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Dear Darien Community,

On Tuesday I spent most of the morning visiting DHS and it was a wonderful experience. After observing the band, orchestra and chorus during their classes and being amazed by the incredible music being made, we ventured to the cafeteria where I had a chance to see the positive impacts of the new cell phone policy in action. It was loud and it was wonderful! It has been a long time since I walked into a high school cafeteria and heard that level of noise. Students were talking, playing board games and enjoying their time together without their cell phones.

Safety

Twice each day in Darien, our community looks like a Norman Rockwell painting with school buses picking up and dropping off children across town and many students walking or riding bicycles to and from school. While it is a beautiful sight, it requires all of us to be extremely careful as we drive around town. There are many crosswalks throughout Darien and a number of crossing guards at key intersections all in an effort to keep children safe while navigating the community. Unfortunately, there have been numerous incidents so far this school year with drivers ignoring crosswalks or traffic signals that have put pedestrians and students at risk. It is essential that all drivers keep their eyes on the road, slow down, put cell phones away, and observe all traffic signs and signals. Thank you for your support in keeping our children safe.

The Darien Difference

This past Tuesday we launched our new District Monthly Newsletter - The Darien Difference! This publication is designed to give you an inside look at the incredible things happening across all seven of our schools. In each monthly issue, we'll spotlight one of our schools, diving deep into how they bring the Vision of the Graduate to life every day. Get ready to see our Vision in action and celebrate the outstanding work of our students and educators! We hope you enjoy this new way of connecting with our District. Please read our first issue [here](#) and see the innovative ways students and staff at DHS are embodying the Vision of the Graduate. You may also find all published issues posted on the school district web site under News & Announcements. Happy reading!

From the Board of Education - Superintendent Search - Survey Closes Today!

Don't miss your chance to provide your input to help develop the ideal candidate's qualifications and skills.

Darien Public Schools

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The [brief survey](#) closes today. Your participation is an important part of this process and appreciated. Community updates and information regarding the search can also be found on the District [website](#).

Weekend DHS Sports

Fall athletics are in full swing and another busy weekend is ahead. Today at home girls varsity field hockey team plays Norwalk at 4:00 pm, boys freshman soccer plays Danbury at 4:30 pm, girls junior varsity field hockey play Norwalk at 5:30 pm with freshman girls field hockey heading to play Norwalk at 4:30 pm and boys freshman football in Westport for a 6:00 pm game. Tomorrow at home girls junior varsity soccer plays Danbury at 9:00 am, girls freshman volleyball plays Bridgeport Central at 10:00 am, girls varsity soccer plays Danbury at 11:00 am and boys varsity football faces Staples at 1:30 pm. Girls junior varsity and varsity volleyball head to Bridgeport for games at 10:00 am and 11:30 am and girls freshman soccer face Danbury for an away game tomorrow at 11:00 am. Go Blue Wave!

Yesterday was National School Custodian recognition day. We are very fortunate to have an amazing team of school custodians across our school district. If you happen to see one of our school custodians, please thank them for all of their hard work. On behalf of the administration and Board of Education I say thank you to the entire custodial team!

Have a wonderful weekend.

Sincerely,



Eric A. Byrne, Ed.D.

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