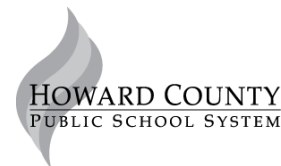


CLEMENS CROSSING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

10320 Quarterstaff Road. • Columbia, MD 21045 • 410-313-6866 • (F) 410-313-6869 • cces.hcpss.org • @hcpss_cces



August 2016

Dear Clemens Crossing Families:

Welcome to the 2016-17 school year! There is so much to be excited for as we being our 38th year. We always enjoy the start of a new school year. Although it is sad to see the slower pace of summer fade away, watching the energy and excitement of students and staff coming back after months away inspires us. Working in education provides a unique opportunity that few other professionals get a chance to experience. Each year, educators get an opportunity to pack up what they have done, reflect on the hard work of the school year, design new plans, and make it better for the next year. These new beginnings are one of our favorite things about the education profession.

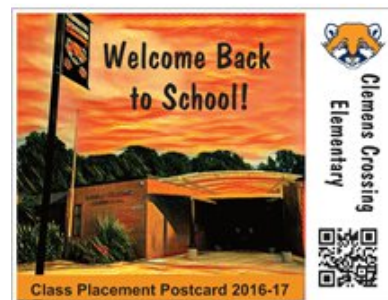
In preparation for the new our new beginning, there are a few items to help you as we prepare for students to arrive on August 29.

Class Placement

We are in the process of finalizing class groupings. With new students registering throughout the summer, and some students moving out of CCES, we have to adjust our class groupings.

Please be on the lookout for your "Class Placement Postcard." Postcards will be mailed no later than August 23.

Please note: We will no longer post class lists on the front door or in the school.



Family File

Family File - During the week of August 22, you are asked to create or update your Family File. Family File can be found by logging in to HCPSS Connect. In the Family File section parents will find all of the information historically located on the Emergency Procedure Cards such as transportation, contact information, medical considerations, and preferences. Find Family File at hcpss.org/connect. **For the safety of your child/children is very important that this information remains current, please assure it is updated prior to the start of school.** Once logged in, parents will be able to provide or update all of their contact information, medical considerations, and preferences in approximately 10 minutes. For existing parents, data will be there from last year when you log in for the first time. If you encounter any problems logging in or accessing Family File, please contact our school at 410-313-6866.

Are You in the Transportation Zone? What Bus Do You Ride?

School Bus Locator - School bus routes for the coming school year will be available on the HCPSS website, www.hcpss.org. The link is located on the HCPSS homepage. **Please note that the routes are no longer posted in the newspaper.** Please arrive at the bus stop ten minutes ahead of the posted pick up time. The pick-up and drop of times may vary by a few minutes for the first few weeks as the routines are established.


IMPORTANT - On the first day of school, assuring all students get home safely is a top priority. You can help make sure that happens! Please have your child arrive at school in the same manner that they will go home. As students arrive, we will record their transportation and give them a tag identifying them as bus or car riders. **If your child is going home another way other than how arrived, please send in a note for the teacher and include relevant information such as the bus they are to take.**


Arrival and Dismissal

If you are in a non-transportation zone (walker or car rider) it is important to familiarize yourself with our routines for arrival and dismissal. As adults, we must set up predictable patterns and routines, because children sometimes can be unpredictable. Parking in a wrong or illegal place creates unpredictable situations, and that can put our students at risk during arrival and dismissal. Arrival and dismissal safety is everyone’s responsibility. Please review the map below and listen to our staff members who are outside as they assist your children when they enter and leave school each day.



CCES Arrival & Dismissal

Follow the green route for the car loop for dropping off and picking up children. 


Car riders unload and load at the drop-off pick-up and location in the parking lot. 


Doors open at 9:00 a.m. with the first bell.
Instruction starts at 9:15 a.m. with the second bell.

Students are late after 9:15 a.m. and must be signed by an adult in the front office.

Car riders are dismissed to the car loop at 3:40 p.m.

Walkers are dismissed after buses leave the bus lot.

Parking is prohibited along Quarterstaff Road where signs are posted. 

The use the crosswalk with the crossing guard to cross Quarterstaff Road. 

The bus area is for buses only.



-  Car loop route
-  Drop off & pick up
-  Cross walk & Crossing Guard
-  No Parking

HCPSS News & Opting In for Text Messages

HCPSS News keeps parents/guardians, community members and employees up to date on news and events, and delivers real-time notices of bus schedule changes, weather-related closings and emergency information via email messages and text alerts. Parents and guardians of currently enrolled HCPSS students automatically receive HCPSS News emails from the district and their child’s school based on contact information submitted through the Emergency Card process last school year. **Subscription information for parents of newly enrolled students and students**

changing schools will be automatically added to and/or updated in the system before the school year begins.

To comply with wireless carrier requirements, parents must opt into receiving HCPSS text message alerts. Standard data fees and text messaging rates may apply based on your mobile plan. Prior to the start of the school year, parents/guardians new to HCPSS will receive a text message prompt from the number 68453. Parents/guardians must opt in by replying to the text message with a text that simply says Y. **Parents who opted in last year will not need to opt in again.**

Subscribe to the CCES Google Calendar

Our CCES Google Calendar is complete with important dates and events for the entire school year. You can view and subscribe to the calendar by going to <http://cces.hcpss.org/calendar>.

Here are a few important dates:

Friday, August 26	Kindergarten Open House, 10:00-11:00 a.m. Grades 1-5 Open House, 2:30-3:15 p.m.
Monday, August 29	School Opens for Students, 9:00 a.m.
Monday, September 5	No School – Labor Day
Tuesday, September 6	Kindergarten, Grades 1, & Grade 2 Back-to-School Night, 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, September 7	G/T Program Orientation, 6:30 p.m. Grades 3-5 Back-to-School Night, 7:00 p.m.

Stay Informed and Follow CCES on Twitter

Don't miss what's going on! Follow Clemens Crossing Elementary at @hcpss_cces on Twitter and keep up-to-date with what is going on at our school. Important information is shared daily on Twitter. When you sign up, be sure to enable notifications on your smart phone. Tweets will appear immediately on your phone.

Supply List

Our supply list is on the main page of our website. Supplies can be dropped off during the open house time on August 26.

As we start a new year, we strive to build upon an outstanding 2015-16 school year. We have so much to celebrate at Clemens Crossing, and we look forward to making this year the best year yet!

Mr. Cosentino, Principal

Mrs. Yankle, Assistant Principal