Darien Public Schools

**Eric A. Byrne, Ed.D.**
***Superintendent of Schools***

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September 04, 2026

Dear Darien Community,

We have successfully completed our first full week of school! As I have traveled around the district visiting classrooms, I see students settling into routines and enjoying the start of school. It has been a terrific start to the school year. Even Mother Nature has been cooperating with us this week, holding off the rain for morning arrival and afternoon dismissal on most days.

**Open House Dates**
Open houses kick off next week, offering families a wonderful opportunity to meet teachers, tour classrooms, and learn about what's in store for the new school year. Elementary school open houses take place on Thursday, September 10, followed by middle school events the following week for 6th grade on Monday, September 14, 7th grade on Tuesday, September 15, and 8th grade on Wednesday, September 16. The series wraps up with the high school open house on Thursday, September 17. Specific details and event schedules will be shared directly by your school principal. We look forward to seeing you there!

**Communication**
Thank you to everyone who has registered their accounts and set up ParentSquare! Due to the majority of parents and staff now being active on the new platform, this will be the last week that district-wide communications will be sent via Aspen and ParentSquare. **Starting next Monday, September 7, the only place we will be sending district messaging from is ParentSquare.** If you have not established your account, please do so now by navigating to www.parentsquare.com/signin and typing the email address on file with your child(ren)'s school(s). Don't miss out on important messaging, register now! If you have any questions or run into any issues, please reach out to Caitlin Wardlow, Director of Communications, at cwardlow@darienps.org.

**The Depot: A Great Resource for Darien Students**
We encourage families to take advantage of The Depot, Darien's Youth Center and an important resource for our students in grades 4–12. The Depot offers a wide range of opportunities for kids to connect, get involved, and build community outside of school, from high school leadership and service clubs to middle school programs and Drop Zone, its after-school space for grades 6–8. The Depot also hosts popular events and programs throughout the year for students in grades 4–12. There truly is something for every age and interest. Please visit dariendepot.com to learn more about upcoming programs, clubs, and events.

**Athletic Schedule**
Here is the varsity athletics schedule for Friday, September 4 and Saturday, September 5. We look forward to seeing you supporting our Blue Wave teams!

***Friday, September 4***
Boys Soccer Scrimmage vs. New Milford: 4:30 PM, DHS Center Oval Field

***Saturday, September 5***
Girls Volleyball Scrimmages vs. TBA: 8:00 AM, 9:00 AM, and 12:00 PM, DHS Main Gym
Girls Field Hockey Scrimmage vs. Sacred Heart Greenwich: 9:00 AM, Sacred Heart Greenwich

Have a wonderful holiday weekend!

Sincerely,



Eric A. Byrne, Ed.D.
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