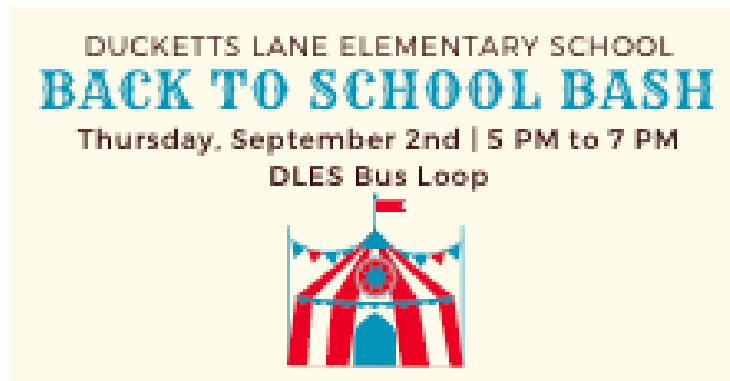


# OWL OBSERVER NEWS

## Important Dates to Remember

- August 30th- School begins for students
- September 2nd- Back to School Bash, 5:00pm-7:00pm
- September 6th & 7th- Schools are closed for students
- September 9th- Family File Support 2:00-4:00pm in the cafeteria
- September 10th- Family File Support 8:30-10:30am in the cafeteria



Dear Families,

It was wonderful to see so many familiar faces and news faces at *Open House* this afternoon. We are looking forward to school starting on **Monday, August 30th**. Please read this message carefully so you are ready for the week.

Please allow your child to arrive at school on the first day in their normal routine. If they will be a bus rider, send them on the bus. If they are a walker, allow them to walk to school. This procedure will help us to ensure your child is sent home safely. All bus riders receive a bus tag to inform the teacher of their dismissal procedures. Please allow your child to ride the bus on the first day of school.

### Arrival

- 8:35 am - Doors open at DLES to welcome our students into the building
  - Staff will be on duty outside at 8:35 am
  - Please line up next to your grade level sign
- 8:50 am - The morning late bell will sound

### Dismissal

- 3:20 pm - Walkers and bus riders will be dismissed

- 3:22 pm - Car riders will be escorted out of the building to an assigned area where staff will communicate who is ready to be picked up
  - Families picking up students in the car loop should place their car rider tag on the dashboard of their vehicle
  - Please stay in your car and in the car rider line
  - Dismissal could take up to 15 minutes

The 2021-2022 Family File is now accessible to families through [HCPSS Connect](#). It is time to update your child's emergency information. This is the most important step as we prepare for the start of the 2021-2022 school year. Your Family file needs to be verified and/or updated EVERY school year.

**Free and Reduced Meal Application:** Please complete the Free and Reduced Meal Application (FARM) as soon as possible! Although all students are eligible for free meals during the 2021-2022 school year, it is important that this form be completed so that we can continue to provide additional Title I programming for our students. There are additional benefits for families who qualify for FARM. Please see this [link](#) for information and the online application. Each family needs to fill out one application and that application needs to be completed each year.

**Girls on the Run Registration is Open:** Girls on the Run® inspires girls in grades 3-5 to be joyful, healthy, and confident by using running to teach valuable social-emotional and life skills such as managing emotions, resolving conflict, and setting personal goals. Teams of 15-20 girls meet twice weekly after school for 9 weeks. Each season concludes with the girls and their running buddies completing a non-competitive 5k fun run. The Fall season will start the week of September 20, with the season-ending site-based 5k. **DLES GOTR will be held this fall on Mondays and Thursday.** Program registration fee is \$165 and includes 5k registration and finisher's medal, water bottle, t-shirt, a cinch sack, journal, grown-up guide, and all program materials. *Generous financial assistance is available and no girl is turned away.* DLES coaches this year are Mrs. Karen Rinehart, Ms. Amanda Gates, and Ms. Ryann Plokin. Please visit [www.gotrcentralmd.org](http://www.gotrcentralmd.org) to register. Call 443-583-7740 or e-mail [info@gotrcentralmd.org](mailto:info@gotrcentralmd.org).

**Health Room:** The Howard County Health Department is offering a free back to school vaccination clinic. Please find flyers in [English](#) & [Spanish](#) to provide to your school community.

**Dates: August 30 & August 31, 2021**

Time: 3:00pm - 7:00pm

Location: Howard Community College Athletic Center, 5500 Dragon Place, Columbia, MD 21144

Vaccines offered:

- Varicella (Chickenpox)
- MCV4 & MenB (meningitis vaccines)
- HPV (Human Papillomavirus)
- Tdap & DTaP (Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis)
- Polio
- MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella)
- Hepatitis B
- COVID-19 (children ages 12+)

Before attending this clinic, please note:

- Check with your child's doctor to see if they have already received these vaccinations, and provide a copy of this record to your school.
- Bring a copy of your child's immunization record and any notice received from your child's school regarding overdue immunizations.

**\*\*The COVID-19 Vaccine WILL be available during these clinics\*\***