



Weekly Parent Reminders

December 8, 2023

Important Dates

December 11 - MySchool DC Lottery Opens
December 12 - DME Boundary Town Hall
December 13 – PTO Haydees Restaurant Night
December 14 – 3rd Grade Winter Musical
December 15 – Family Friday & Coffee with the Principal
December 22 – January 2 – Winter Break

DC Special Education Hub

The DC Special Education is proud to present a series of six dynamic videos that will support Washingtonian families in understanding of special education. These videos are designed to clarify the special education world of DC Public and Public Charter Schools and create an accessible bridge for caregivers, families, educators, and students with disabilities.

The videos are available in English and Spanish with open captioning. We're excited for our community to embark on the journey of knowledge with the DC Special Education Hub!

<https://specialeducation.dc.gov/page/family-empowerment-video-series>

PTO Restaurant Night

Please join us on December 13th for a night of fun and delicious food at HAYDEES Restaurant (3102 Mount Pleasant St NW) starting at 5pm! Make sure to mention HD COOKE when purchasing your food. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to HD Cooke PTO. See you there!

3rd grade Winter Musical

Join us on Thursday, December 14, in the Gym at 2:00 pm for our Winter Musical, A Holiday of Music, presented by our Third Grade Arts students. All are invited.

Parent University: Enrollment

Learn more about how to enroll in DCPS for the school year 2024-2025! Register and bring your questions to our virtual Parent University sessions on Tuesday, December 12 at 6pm or join on Thursday, December 14 at 6pm for a session fully in Spanish! In the meanwhile, check-out Parent University On Demand/A La Carta videos! For more information and registration visit:

<https://dcps.dc.gov/page/parent-university>

English: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fWg_kqs5340

Spanish: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL7RNGOzfvHE3sJBR5kwrmcuibxk4hjLvQ>

Family Friday & Coffee with the Principal ☕

On Friday December 15th we will have our first Family Friday of the school year. The goal of Family Friday is to provide a structured opportunity for caretakers to see the awesomeness inside your student's classrooms!

You will be able to visit the classroom from 8:35 am until 9 am to see the classroom, meet other families and participate in strong start with the class.

Join a Boundary Study Town Hall 🗨️

The Office of the Deputy Mayor for Education will host three town hall meetings next week to collect feedback about potential changes to the DCPS boundary and feeder patterns. Register [here](https://t.e2ma.net/click/6l3myj/6pilewse/22tfqtb) (https://t.e2ma.net/click/6l3myj/6pilewse/22tfqtb) for the following dates:

- Tuesday, December 12, 6 – 8 p.m. at Anacostia High School
- Wednesday, December 13, 6 – 8 p.m. via Zoom
- Thursday, December 14, 12 – 2 p.m. via Zoom

Attendance Reminder

As the holiday season ramps up, we want to remind all families of the importance of attendance for all our students. Being here every day ready and prepared to learn. Part of preparedness is arriving to school on time! The doors open promptly at 8:35 am. Please make sure that your student arrives at 8:35 am to have time for breakfast and be ready for morning meeting. Students arriving after 8:50 am are late and must stop by the main office to receive a tardy pass. See you Monday at 8:35 am!!!

Save Time, Earn Gas Money, Carpool Today!

To help reduce traffic, save time, and promote our sustainability goals, H.D. Cooke has teamed up with goDCgo and SchoolPool to connect families for pickup/dropoff carpools. SchoolPool is a free carpool ride matching system that pairs you with nearby families who are looking to share driving duties. SchoolPool is 100% free, secure, and confidential. After signing up, you'll receive a list of potential carpool partners in your area and their contact information. Visit goDCgo.com/schoolpool to learn more.

Pantry Program

Do you have a student that goes to H.D. Cooke? Would you benefit from having a little more food and/or toiletries at home this month?



H.D. Cooke is partnering with DC Food Project to receive monthly donations of minimal food and toiletries. If you have a student at H.D. Cooke and your family could benefit from receiving a little extra food and/or toiletries this month, please complete this referral. A staff member will be in touch upon receipt of the referral in the next 7-10 school days. Thank you!

Referral link for families - <https://forms.office.com/r/aXyzHV9FJi> or use the QR Code below.

“Self-Dismissal” and Sibling Pickup Permission Form

All students in grades *PK 3 through 5* must have a signed permission form on file to walk or take public transportation home alone or with a sibling. No student will be allowed to leave school alone or with a sibling until the attached form has been signed and returned to the main office.

This form is only required for students who are walking or taking public transportation home without their parent, guardian, or another adult who is authorized by you to pick them up. Please return a separate signed form for each of your children.

Students will not be allowed to walk home at dismissal if this form is not returned.

To complete the form online, visit: <https://forms.office.com/r/jHiWsvahne>

Kids Ride Free Metro/Bus Cards

The Kids Ride Free program allows students enrolled in DC Public Schools, DC Charter Schools, and DC private/parochial schools to receive a KRF SmarTrip card for free travel to and from school and school-related activities within the District of Columbia, using Metrorail, Metrobus or the DC Circulator. Please contact the main office (202-939-5390) if your student needs a SmarTrip card for the new school year for the bus or metro.

Social Media

Follow us on our social media pages to get information and see what we are up to:

Facebook: facebook.com/HDCookeES

Instagram & Twitter: @HDCookeES