



# Deer Park Times

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A Publication for the Children, Families and Staff of Deer Park Elementary School

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Dear Families of Deer Park,

The month of October is upon us and we are halfway through the first quarter of school and well into our instructional program. Any healthy school environment includes a community of adults who care about the growth of each child and a school community that works together to foster a genuine sense of belonging for everyone. To encourage growth for every child, we are committed to sharing the successes and needs demonstrated by your child in school. If you are unsure of your child's progress in any area, please don't hesitate to ask. Positive, proactive communication is the key to building strong relationships that support success for children.

I would like to remind you to sign into the BCPS One system. This online resource will allow you to check your children's grades and assignments, access educational resources, and link to school websites. If you need more information, or assistance with accessing the parent portal of BCPS One, please feel free to contact the office.

As we continue to navigate this new way of learning, we want to remind you of the importance of your student attending class meetings every day. Please be reminded that students have a full day of school and should be present for all classes on their schedule. Students are to complete and submit all assignments and these assignments should be completed independently so that teachers can get an accurate representation of your child's strengths and needs. Feel free to contact your child's teacher with any questions or concerns.

We will be hosting our first Parent Quarterly Check-In on Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m. During the check in we will share pertinent information, answer any questions you may have, and address any needs you may have. Please join us!

Again, if you need anything, have a question or concern, or want to share some good news, we are always ready to support you!

Your partners in education,

Renee A. Jenkins

*Principal*

Katie L. Fridley

*Assistant Principal*

## PTA Executive Board

### Officers

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## **Looking Ahead!**

- **October 16, 2020 - School closed for students**
- **October 16, 2020 - Interims due to students**





## Vision Statement



Deer Park Elementary School provides a positive educational environment which nurtures all students while developing critical 21st Century skills.

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

In partnership with community members, our school will provide engaging and inclusive instruction to empower our diverse learning community to become College and Career Ready.

The Deer Park Elementary School learning community is dedicated to:

- D**– Deliberate Excellence
  - P** - Positive Partnerships
  - E** - Empowering and Engaging Instruction
  - S** - Successful Students
-

Hello Deer Park Families and Friends from your school nurse!

I want to take this opportunity to wish you all well and send you my sincerest hope that you are staying well during this difficult time.

First of all, if you have been contacted by myself or the school about your child's immunization compliance, please make sure to submit that information to me as soon as possible. We may be virtual right now, but we are still required to ensure that all students are safely vaccinated. If you're not certain what is needed, please feel free to reach out to me.

Secondly, we are not collecting Discretionary Medication forms or medication order forms at this time. When we are ready to return to in-person learning, we will reevaluate this situation and I will be back in touch with you about how that will be managed.

Lastly, here are a few tips to help you stay well during the next few months:

Remember to wash your hands frequently or use Purell if you are not able to wash with soap and water.

Monitor your health for any concerning symptoms and do not hesitate to reach out to your healthcare provider if you are concerned that your symptoms may be related to COVID-19.

Consult with your healthcare provider and your child's pediatrician about receiving the flu shot this year. This can be important protection for you and your family!

**Wearing masks saves lives! Please make sure that your mask is worn properly over your mouth and nose to be fully effective.**

Many things have changed and I, like the rest of the staff, am not in the school building right now, but I am still available should you need me. Please feel free to reach out to me at 443-809-6045 (note the new phone number) or at [kvannemangooding@bcps.org](mailto:kvannemangooding@bcps.org) if you or your students have any questions or concerns that I can help you with. I am still here for you!

Be well,  
Nurse Gooding





## **Celebrating our Hispanic Heritage**

**By: Ms. Denise Iriarte-Quinones**

When the calendar sets September 15<sup>th</sup>, it marks the beginning of the Hispanic Heritage month.

Through the years, thousands of people from Latin America and the Caribbean have come to the United States looking and hoping for better living conditions; for a chance to live in peace in a place where, as our Declaration of Independence states, “life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness” are unalienable rights. They leave behind the land that watched them grow, and their families, to integrate into a new society with a different lifestyle and language. With their hard work and persistence, they become important pieces that help move the economy in our society. Many, who have outstanding abilities, become sports players, musicians, artists, writers, etc. and enrich our cultural experience with their talents. The bravery of these women and men does not stop here for some of them put themselves at the service of this nation by entering into our Armed Forces, and of these, a number have given their lives defending democracy and our nation’s goals. In our recent history we can mention many Hispanics who were key figures in the fight for equality and justice for all citizens.

During this month we want to go back and look to our roots. It is a time to celebrate and embrace the legacy of our ancestors. To show the world that any place in this planet where we live and get to call home, we keep alive our traditions, our colors, our music, our dances, our dishes, our language, the essence of what make us Hispanic.

Our school, Deer Park ES, has the privilege of having the Passport Program as part of the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades curriculum. Passport’s goal is to bring our students the tool of a Second Language Acquisition through Spanish language instruction at these early ages. Giving the tools needed to form bilingual individuals not only provides better job positions in the future, but gives them the ability to communicate with people from other countries and cultures. Also, for the Hispanic community students, this program helps them embrace their roots and help maintain the language of their ancestors.

So, no matter where your ancestors came from, either Africa, Europe, Asia, Australia or America, pick up your “sombrero”, share some rice and beans, dance a little “merengue” and celebrate as a family, the human race family, our Hispanic heritage month.

## Counselors Corner

### WAYS I WORK WITH STUDENTS



**Individual Counseling-** The counselor meets with individual students to help solve problems that are interfering with their learning and sense of well-being. All students are offered the opportunity to talk with counselor about personal problems related to school or home.

**Small Group Counseling-** The counselor works with students in smaller group settings to address specific areas of concern. Group availability is selected by the counselor based on amount of need. If group is unavailable, the counselor can work with a student individually.

**Parent and Teacher Consultation/Collaboration-** The counselor meets with parents and/or teachers regarding issues with students to ensure academic success for every student.

***\*Participation in small group requires a signed consent form to begin sessions.***



Student Resources

Learning from home may bring an array of different emotions. They may range from feeling worried, angry, sad or happy and it is okay if those feelings change often. Please take some time and visit my virtual office to explore coping strategies. My virtual space is located on each homeroom teachers page in a folder labeled 'School Counselor'.

### Theme of the Month:



### BULLYING

*is being mean, on purpose, Over and Over again.*

*The act of bullying intentionally hurts a person or their feelings.*

*There are four types of bullying:*

Physical

Verbal

Social

Cyber

(Internet/Electronic devices)

*Throughout the month of October, students will learn about different types of bullying, the difference between a conflict and bullying behavior and how to report incidents. Lessons have been scheduled and will be implemented during their classroom guidance lesson.*



**Calling all Pre-Kindergarteners &  
5<sup>th</sup> graders!!!!**

Magnet school applications opened online September 16, 2020. To access the application please use the web address below:

<https://bcponlineapplication.com/apply/>