



Weekly Parent Reminders

March 13, 2026



Important Dates

March 13 – Wellness Day! No School for Students
March 27 – Family Friday (8:45-9:00 am)
March 27 – Coffee with the Principal (9:00-9:30 am)
April 3 – Career Day!

*****Reminder: NO School Friday, March 13*****

Workshop: Preparing your Students for Testing

April will be our testing month for DCAPE. With testing season is right around the corner. Please join our Student Support Team on March 27th after Coffee with the Principal to review simple strategies to do at home to best support your student to get ready for testing.

DC STEM Fair and Math Inquiry Fair (3/25)

OSSE and EmpowerK12 are excited to announce DC STEM Saturday, featuring the DC STEM Fair and Math Inquiry Fair. This event brings together students K-12 from all eight wards to showcase their ideas, talents, and innovation; it will take place on Saturday, March 28 at Dunbar High School. Review more information: <https://t.e2ma.net/click/ozr1d2/gtlu0ovd/k0xzjxf> and register: <https://t.e2ma.net/click/ozr1d2/gtlu0ovd/0syzjxf> to participate by Wednesday, March 25. All students and families are welcome to visit the fair without registering.

2026 DCPS Family Panorama Survey

The 2026 DCPS Family Panorama Survey is open through April 3! The yearly survey helps us learn what DCPS and HD Cooke are doing well and how we can improve. The 2026 survey is also part of DC's citywide school climate survey for families, DC SAYS.

We need your help to ensure HD Cooke's voices are represented! Please take the survey today at <http://www.dcsays.dc.gov>. Every voice counts. Don't miss this opportunity to share your feedback!

Suicide Awareness & Prevention Workshop

As part of the DC initiative for suicide prevention, Mary's Center school-based therapists will be providing parent workshops for our school communities, both in English and Spanish. These parent presentations will aim to help caregivers confidently recognize signs of suicide and self-harm, understand how to have difficult, but life-saving conversations with their children, and access mental health support in the community for their families.

Where: Virtual on Zoom – Sessions Offered in Spanish and English

ENGLISH (March 10)

Zoom Meeting ID: <https://maryscenter.zoom.us/j/81938008752>

ESPAÑOL (March 17)

ID de la reunión de Zoom: <https://maryscenter.zoom.us/j/83176372576>

DCPS Calendar Update

At DC Public Schools (DCPS), we are committed to providing students with rigorous and joyful learning experiences through high quality instruction. DCPS is sharing [adjustments to the School Year \(SY\) 2025–2026 calendar](#) resulting from the recent inclement weather closures.

Last month's winter storm brought significant snow and ice to our city, and DCPS closed schools on Tuesday, January 27 and Wednesday, January 28. To meet the instructional day requirements outlined in the DC Municipal Regulations (DCMR), DCPS is making the following modifications to the SY 2025–2026 calendar:

Thursday, March 12 previously scheduled for Parent-Teacher Conferences, will shift to an instructional day for all students and teachers.

- Parent-Teacher Conferences previously scheduled for this date are cancelled

Friday, March 13 will remain a Wellness Day with no school for students or teachers.

- Maintaining this day supports student and educator well-being and honors the commitments outlined in the district's Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Washington Teachers' Union.

Thursday, June 18 will be the last day of school for students.

- This one-day extension ensures students receive the full instructional time needed to finish the school year before the Juneteenth holiday.

Garden Assistance 🌱🌱

We need to plant some seedlings in the ground, and we need help! Do you love to be one with nature? We are working on growing our garden and need your help to maintain it. Come help us make it beautiful and bountiful! Any questions, see Ms. Jackie in the office or talk with Ms. Courtney in PreK.

Kids Ride Free Metro/Bus Cards

If you have a card from last school year, please request a new one. The ones from last school year will expire at the end of September. The Kids Ride Free program allows students enrolled in DC Public Schools, DC Charter Schools, and DC private/parochial schools to receive a KRF SmarTrip card for free travel to and from school and school-related activities within the District of Columbia, using Metrorail, Metrobus or the DC Circulator. Please contact the main office (202-939-5390) if your student needs a Kids Ride Free card for the new school year for the bus or metro. **Reminder that these cards are for student use ONLY!!**

Immunization Forms 📝✍️

If you have not turned in your health forms, please do so right away! Health physicals and oral health assessments are required annually. Students also must be current with their immunizations to attend school. As outlined below, a series of medical forms should be turned in to the school as part of the enrollment process, and any updated forms throughout the school year should be submitted to the school nurse.

The following documents are part of the [DCPS School Enrollment Package](#):

- [Universal Health Certificate](#) (required annually for all grades, documenting immunizations, tuberculosis assessment, lead screening and a physical exam). If you have questions about DC's immunization requirements, please discuss them with your child's physician. You can also contact DC Health's Immunization Division at (202) 576-7130.
- [Oral Health Assessment](#) (required annually for all grades)

Social Media

Follow us on our social media pages to get information and see what we are up to:

Facebook: facebook.com/HDCookeES

Instagram & Twitter: [@HDCookeES](#)