



# Hyattsville Elementary School



5311 43<sup>rd</sup> Avenue | Hyattsville, MD 20781 | [www.pgcps.org](http://www.pgcps.org)

Teresa Bey, Principal

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August 29, 2019

Dear Parents and Community Members,

Welcome another exciting school year! It is so hard to believe that the summer break is almost over! We cannot wait to see you on the first day of school, **Tuesday, September 3, 2019**.

Our focus as always will be on providing each child with new challenges that will result in a rewarding school experience. Academic emphasis on the core content areas will remain a priority as well as providing a learning program that builds on each year to meet or exceed District and State standards.

Welcome to all of the new Hyattsville Elementary families! My educational Philosophy is that all students can learn with the right resources and home/school collaboration.

### Our HES School Vision is:

*Students are valued and supported while engaged in a comprehensive 21st-century educational program infused with innovative technology and various arts. Hyattsville Elementary is a diverse, inclusive, and compassionate environment where students are challenged to take calculated risks to become independent thinkers and influential members of society. Students will be led by a cohesive, effective, and nurturing staff which seeks to create a more globally literate body of students that is prepared for college and/or careers.*

### Your HES staff will commit daily to fulfilling this vision.

Allow me to share with the returning member of our HES Team as well as some new members to the Team.

Grade	Teacher	Teacher	Teacher	Teacher
Pre-K	Bradford Heck & Paraprofessional	Tela McNeill & Niaja McCoy, Paraprofessional		
Kindergarten	Kristen Moore	Sue Riebman	Valerie Peter	Francisca Cabutaje
1 <sup>st</sup>	Tracy Clark-Peele	Margarita Guerrero	Aleya Barnes	
2 <sup>nd</sup>	LaPria Lee	Karina Jones	Sarah Isaacs	Pamela Vincent
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Amy Monjes	Gloria Muscardin	Cicili Harrison	Shawne Joyner
4 <sup>th</sup>	Annique Roy	Lisa Sunday	Adrienne Cooper	Naida Casado Pagan
5 <sup>th</sup>	Sharon Davis	Danilo Danga	Andria Coleman	Cameron Turner
Resource Teachers	Joyce Brooks Kelley	Nichelle Paisant	Cathy Berry	
ESOL Teachers	Suzette Holt	Sarah Yun	Alex Tomlinson (Part-Time)	
PE	Jessica Ziegler	Troya Briscoe (PT)		
Music	Julianne Conrad	Kathryn Templeton (PT)		
Art	Taylor Pestorius			
Instrumental Music	Samuel Ambrose			
Media Specialist	Soni Woodley (PT)			

**Instructional Lead Teacher:** Faith Brock

**School Counselor:** Salathia Dawkins-Wilson

**Paraprofessionals:** Ollie Jones & Joan Groeschler

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**Resource Assistants:** Dylan Penate & Lana Bachan  
**Secretaries:** Catalina Quinteros and Tawanda Wade  
**Parent Engagement Assistant:** Blanca Ellis  
**Maintenance:** Moses Keita, Roy Henderson, and Kevin Baxter  
**Kitchen Staff:** Joyce Farley,

This year’s school theme is “We’re Planting Seeds for Success.” We will be planting seeds together that will result in outstanding academic student achievement for all students. A strong home/school partnership supports strengthens the success of students. You are our very important partners and we need you! Please let us know whatever way you would like to be involved in school, and we will make it possible. **Here are just a few ways that you can assist us:**

- If not obtained, please get fingerprinted so that you can volunteer and/or chaperone field trips.
- Ensure that your child is at school and on time daily, barring emergencies.
- Provide your child’s teacher with an excuse note for each absence.
- Please volunteer to share your career with students during career day!
- Continue to support your child at home with homework, projects, and by checking agenda books.
- Access the SchoolMax system to check current grades and attendance regularly.
- Always enter and exit the school’s front door, and report to the front office with a valid ID.
- Sign out in the front office via the Raptor system during each visit to the school.
- Refrain from opening/holding the doors to allow other visitors to enter the building.
- Visit your child’s classrooms after providing 24 hours advance notice to the teacher. All volunteers must first report to the front office.
- Ask your child’s teachers how you can support in their classrooms.
- Ensure that we have your updated phone numbers and email addresses.
- Send your child’s teacher a note each time there is a change in the dismissal procedures for your child. The note should include the name of the person as well as the relationship to the child. The person picking up the child must have a valid ID. It is the parent’s responsibility to inform the visitor of this procedure.



Sept. 2	Labor Day Holiday- Schools and Offices Closes	
Sept. 3	First Day of School	7:45am – 1:55pm
Sept. 3	First PTA Meeting of the Year (in the cafeteria)	8:00am
Sept. 12	Back to School Night	5:30pm – 7:30pm
Sept. 27	ESOL Parent Meeting	8:00am – 9:30am

Please see additional information below. I look forward to teaming with you to make this a great year for your child!

Your Partner in Education,

Teresa Bey  
 Principal

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## **First Two Days of School**

The first day of school for students is **Tuesday, September 3, 2019**.

On the first two days of school, students in Pre-K, Kindergarten, and Grade 1 will meet in the gymnasium with their classroom teachers **beginning at 7:25 am**. All parents wishing to walk their children to a classroom must have their ID scanned through the school's Raptor system. Students in grades 2, 3, 4, and 5 will meet their classroom teachers on the playground beginning at 7:25 am. Parents of students in grades 2-5 may leave their child with the classroom teacher at that time; if those parents are interested in going into the school building, they must go to the main office to have their ID scanned through the school's Raptor system to have a pass printed.

Beginning on the **second day of school, Sept. 4** we will resume using the same entry procedures as we did in 2018-19: students arriving at 7:25 will gather in the gym; students arriving after 7:30 will walk directly to their classrooms. All parents desiring to walk their children to class will continue to need a pass printed via the Raptor system

## **School Hours**

School hours for students are from 7:45 am – 1:55 pm. **Students should not arrive to school before 7:25 am**, as there is no adult supervision before this time. The Hyattsville ES Staff cannot be held responsible for the well-being of any students who arrive earlier than 7:25 and our doors have not opened for business.

## **Students Arriving in Cars**

Parents driving their children to class should proceed up 43rd Avenue and turn left down the alley alongside the school. Students will exit cars in the alley, walk up the steps and enter the school through the door to the gym (beginning on Sept. 6). Cars should not stop near the entrance of the gate to the playground. Students that arrive at class after 7:45 am are late and need to be escorted into the building. Your cooperation is needed and greatly appreciated with these matters.

## **Dismissal**

Dismissal will begin at **1:55 pm**. First, aftercare students will report to the gym, then Pre-K students will be walked to the front lobby to be dismissed to a parent. K students will be dismissed from their classroom doors that exit adjacent to 43rd Avenue. Students in grades 1 through 5 will walk out to the playground with their teachers. Please do not block or crowd the doors while waiting for your child.

Parents picking up students in cars can temporarily park along 43rd Avenue and walk to the playground to pick up their child from his/her teacher. Also, please be reminded that student safety is our priority, so be cautious when driving near the school. **All students must be picked up no later than 1:55 pm**. Frequent late pick-ups will be referred to the Pupil Personnel Worker for review. While we fully understand that emergency situations do occur, we wish to remind you that the staff duty day ends at 2:45 pm and the last 30 minutes of their day is devoted to instructional planning for the following school day.

## **School Meals**

We will continue this school year to participate in the **Maryland Meals for Achievement** (MMFA) program. This program provides free breakfast for **all students**. Breakfast will be served at 7:45 in every classroom. It is extremely important that students arrive on time to eat breakfast with their classmates. Instruction needs to start in every classroom at 7:45.

Students may purchase lunch at school or bring their lunch. The full cost of lunch is \$2.75. Each new student will receive a PIN at the beginning of the school year while returning students will use the same PIN they used last

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year. Students who were eligible for Free or Reduced Meal Plans during the 2018-2019 school year will be eligible for the same plan through Sept. 30. Please note that if it is established before October 1<sup>st</sup> that a student no longer qualifies, you will be responsible for paying for your child's lunch at that time. In order to continue on the plan after this date, a new application must be completed and submitted for approval. Based on the results, after the application is processed, this will determine the student's lunch status. **Please complete the application even if you believe you do not qualify for free or reduced meals.**

### **Uniform Policy**

Our school has a mandatory uniform policy. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in making certain that your child is dressed in appropriate uniform attire. We expect students to be in uniform each and every day. Please refer to the school's website for our uniform policy. (Please be advised that **light-up shoes are not allowed.**) Throughout the year, we will implement dress down days. Parents will be notified in advance of these days.

### **SchoolMax Family Portal**

The SchoolMax Family Portal provides a method for families to access their children's attendance, grades, and family information 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Please make sure that you take advantage of this system that will allow you to monitor your child's progress in school. To get access to the Family Portal, you just need your child's PGCPs Student Identification Number and an email address.

### **Cell Phones / Electronics**

If students choose to bring cell phones to school, they must be turned off and put away during the school day. However, teachers may occasionally ask students to bring cell phones or other devices to be used for instructional purposes. In such cases, parents will be notified in advance. If a student needs to make a phone call, phones are available in the school building that they can use once granted permission. All other electronics, including MP3 players and game systems, are not permitted to be used in school. If a student chooses to bring one or more of these items, including cellphones, to school and misplaces it or it is taken, **Hyattsville ES will not be held responsible.**

### **Early Dismissal**

All students who are being picked up early must be signed out in the main office **no later than 1:30 pm.** Once you have signed your child out for the day, a staff member will make a call to the classroom and have the teacher send the student(s) to the office. Parents are not permitted to go to the classroom to retrieve students. Following these guidelines will help us to ensure student safety and reduce classroom disruption during instructional times.

### **Immunizations**

Certain immunizations (shots) are required by public schools in the State of Maryland. Students who are missing required immunizations will be excluded from school on the first day. Prince George's County Health Department provides immunizations at the Cheverly Health Center (3003 Hospital Drive, Suite 2083 Cheverly, MD 20785). Patients with limited or no health insurance pay for the immunizations on a sliding scale depending on proof of income. Call 301-583-3300 to schedule an appointment.