

Dragon Tales

August 25, 2023

Dear DMS Students & Families,

We are looking forward to welcoming our students and families back on Monday, August 28. Here is the link to our [Welcome Back Newsletter](#) . It contains everything you need to know to ensure your child will have a successful start to the new school year.

Update Your Family File!

All families must update their emergency contact information annually. While we recognize that many of you may not have any changes, you must transition through each screen and click “submit” at the end for this task to be completed. The completion of the Family File is essential to your student’s participation in field trips, dances, and other fun activities throughout the year. We currently have 38% of our families that have completed this important task. Visit [HCPSS Connect](#) today and click “submit” on the final screen!

Student Schedules

Student schedules are available for all families in Synergy. Log in to HCPSS Connect to obtain a copy of your child’s schedule before Monday. Middle school schedules can be accessed by selecting “Class Schedule” from the left menu. On Monday, August 28, students will report directly to their first period class. Please review the schedule with your child in advance to ensure they know where to report. This information can also be found in the Welcome Back Newsletter.

Student Meal Payments

New this year, HCPSS will use LINQ Connect, a secure, online portal that allows families to make payments to their child’s meal account, monitor their child’s account, schedule automatic recurring payments, set up low balance alerts, submit a Free and Reduced Meals program application, and more. [More information](#), including how to set up your account, is available online.

FARMS Participation

Many HCPSS families are eligible to participate in the Free and Reduced Price Meals (FARMS) program, which provides children with a wide range of benefits including free or discounted college tuition, testing and application fees, academic and athletic program fees, and many others in addition to free or discounted meals. Moreover, FARMS participation rates directly impact schools’ eligibility to receive valuable federal Title I funding, which provides resources that play a key role in student success. Families are urged to check their eligibility and complete a FARMS application today.

DMS Start & End Times

This year, the DMS school day will begin at 8:00 a.m. and will end at 2:45 p.m. The doors will open at 7:40 a.m. for Dragons interested in eating breakfast. All other Dragons will be allowed to enter the building at 7:50 a.m. To see the SY 2023-24 complete [DMS Bell Schedule](#) click the link.

Upcoming Dates

- **August 28:** Students Return
- **September 4:** Schools Closed - Labor Day
- **September 7:** Back to School Night @ 6:00 p.m.
 - **Canvas Information Session:** 5:00 p.m. in the cafeteria
- **September 15:** Schools and Offices Closed
- **September 25:** Schools and Offices Closed