

Week of September 13 –

Good afternoon parents and students – We start this week on Monday with an A Day. Schools are closed for students this Thursday, September 16, as it is a day for systemwide professional development for teachers and Yom Kippur. Hereford Bull Run is back and will take place this Saturday, October 18th.

Mask Wearing

BCPS Schools require all who enter Hereford High School to wear a mask covering the nose and mouth. Please remind your child of this rule.

Morning Drop-off

This is working well now. Remember, if dropping-off – use the right lane at the cafeteria entrance pulling up as far as possible. Follow the person waving you toward them. If you are a student heading for student lot parking – use the left lane and drive through carefully merging down by the greenhouse.

Enrichment

With all pre-school tasks now completed and all students provided with a lesson on signing up, Enrichment begins this week. Enrichment is an excellent time during the school day for your child to spend some time working with any of the teachers to clarify assignments, review concepts taught in class, get help with homework, or catch up on missed work. Encourage your child to sign-up with a teacher. Teachers have informed their classes of their availability.

Late To School

With morning drop-off working well now and busses arriving on time, unless there is a legitimate reason for a student to arrive late (car accident, traffic backed up on 83 spilling onto York Road, bus incident), beginning this week, we will mark students late, unexcused, if they arrive after 7:45. Please make sure all departures from home in the morning are planned and build in some extra time just in case.

Checking Grades

With 8 days into the school year now, it's a good idea to go into Schoology and check your child's grades. Make it a family project and do it weekly. Assure grades are what you expect them to be with no grade missing. Interims are just around the corner.

Homecoming and Planning Activities.

Hereford High School's Homecoming football game is scheduled against Dulaney High School on October 29, in our stadium. I will be meeting with student leaders and their advisors next week to discuss ideas on some safe and spirited activities we can conduct during the week leading up to homecoming and during the game. BCPS announced last week that some of the traditional activities have been suspended in efforts to keep students safe and healthy as

COVID metrics continue to rise. Nevertheless, I feel confident working with our students and class advisors we can come up with some acceptable alternative activities. Stay tuned.

Back-to-School Night

Apologies for the delay. It's working, it's ready to go, and can be accessed now. Find it on our webpage by scrolling down under the gray bar to the right under Principal's Messages. Our webpage address is - herefordhs.bcps.org.

Again, all teachers can be found by departments. Please start with the principal and administrator's message, then the PTSA president's message followed by your child's teachers. Teachers have provided a description of their course, expectations for success, and how you can contact each. In addition, all teacher email addresses can be found on Hereford High School's webpage and in your child's teacher's Schoology page.

COVID Quarantining and Instructional Assistance

Our school nurse, Ms. Perry, continues to follow current guidelines from the Office of Health Services which are based on recommendations from the CDC. Children at Hereford High who test positive in or out of school will need to quarantine. All students determined to be a close contact are notified and based on the student's vaccination status, are provided with the appropriate return-to-school protocol.

Instructional Assistance when COVID Quarantining

Following the nurse's initial contact for COVID quarantining, your child's school counselor will be in touch to outline the procedures we have put into place for accessing classwork from the teacher while your child is at home. We will also be able to provide your student access to live instruction with an instructional teaching coach from Hereford High School through Google Meet.

Fall MSDE Testing Information

This year, Maryland State Department of Education has mandated an Early Fall Testing Window for state testing. This testing window replaces the required tests that students would have taken last Spring. To that end, students will be testing based on the courses in which they were enrolled last school year. We will be administering the following state-mandated assessments on the following dates:

- English 10 MCAP, September 20-24
- HS MISA (Living Systems), September 27-29
- MCAP Algebra 1, September 30-October 1
- MCAP Geometry (9th grade only), October 4-5
- MCAP Algebra 2 (9th grade only), October 6
- MCAP Math 8 (9th grade only), October 7-8
- Grade 8 ELA MCAP (9th grade only), October 11-14
- Grade 8 MISA (9th grade only), October 18-20

For more information, please click the link below. If you have any specific questions about these state-mandated exams and your student, you may contact Mrs. Hickman, the School Testing Coordinator at ahickman@bcps.org