



BENJAMIN E. MAYS HIGH SCHOOL

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Principal

Dr. Ramon Garner

Assistant Principals

Mr. James Bawlon

Mr. Dorian Dallas

Mrs. LaToya Howard

Mrs. Valerie Reed-Taylor

Mr. Ramon Rivers

July 17, 2026

Dear Mays High School Parents and Guardians:

Welcome to the start of the **2026–2027** school year at Benjamin E. Mays High School! My name is Dr. Ramon Garner, your very proud principal, and I am honored to continue building upon the rich tradition of excellence that Mays High School represents.

This year, we are committed to taking our students, staff, families, and entire school community to the **#NEXTLEVEL!** Together, we will raise expectations, strengthen our partnerships, and create even greater opportunities for every Raider to thrive.

Parents and guardians, we do not take the opportunity to educate your children lightly or for granted. **Our purpose is to inspire joy in teaching and learning every day** while maintaining a culture of excellence, accountability, preparation, and professionalism.

This letter includes important information for the upcoming school year, including our dress code policy, cell phone expectations, and upcoming events. Most school communication will be shared through calling posts and email. Please ensure that the school office has your current telephone number and email address on file.

Should you have any questions, please contact the school office. We look forward to partnering with you as we take Benjamin E. Mays High School to the **#NEXTLEVEL!**

Key Information for the 2026-2027 School Year

Open House: Friday, July 31st, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. During this time, you will be able to meet your students' teachers, visit classrooms, receive bus information, and much more. There will be food truck options available for purchase and several community partners in attendance for registration. We can't wait to see you at Open House!

School Day: School begins at **8:30 a.m.** and ends at **3:15 p.m.** Students can be dropped off no earlier than **8:00 a.m.** All students must be in class by **8:30 a.m.**, no exception. School ends at **3:15 p.m.** Please make sure your student is picked up by **3:45 p.m.**

Dress Code Policy:

Students <u>MUST</u> wear:	Students <u>MAY</u> wear:	Students <u>CANNOT</u> wear:
- A <u>SHIRT</u> (with fabric in the front, back, and on the sides under the arms), <u>AND</u> <u>PANTS/JEANS OR THE EQUIVALENT</u> (for example, a skirt, sweatpants, leggings, a dress or shorts), <u>AND</u> <u>SHOES.</u> <u>Basic Principle:</u> Certain body parts must be always covered for all students. Clothes must be worn in a way such that genitals, buttocks, chest, upper thigh, and midriff are fully covered with opaque (nontransparent) fabric. Benjamin E. Mays High School expects that all students will dress in a way that is appropriate for the school day or for any school-sponsored event. Student dress choices should respect the district's intent to sustain a community that is inclusive of a diverse range of identities.	- Beanies. Hats must allow the face to be visible to staff, and not interfere with the line of sight of any student or staff. - Religious headwear - Hooded sweatshirts - Nontransparent leggings and yoga pants (must be worn with a top that extends to the mid-thigh). - Ripped jeans, as long as underwear, mid-thighs and buttocks are not exposed - Athletic attire that does not violate the basic principle.	- Any headwear with a brim - Bedroom slippers or house shoes - Satin bonnets, scarves, durags, or bandanas - Pajamas - Tank tops, including spaghetti straps; halter tops - Any clothing that reveals visible undergarments - Ski Masks - Any item that obscures the face or ears, except as a religious observance or as personal protective equipment (PPE). - Violent language or images. - Images or language depicting/suggesting drugs, alcohol, vaping or paraphernalia (or any illegal item or activity). - Bullet proof vest, body armor, tactical gear, or facsimile. - Hate speech, profanity, pornography. - Images or language that creates a hostile or intimidating environment - Swimsuits - Accessories that could be considered dangerous or could be used as a weapon.

Dress Code Enforcement: Students will only be removed from spaces, hallways, or classrooms because of a dress code violation as outlined above and taken to the AP's office to address the violation and support. Students in violation of the dress code will be provided with two (2) options to be dressed more to code during the school day:

1. Students will be asked to put on their own alternative clothing, if already available at school, to be dressed more to code for the remainder of the day.
2. If necessary, students' parents may be called during the school day to bring alternative clothing for the student to wear for the remainder of the day.

Cell Phone and Personal Device Policy: To protect instructional time and maintain a safe, focused learning environment, all student cell phones, smart watches, earbuds, and other small personal electronic devices must be turned off, secured in a **NuKase phone pouch**, and kept out of sight throughout the instructional day, including lunch and class changes.

Every student will receive a NuKase pouch one at the beginning of the school year. Students will secure their devices upon entering school and unlock their pouches at dismissal. Larger personal devices, including headphones, laptops, and tablets, should remain at home.

Unauthorized use, failure to secure a device, or damage to a pouch may result in confiscation and progressive disciplinary consequences.

First Week of School: Monday, August 3rd – Friday, August 7th. Students will engage in a series of courses that will outline student expectations, device distribution, and class assemblies.

School Supplies: Parents will need to provide notebook paper, pens, pencils, colored pencils, highlighters, markers, and any other supplies outlined in the teacher syllabus. Students should have a **clear or mesh backpack** that holds the items listed above.

Extra-Curricular Activities: Please call the school or visit the school website for information regarding all athletics, clubs and organizations