

## Dragon Tales

January 14, 2022

### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade New/Student Orientation

Dunloggin Middle School will be hosting our annual **6<sup>th</sup> Grade New Student/Family Orientation** and **GT Information Night** on **Thursday, January 20** from **7:00 to 8:00 pm**.

Please join us for this event as we welcome our new students and their families to DMS. Parents, you will have an opportunity to meet the staff and become familiar with your child's new school, learn about school programs, and hear ways you can get involved.

The agenda, New Student Orientation Presentation, and google meeting links will be accessible next week on our school website: [dms.hcpss.org](https://dms.hcpss.org)

### Agenda

- 7:00pm – Welcome/6th Grade New Student Orientation Presentation
- 7:25pm – Question & Answer Session
- 7:40pm – GT Information Session

Please note! You will need to be logged in with your child's HCPSS account to access these Google Meets.

The meeting code: **DMS Orientation**

### Identify Student Device Needs

As HCPSS plans for technology needs in the event of virtual instruction, HCPSS is requesting all families to complete a brief questionnaire regarding your child's/children's device needs. While the majority of students have been issued an HCPSS device, students in kindergarten and first grade are not assigned individual devices, and some students at other levels may not have an assigned device for various reasons.

[Access and complete the questionnaire by Friday Jan. 14.](#)

To complete the questionnaire:

[Log in to HCPSS Connect Synergy](#) **using parent/guardian credentials.**

Select "More Options" from the left navigation menu.

Select "Student Technology".

For each child:

Verify that the current HCPSS-issued device information at the top of the page is correct.

If your child is not listed or no device information shows, our records do not have the child currently in possession of an HCPSS device. You do not need to take any action in this section.

Answer the question at the bottom of the page: "In the event of a shift to virtual instruction, for each child, indicate their technology needs."

Any decision to transition a school to virtual will be made on a case-by-case basis in collaboration with the Howard County Health Department, and in consideration of multiple factors. We know that in-person learning and supports are most effective for children, and we are doing everything possible to keep students and staff in school buildings.

## **DMS Orchestra Concert**

Greetings and Happy New Year!

Our winter orchestra concert is just around the corner! I am happy to say that we are still planning to have this concert in-person at Centennial HS on Thursday, January 20 at 7pm! The county has recently released its updated concert audience attendance guidelines. ALL concerts, including our concert at CHS, must adhere to a 50% audience capacity policy (*see below*). When considering the size of the orchestra program compared to that of the auditorium, we must limit each student to bringing ***no more than 4 other family members*** to the performance. In addition, all guests must leave 2 seats between their family and the next family as well as 1 row in front or behind their family when possible. Orchestra students who are waiting to perform will sit together in the auditorium with 2 seats between each other. ***All students and concert attendees are required to wear masks at CHS.***

Following the performance, students will meet their families in the hall outside the auditorium. Please review the winter concert letter from December 6 for additional information about attire.

I am looking forward to a fantastic concert next Thursday!

Musically,  
Dee Newberger  
DMS Orchestra Director

## **HCPSS PERFORMANCE CAPACITY GUIDELINES**

*"In order to mitigate the potential spread of the current Coronavirus, the maximum capacity for school auditorium use for school-sponsored events will be 50%." High schools should use the total number of seats, while middle and elementary schools should use the fire marshal total occupancy."*

## **Lost and Found**

If your child has lost any items (jackets, water bottles, lunch bags, etc.), please have him/her check the lost and found box in the cafeteria. If the items are not claimed by Friday, January 21, they will be donated.

## **AM Drop Off**

Parents, we take the safety of our students seriously. As you enter the campus to drop off your student in the morning, please slow down to allow students to cross the street and enter the building. We ask that you not make a U-turn in the middle of the parking lot. It is a one-way traffic pattern ONLY. You must drive all the way around the loop. When you pull into the campus to drop off, please make sure your student is ready to exit the vehicle.

Thank you in advance for adhering to these carpool expectations.

## **8<sup>th</sup> Grade ONLY – High School Course Registration**

The last day for high school course selection for the 2022-2023 academic year is Tuesday, January 18, 2022, for current 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. If you haven't already done so, submit your course requests and alternate requests by [logging into Synergy](#), selecting Course Request from the left panel, and [following the directions online](#).

Parents/guardians may view course recommendations by [logging into HCPSS Connect Synergy](#) but cannot add course requests; this must be completed through the student's account.

## **Upcoming Events**

- **January 17:** MLK Day
- **January 19:** Students Dismissed 3 Hours Early
- **January 20:** New Student/Parent Orientation (Virtual) @ 7:00 pm
- **January 21:** 2nd Quarter Ends