While we are fully staffed with drivers, we expect disruptions from time to time due to a shortage of substitute drivers. For daily disruptions, a text message will go out to all families.

CAR LANE: If you are using our car lane in the morning or the afternoon, you will pull into the main entrance side of our school. As you approach the school entrance from Rt. 214, there is a sign telling you where to stop and wait prior to turning in. This distance allows cars exiting our school parking lot to have a clearer view when turning onto the busy road. Please remain at this spot until you see the last car in the car lane pull forward. This will allow traffic to continue to flow while others can enter and exit. Otherwise, our entrance is blocked. Please keep in mind, we have staff who arrive at school during this time and they will pass the car lane to enter the school parking lot.

In the car line we will load and unload about 15 cars at one time so we can have all traffic move forward at one time. This allows the traffic to move more quickly. Ideally, parents remain in vehicles and students exit/load cars independently. If you have to support, that is okay; we just ask that you do this quickly and recognize the large amount of cars moving through. Please pull into a parking spot if you have to secure your child into a car seat. There is NO passing in the car lane.

This year, we will open our bus side to car riders each morning to help alleviate traffic. We must allow buses in this lot first, so we will implement a large red and green sign in the middle of the bus lot to indicate when we are taking car riders (green) and when we are not (red). Please pay attention to this sign as this connects to when our staff are monitoring this entrance. We will not be able to accept cars into this lot after 7:55am. If that sign is red, proceed to the main entrance for drop-off.

<u>CHROMEBOOKS</u>: All students will continue to be assigned a Chromebook. Students who already have theirs should pull them out, wipe them down, and charge them for Monday. Only students in grades 3-5 should bring theirs to school. Students in grades K-2 will have a Chromebook at home and a Chromebook at school so they do not have to bring theirs to and from school. Each class will have their own Brightspace page. Teachers will provide more information on this at Back-to-School Night, as they roll this out slowly to start the year.

LUNCH and SNACK: Students can access breakfast and lunch meals at school. Breakfast will cost \$1.50 and lunch will cost \$2.75. If your family needs information on meal assistance, click here to access the necessary forms. Our lunch shifts will range from 10:55am-1:55pm. Please send your child with a dry snack as teachers will plan for a snack time each day. Send your child with a filled water bottle daily (water only, please). We ask that this have a secure top and be placed on the outside of the backpack to prevent books from being ruined. Please write student names on both the lunch box and water bottles.

LOOKING AHEAD: September 4—No School for Labor Day September 8—Skate Night at Crofton Skate Zone from 5-7pm September 14—Back-to-School Night at 6:30pm at DES September 19—PTO General Membership Meeting, 7:00pm

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