Darien Public Schools

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Superintendent of Schools

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Dear Darien Community,

This morning, as our country marked the 25th year since the senseless attack and tragic losses of September 11th, I had the honor of attending the town's Monuments and Ceremonies Commission 9/11 ceremony at MMS, a deeply meaningful tribute to those we lost. That spirit of remembrance continued at DHS, where students and staff came together for a ceremony yesterday and a schoolwide meal packing project today supporting local hunger relief. Together, these events beautifully captured the mission of 9/11 Day to transform a dark moment in our history into a powerful day of service and unity, reflecting our Vision of the Graduate by putting empathy, integrity, and communication into meaningful action.

Open House
It was so nice to see and speak with so many parents last night as I traveled across the elementary schools. Thank you to all of our elementary families for joining us for Open House this week! It was wonderful to see so many of you meeting teachers, touring classrooms, and kicking off the new school year together. Open House events continue at the secondary level next week, featuring middle school nights 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 our middle and high school families next week!

DHS Seniors Named National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists
Congratulations to the seven Darien High School seniors who were named semifinalists in the National Merit Scholarship Program! These students will continue in the scholarship program and have the chance to be awarded one of the $2,500 National Merit Scholarships in the spring. The DHS seniors who have received the incredible semifinalist distinction are Serena Badura, Thomas Ehrbar, Hannah Huang, Sydney Michalowski, Charlotte Straden, Aiden Younessian and Chloe Zou. Check out the full story about our Blue Wave scholars on the Darien Patch!

Save the Dates: Hindley, Holmes and Royle Elementary School Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies
Please join us to celebrate the completion of the construction projects at Hindley, Holmes, and Royle. Community members, staff, families and alumni are invited to attend official ribbon-cutting ceremonies and student-led building tours, hosted at Hindley (October 1 at 4:00 PM), Holmes (October 8 at 4:00 PM), and Royle (October 15 at 4:00 PM).

Board of Education Meeting Recap - September 8, 2026
Did you miss this week's Board of Education meeting? No worries, you can catch up on all the happenings here. We were pleased to welcome Darien High School Principal Ellen Dunn and Director of School Counseling Cathy Ostar to present a report on the post-secondary plans of our DHS Class of 2026. It was a very informative and insightful presentation, be sure to watch! The next Board of Education meeting will be on Tuesday, September 22 at 7:30 PM.

Athletic Schedule
It is a quiet weekend for Blue Wave athletics. We look forward to more sports action from our varsity teams next week!

Have a wonderful weekend. To all who celebrate Rosh Hashana, Shana tova!

Sincerely,



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