

W E L C O M E

to the 2021-2022 School Year



Deep Creek Middle School Vision

Deep Creek Magnet Middle School students are thoughtful, engaged citizens who take pride in themselves and their community.

Deep Creek Middle School Mission

In partnership with all stakeholders, the mission of Deep Creek Magnet Middle School is to provide a safe, student-centered, and rigorous learning environment that focuses on building respectful relationships and preparing students to be globally competitive citizens.

<http://deepcreekms.bcps.org>

Follow us on Twitter and Instagram @DeepCreekMSOne

BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Darryl L. Williams, Ed.D. ♦ Superintendent ♦ 6901 North Charles Street ♦ Towson, MD ♦ 21204

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

DEEP CREEK MAGNET MIDDLE SCHOOL

443-809-0112 1000 S. Marlyn Ave. Baltimore, Maryland 21221 Fax: 443-809-0113

August 15th, 2021

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students:

The staff is looking forward to seeing all of our students on the first day of school, **Monday, August 30th**. Our theme for the year continues to be “*Creating a culture that values relevant relationships.*” To accomplish our goal, we will continue participating in various programs and strategies using Restorative Practices, peer mediation, and mentoring while focusing on literacy integration across all contents. Visit our website at www.DeepCreekMS.BCPS.org and follow us on Twitter

We will hold a 6th Grade Parent Orientation on **August 21st from 5–7 p.m.** Our Back to School Night/ Title I Informational Meeting is on **September 8th from 6–8 p.m.** The format will be in-person and virtual. You will have the opportunity to meet teachers, learn about and provide input on our School Progress and Title I plans, and join the PTA. As a Title I school, your input is valuable for spending Title I funds for students and parent support. Please see our included *Familyt Engagement Compact*.

Physical education requires a grey t-shirt and athletic shoes that can be purchased at any store. A limited number of uniforms will be available for purchase (\$15) during these events. We accept CASH and money order as forms of payment. Pe lockers will be available for changing and securing belongings.

Incoming 6th graders are invited to attend our early entry day on **Friday, August 27th, from 8:00-12:00**. This morning is dedicated to orienting students to the school and participating in team-building activities. New this year- 7th and 8th-grade students are invited who did not attend in-person instruction last school year or are new to DCMS.

Students may enter the building at **8:07 a.m.** and report to period 1 on the first day to receive their complete schedule. We encourage students to log in to Schoology and FOCUS to review their schedule and bring a copy to school on the first day. Breakfast and lunch are served daily, free of charge, to all students entering the building Students are dismissed at **3:00 p.m.** each day.

The last page of the mailer has transportation and homeroom information for the first day of school. Please have students bring this paper to school for a smooth start. The staff at DCMS is committed to your child’s education. Please feel free to contact us at any time with questions and concerns. The Professional School Counselors are Ms. Selby- 8th grade, Mr. Dukes- 6th grade, Ms. Wertleib- 7th grade, and Mr. Hopson, the Department Chairperson. Our staff hopes you enjoy the rest of your summer. We are excited to work with you and support your child’s success during the 2021-2022 school year.

Sincerely The Deep Creek Team, where we are ONE at the Creek,



Thomas Baker
Principal

Maryland Youth Crisis Hotline - 1-800-422-0009 ***

The following lists are supply items that the student will likely need during the year:

Lined loose-leaf paper- 8-1/2 x 11	Dividers (to separate subjects)
Pens (blue/ black ink)	Pencils (5 packs) and erasers
Water Bottle	Pencil case
Spiral Notebooks/ Composition Notebooks	Loose-leaf binder 2” or 3” (one binder each for A days and B Days)
PE uniform (a grey t-shirt, or you can purchase a DCMS shirt/ shorts for \$15 from the school at designated times)	Leotard for dancers (purchased through the school at designated times)
Combination lock for PE locker (girls only)	One pair of headphones/ earbuds
Agenda planner	Book Bag- wheeled book bags do not fit in lockers.
(optional items) Box of tissue, Computer mouse, Item of clothing representing a college to participate in monthly college spirit days	

*** Additional supplies may be requested by classroom teachers once the school year starts.

*** Permanent markers are not permitted in school.

Bell Schedule

- Doors open at 8:07 a.m. and students MUST be in homeroom no later than 8:15 a.m. to be considered on time for school

We will also continue to follow the Baltimore County Public School A/B day schedule.

<i>Period</i>	<i>Class Time</i>	<i>Lunch Time</i>	<i>Class Time</i>
1	8:15-9:45		
2	9:50-11:20		
3 “6” Lunch	11:25-12:00	12:10-12:40	12:40-1:25
3 “7” Lunch		11:-11:45	11:50-1:25
3 “8” Lunch	11:25-12:55	12:55-1:25	
4	1:30-3:00		

COVID Updates

Close Contacts: On July 9th, The CDC changed the definition of close contact for student exposures in school. Students who are fully masked and at least 3 feet apart will not be considered close contacts if one becomes ill with COVID. For this reason, school leaders are encouraged to take all reasonable steps to ensure that student desks are at least 3 feet apart in the classroom. We have purchased 25 high capacity air filtration units.

Masks: Masks remain the most effective COVID prevention strategy, second only to vaccination. Students, staff, and visitors must wear masks at all times at school and on the school bus.

Physical Distancing at Lunch: There are no absolute distances that students must be distanced at lunch. However, we are structuring seating to maximize the space between students, providing a seating chart or log that can be used when contact tracing is needed, and limiting the time students have to unmask.

Lockers

- We encourage students to use their hall locker to store their valuables. DCMS is not responsible for lost or stolen items. Lockers and their combinations should not be shared with anyone.
- Policy and Rule 5460 states desks, lockers, and storage spaces, which are provided to students, are the property of BCPS. An administrator may make a search of the physical plant of the school and its appurtenances, including student desks, lockers, and storage spaces, at any time. The right of administrators to search the locker shall be announced or published previously in the school.

Physical Education

Uniforms/Locks/Excuses

- All students must wear a grey t-shirt and athletic shoes for a PE class provided by the parents and purchased at any store.
- A limited number of DCMS PE uniforms (\$15) are available for purchase.
- Students are assigned a P.E. locker, and **girls only** must provide their combination lock.
- Excuses from physical education for more than a week must be certified by a doctor.

Dress Code (Based on BCPS Policy and Rule 5520)

Students wear clothing that reflects an atmosphere of learning and business and supports a healthy and safe learning environment. Clothing should extend to the middle of the thigh and covers all undergarments, and chest and midriff. **Bare feet, flip flops, slippers, pajamas, sunglasses, and strapless tops are not permitted at school.** The dress code is in place for safety reasons and to promote a respectful climate as in the workplace.

Students cannot wear clothing that is disruptive to the school environment, promotes illegal, vulgar, obscene, or harmful activities, promotes the use of tobacco, drugs, alcohol, weapons, or other illegal or harmful products, depicts gang affiliation, and contains rude, disrespectful, or discourteous expressions inconsistent with polite and civil behavior. If a student violates the dress code, an administrator may require the student to remove or change the attire and attempt to notify the parent of the violation. An administrator may also take disciplinary action in compliance with the student code of conduct and behavior handbook.

Wellness Center

The wellness center at DCMS provides expanded school health care and treatment of acute and chronic illnesses. Examples of services provided:

Physical examinations/sports physicals	Referral for specialty care
Health assessments	Management of chronic illness
Acute illness, injury evaluation, and treatment	COVID testing and vaccinations

All students are eligible to receive services at the Wellness Center and may register as follows:

- A student registration/history form must be completed.
- Parents or guardians must sign the consent form and authorize billing of Medical Assistance or private insurance, if available.
- The Wellness Center will work with the family, health plan, and doctor to assure continuity of care.

Classroom Expectations

Our motto, P.R.I.D.E., is used to guide our decision-making and promote success. We believe in showing P.R.I.D.E. in all places and times within and outside of school. During the school year, students will participate in various lessons that promote P.R.I.D.E. and examine how aspects of P.R.I.D.E. and other virtues occur within all contents, making decisions to promote pro-social behavior.

P be prepared

R be respectful

I show integrity

D be determined

E be excellent



August 1st, 2021

Dear Deep Creek Magnet Middle School Families,

After several conversations with various community members, staff members, and other BCPS administrators, we have decided to change Deep Creek Magnet Middle School's cell phone policy. Students will be permitted to bring cell phones to school; however, the expectation will be that student's cell phones and headphones/earbuds will be out of sight throughout the day. Out of sight is defined as put away in a locker, bookbag, purse, or another closed environment. Cell phones cannot be carried in hands or generally visible in classes or hallways.

Headphones/earbuds must also remain out of sight, and no headphones or earbuds will be permitted around the student's neck or head at any time.

Cell phones have become a tremendous distraction to the primary purpose of school learning. We are fortunate to be a 1:1 school, which means each student has an HP Revolve computer. The 1:1 program eliminates the need for students to utilize their cell phones for educational purposes. Additionally, we believe that we need to provide students with an environment and an opportunity to "disconnect" from their cell phones and electronic communications and work on interpersonal skills and verbal communication with their classmates and staff members. By eliminating the distractions of cell phones for social media use, we will also be creating a kinder and more respectful school climate.

In case of an emergency, families should contact the school at 443-809-0112 for any urgent messages that need to be shared with their child.

If a student violates the cell phone policy, the following will occur:

- First incident will result in a warning.
- Second incident will result in communication with a parent via phone or email.
- Third incident will result in the phone being sent to the office, and the student may pick it up at the end of the school day. A parent will be contacted.
- Fourth incident will result in the cell phone being sent to the office. A parent/guardian will be contacted for pick up.

We appreciate your support in discussing this policy with your child and ensuring they fully understand the school expectations. Should you have any questions, please feel free to call the office at 443-809-0112.

Sincerely,

The Administrative Team

1st Semester Evening Family Events

Event Title	Date & PM Time	Location
Back To School/ Annual Title I	9/8/21 6-8:00	Hybrid
Wellness to support success	9/22/21 6:30-7:30	TBD
Literacy Success Skills	10/06/21 6:30-7:30	TBD
Using P21 skills for college and career readiness	10/13/21 6:30-7:30	TBD
Collaborative book study: <u>Look Both Ways</u>	10/20/21 + 12/1/21 6:30-7:30	TBD
Digital Literacy Tools for Social Studies Success	11/3/21 6:30-7:30	TBD
Fun with math manipulatives	11/17/21 6:30-7:30	TBD
School Progress Planning	NOV TBD	TBD
STEM Night (Sci, Tech, Eng, Math)	1/26/22 6-8	TBD

Support for Families

The following supports may be available to families during family engagement events:

Childcare and transportation

- ❖ Events offered during flexible times
- ❖ Interpreters (upon request) Interpretes disponibles si se necesitan

SHARED DECISION MAKING AND INFORMATION SHARING

All Title I schools engage families in the shared decision making process. Schools also provide families with information to understand and support student academic achievement standards. All families will be invited to:

- ❖ Work with school staff to develop the *Family Engagement Compact* and provide ongoing feedback for compact revisions.
- ❖ Provide input and feedback on the school's Title I family engagement budget.
- ❖ Share information for school staff professional learning topics on how to effectively communicate and work with families as equal partners.
- ❖ Participate on the School Progress Team to plan, review and improve the School Progress Plan (SPP).
- ❖ Offer comments and/or express concerns about the School Progress Plan.
- ❖ Attend the Annual Title I Parent/Family Meeting.

School staff will be accessible to parents via conferences, email, or phone during office hours **from 8-3, M-F**.

2021-2022 Title I Family Engagement Compact Deep Creek Middle School 1st Semester 21-22



Principal: *Tom Baker*
Assistant Principal(s):
Kia Isaacs- 6th Grade
Alain Chalmin - 7th grade
Meredeth Rolka- 8th grade

*1000 S. Marlyn Ave.
Baltimore, Md. 21221*

443-809-0112

BCPS Board Policy and Rule 1270

The Board of Education of Baltimore County (Board) recognizes that schools, parents, families and communities must collaborate to support academic achievement, ensuring that every student is prepared for college and career opportunities. Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS) promotes meaningful partnerships among schools, parents, family caregivers, and the community at large.

Schoolwide Focus

School Progress Plan Action Steps

Goals	Key Actions
Reading/Language Arts MCAP Percent of Students Meeting Proficiency Targets: 6 th grade 21.9 7 th grade 31.3 8 th Grade 31.9	Use of appropriate scaffolds for instruction to promote student independence. Assessments including checks for understanding during instruction will adjust teaching as needed based on student progress.
Mathematics MCAP Percent of Students Meeting Proficiency Targets: 6 th grade 19.9 7 th grade 18.8 8 th Grade 16.7 Algebra 1 27 Geometry 33.3	Evidence-based strategies will be used to implement BCPS programs and resources with fidelity. Assessments including checks for understanding during instruction will adjust teaching as needed based on student progress.
Climate Increase student engagement in virtual environments via increased daily attendance.	Use knowledge of individual student learning and SEL needs when planning and implementing instruction.

At Home Families will:

- ❖ Promote reading by reading one book a month as a family.
- ❖ Utilize educational tutorials from Schoology and Khanacademy.org to promote academic success.
- ❖ Talk with my child about bullying and promote a safe and orderly school.
- ❖ Participate in Creekfest and other academic-focused parent nights to promote community cohesiveness.
- ❖ Review homework assignments, classwork assignments, and Schoology for student grades weekly.
- ❖ Try to attend or send a representative to attend family events.

At School, Students will:

- ❖ Log into virtual classes prepared, demonstrate respect and integrity.
- ❖ Demonstrate determination and perseverance in mastering reading and math content.
- ❖ Ask for help and attend coach class for additional support and participate in after school clubs and sports.
- ❖ Tell a family member something new you learned in school each week.
- ❖ Complete classroom and homework.

At School the school will:

- ❖ Treat students, parents, and family members with respect.
- ❖ Provide professional learning sessions for school staff to develop partnerships and regularly communicate effectively with parents/families about student progress and school programs.
- ❖ Offer family workshops and resources that to reinforce learning at home.
- ❖ Provide high-quality instruction using strategies that have proven to be successful.
- ❖ Provide families with information regarding BCPS and state curriculum and assessments.
- ❖ Build partnerships with outside agencies and businesses to provide additional resources for families.
- ❖ Provide conference availability times to parents/families for conferences on 10/06/21 and 12/15/21.
- ❖ Provide volunteer opportunities.
- ❖ Distribute the *Right to Know* letter to all families.

