Darien Public Schools

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Dear Darien Community,

Yesterday, I had the opportunity to visit with Ms. Shiners' ELA class at MMS during a vocabulary lesson. I enjoyed spending time with students as they participated in an active lesson that helped them to acquire some new vocabulary words and explore the Vision of the Graduate in an engaging, collaborative way. Earlier this week I visited Ox Ridge and spent time with our youngest learners in the Early Learning Program (ELP).

Safety Reminder - Pedestrians and cyclists

Twice each day, Darien's streets come alive with the familiar rhythms of the school day: buses picking up and dropping off children, students walking along sidewalks, and bicycles making their way to and from school. These scenes are a reminder of the care we all must take when driving through town.

Our crosswalks and crossing guards play an essential role in helping children travel safely. Unfortunately, numerous incidents this school year involving drivers disregarding crosswalks or traffic signals have put students and other pedestrians at risk.

Please keep your eyes on the road, slow down, put cell phones away, and follow all traffic signs, signals, and crossing guards' directions. Allow extra time during school arrival and dismissal, and remain alert for children walking or biking.

Thank you for doing your part to keep our children and community safe.

School Custodian Day
Today, Friday, October 2, is National School Custodian Day! Our custodial teams at all of our schools and Central Office keep our spaces clean, safe and functional, and we are incredibly thankful for everything they do. To all of our DPS custodians, we are grateful and appreciative of you today and every day. Thank you for going above and beyond year round to ensure our schools and buildings are in pristine condition!

DHS Fall Concert
Darien High School hosted their Autumn Showcase Concert last night, featuring performances by the Band, Chorus and Orchestra ensembles. Congratulations to the students and their directors who presented the first concert of the 2026-2027 year. If you missed it, check out this link to watch the concert!

Darien Difference - In case you missed it!
On Wednesday we shared the first issue of the Darien Difference for the new school year. If you are not familiar with the Darien Difference, it is our monthly newsletter that highlights all of the amazing things happening in our schools and shares

great examples of our students achieving the tenets of the Vision of the Graduate. Take a look HERE and meet the new faculty and staff that have joined the Darien Public Schools this fall.

Holmes Elementary School Ribbon Cutting

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the ribbon cutting ceremony at Hindley yesterday! Next Thursday, October 8, we will have the next of the ribbon cutting ceremonies at Holmes Elementary School. We invite everyone to join us on Thursday at 4:00 to see the beautiful work done and enjoy student-led tours of the new spaces.

The Tokeneke Pumpkin Carnival Is Back! Saturday, October 17th, 10am - 4pm

For 50+ years, one magical October day turns Tokeneke Elementary school into a Halloween themed amusement park!

Ride. Play. Create. Eat. Repeat. Take on the Rockstar and Zero Gravity if you dare or enjoy favorites for little ones like the Spinning Cars and Happy Swing. Play games on the lawn, win prizes, make slime, get your face painted and more. Come hungry for Burgers Shakes & Fries, Heights Pizza and other favorites.

Buy ahead and save almost 20% on ride tickets! Advanced ride tickets and game/art punch cards are available online HERE and can be picked up at WILL CALL at the Carnival.

Bring your family and friends and join us for one of Darien's favorite fall traditions!

Athletic Schedule

It's been another great week for Blue Wave Athletics! The action continues into the weekend - check out the varsity schedule for October 2nd and 3rd:

Friday, October 2:

Boys Soccer vs. Ridgefield High School: 4:00 PM, Ridgefield High School

Football vs. Manchester High School: 7:00 PM, DHS Stadium Field

GIrls Swimming vs. St. Joseph's High School: 7:00 PM, Flood Middle School Pool (Stratford)

Saturday, October 3:

Girls Soccer vs. The Morgan School: 12:00 PM, DHS Stadium Field

Have a wonderful weekend!

Sincerely,



Eric A. Byrne, Ed.D.
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