

# THE WEEKLY FALCON

for the week of 10/1/2023



## NEWS FROM THE NEST...

To Our SEED DC Families:

We are truly grateful for your partnership in providing our scholars with a structured, challenging, comprehensive educational high school boarding experience. With the unique 24/5 environment comes additional responsibility on all of us, including our students. At SEED, we live and share space each and every week which means it is paramount we learn and practice community norms in each setting throughout the day. Please review and discuss the following norms and expectations with your scholar.

1.) Come to campus on Sunday check-in with all uniforms and other items necessary for the school week. Check-in is from 7:00-9:00pm and all scholars are expected to arrive in a timely fashion. If transportation is an issue for your family, please let me know so we are able to assist in facilitating this process. Sunday evening is an important part of our routine. Sunday Check-in is not optional. If there is a rare occasion that prevents your son/daughter from arriving on campus Sunday evening, please let us know. This would include a significant special occasion, a medical situation or a religious gathering. I appreciate your support in ensuring our scholars are back on Sunday so they can adequately prepare for the week ahead.

2.) Scholars are expected to wear the SEED uniform on a daily basis, including khaki pants. Jeans/Denim, leggings/jeggings and sweatpants are not a part of the school uniform. Additionally, scholars are not permitted to wear any head gear. We need your assistance in this arena. Daily, my staff and I ask students to remove ski masks, baseball caps, bonnets and other inappropriate items. "My hair is not done," is not a reasonable response as we have given scholars and families this information for over a month at this point. I am trying to expand our dress code and allow hoodies, specifically SEED, university/college gear and those without other logos. However, this compromise means scholars must leave their hoods down. Please talk to your student, checking their packed belongings if necessary, about the clothing expectations. We are more than willing to meet scholars with uniform needs if there is a request or need. Additionally, uniform polos are to be tucked in, as showing one's stomach is not school appropriate. Thank you in advance for your support in honoring the SEED uniform.

3.) Scholars are expected to be in their assigned areas at all times. A portion of our students insist on being "out of area" in both the Academic and Student Life settings. We are deeply committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of all members of our community, specifically our scholars. Please remind your son/daughter that it is their responsibility to listen to and follow reasonable requests by the adult(s) in charge (teacher, YDE, staff member, etc.). Taking excessive, extended restroom breaks or roaming around in the stairwells and other parts of the building is unacceptable. Our expectation is that as high school scholars, they are more than capable of being active, responsible, community-minded members of the SEED family.

We believe being a SEED DC Falcon is an honor and take our commitment to preparing each of our promising scholars for collegiate success seriously. We are a college-preparatory boarding school and all components are critical to our successful execution of this mission. As you have selected SEED DC for your students, I am confident you understand the brevity of this charge. We need your partnership to fully educate and serve your son/daughter and your family. We will not tolerate behaviors and actions that seek to dismantle and minimize the building of an academically rigorous, universally enriching environment. Please continue to communicate your questions, concerns and suggestions as we strive to re-establish the core tenants of the foundation of The SEED School of Washington, D.C..

### Upcoming Events:

- 10/6 & 10/9: No School for Scholars
- 10/11, 7-8:30 p.m.: 9th/10th Grade Parent Dinner\*
- 10/12, 7-8:30 p.m.: 11th/12th Grade Parent Dinner\*
- 10/16: School-Wide Picture Day - required for all students for school IDs
- 10/16 - 20: National College Go Week!
- 10/22, 5:30-7 p.m.: Dinner w/ the Head of School+

*\*Please watch for the sign-up link if you will be joining us for one of the informative Parent Dinners in two weeks. We will need an accurate count so our chefs are able to adequately prepare the meal. My goal is that you have a chance to experience what our scholars experience on a daily basis, in terms of the culinary landscape. Fortunate to have the menus and talents we have in the kitchen on a daily basis.*

*+Please watch for the sign-up link for the Dinner with the Head of School. My goal is to spend two Sunday evenings a month with 10-12 of our families, sharing a meal, discussing my vision for SEED, listening to your questions, insights and concerns, and creating a path forward together. Again, is critical that those wanting to attend sign up so we can plan accordingly. I am very much looking forward to this opportunity to meet you and spend time listening, learning and leading our Falcon Family.*

As always, I am grateful for the opportunity to work with your family, and lead at SEED DC. We are working daily to solidify the expectations and standards that have made this tremendous, unique educational opportunities successful for so many of our graduates. With high expectations comes a need to hold all accountable with consistency, equity, and transparency. We will continue to ground our practices, protocols, and programming in the Core Values of **respect, responsibility, perseverance, integrity, compassion, gratitude, and growth**. I believe in this journey and the abundant, bright futures of each and all of our scholars.

Falcon Excellence,  
Ms. Hood



# STAYING HEALTHY & SAFE

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Dear SEED Community,

The SEED School continues to anchor our health and safety measures to current guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), DC Health, and the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE). SEED policies will continue to be reviewed or adjusted for School Year 2023-2024 to address shifts in public health guidance.

Currently, there is a nationwide increase in COVID cases, and it is important to continue to minimize the spread within the SEED community.

Please note the following:

Masking is currently optional at SEED DC.

\*

COVID-19 vaccination is not required but continues to be encouraged.

\*

Scholars/Staff should stay home when sick.

\*

SEED will continue to test scholars/staff that present symptoms while on campus.

# FULL UNIFORM COMPLIANCE EXPECTED

Thank you for ensuring that your scholar arrives to school with proper uniforms for the entire week. We appreciate your partnership.

## UNIFORM POLICY

### The SEED Uniform Policy

All SEED scholars are expected to be in the full appropriate SEED uniform throughout the academic day. The SEED uniform contributes to ensuring a safe and secure campus in addition to the overall sense of unity as a school community. It enhances the learning atmosphere, adds a sense of pride, and promotes respect for oneself and others. It also builds school and community spirit, and, more significantly, helps to maintain high academic standards and social-emotional development among scholars.

Scholars must check into school with the appropriate number of uniforms for the week and have appropriate clothing for the boarding program. Each week at check-in, student life staff will make every effort to ensure that scholars are properly outfitted for the week, although it is the responsibility of parents and scholars to come to campus fully prepared for the week ahead. In the event your child is not properly outfitted for the week, parents will be called and asked to bring appropriate uniforms and other clothing to campus by 7:00 a.m. the next morning.

Scholars will not be allowed off the residence hall floor without being in proper SEED uniform. If for some reason, scholars make it off the residence hall floor without the appropriate uniform item(s), parents should expect to receive a call regarding their child's uniform violation.

In the event that a scholar does not have the appropriate uniform at school, parents will be expected to bring their child all of the needed uniform pieces.

+ Scholars not in proper school uniform during the academic day will receive a disciplinary response from an administrator.

SEED UNIFORM	
Shirts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>All school scholars must wear a burgundy polo shirt that bears the SEED DC logo.</li><li>Shirts must be tucked in at ALL times.</li><li>Seniors may wear the striped senior oxford</li></ul>
Pants/Skirts/Shorts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Tan khaki uniform pants, skirts, shorts or jumpers (knee length only) must be worn throughout the school year.</li><li>All tan khaki pants and shorts must have belt loops.</li><li>Tan khaki uniform shorts may only be worn as a part of the fall uniform (August – Thanksgiving Break) and as a part of the spring uniform (Spring Break – June).</li></ul>
Belts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Belts must be worn with pants, shorts or skirts with belt loops.</li><li>Belt buckles must be plain and appropriate.</li></ul>
Head Gear	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Scholars cannot wear any of the following headgear: baseball caps, skull caps, doo-rags, head wraps, bonnets, hair curlers, scarves of any kind, or knitted caps.</li><li>Scholars are permitted to wear any solid color headband</li></ul>
Outerwear	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Scholars may ONLY wear SEED uniform sweaters, sweatshirts and/or fleece jackets as sold at Risse Brothers, located at 9700 Martin Luther King Jr. Hwy B, Lanham, MD 20706.</li><li>Scholars must wear <u>polo's</u> underneath ALL outerwear.</li><li>Scholars are not allowed to wear hooded sweatshirts</li></ul>
Shoes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Scholars can wear shoes of their choice with the exceptions listed below.</li><li>Scholars may not wear high heel shoes or wedges (exceeding 1") flip-flops, sandals, slippers, or any other open-toed or heel out shoes.</li></ul>
Physical Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>All scholars must change into athletic skid-free sneakers, a t-shirt, and athletic shorts (must be knee-length) and/or sweatpants.</li></ul>

Clothing, jewelry, or appearances that are determined to be distracting to the learning environment will not be permitted.

### Purchasing Uniforms

All SEED uniform items, with the exception of khaki belt loop pants and skirts, must be purchased from Risse Brothers. Khaki belt loop pants and skirts may be purchased from Old Navy, JCPenney, Parker Uniform, or other department stores.

*\*Should the parent/guardian need assistance purchasing, please contact the Office of Family & Community Engagement at (202) 248-3005.*

# CLASS OF 2024 ANNOUNCEMENTS

THINKING ABOUT GOING TO COLLEGE? HOW ABOUT GOING TO AN OPEN HOUSE FIRST? SCAN THE LINK BELOW FOR THE DATES!

SCAN ME



BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE ALPHA ACHIEVERS OF HOWARD COUNTY



**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA DUAL ENROLLMENT CONSORTIUM PROGRAM**

Office of the State Superintendent of Education

The DC Dual Enrollment Consortium Program allows students to earn college credit at local colleges in the Washington, DC area!

**Attend classes at any of our partner colleges:**

- American University
- Bard College
- Bay Atlantic University
- Bowie State University
- Catholic University of America-Metropolitan School of Professional Studies
- George Mason University
- Marymount University
- Montgomery College
- Northern Virginia Community College
- Prince George's Community College
- Trinity Washington University
- University of the District of Columbia-Flagship campus
- Virginia State University

**Why participate in dual enrollment?**

- Be college ready. You'll be better prepared for your first year of college.
- The program is free!
- College credits earned through our program are often transferable to other colleges.

**APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS**

Prepare and scan ALL the following documents with the support of your school counselor:

- Student transcript;
- A copy of
  - Student GED Ready scores, OR
  - SAT or ACT scores;
- Essay;
- Teacher Recommendation Form;
- Counselor or Principal Recommendation Form; and
- Signed Released of Information Form.

**APPLICATION TIMELINE**

- APPLICATION OPENS SEPT. 14, 2023
- STUDENT APPLICATIONS DUE OCT. 20, 2023
- DECISIONS RELEASED NOV. 14, 2023

**ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

Students must be 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> graders with at least a 2.5 GPA and must attend a DC public or public charter school.

Adult students seeking a GED must score a 145 or higher on two GED Ready tests, one of which must be Reasoning Through Language Arts.

To learn more about the DC Dual Enrollment Consortium Program including detailed eligibility requirements per partner college, contact your college counselor or visit [bit.ly/DCDualEnrollment](http://bit.ly/DCDualEnrollment).

SCAN HERE TO LEARN MORE AND APPLY!

osse.dc.gov @OSSEDC @osse.dc (202) 727-4434

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

District of Columbia Office of the State Superintendent of Education

**2024 OSSE SCHOLARS**  
Summer Enrichment Program

Being an OSSE Scholar has made me a more independent person. I feel like I can do anything by myself! - OSSE Scholar

**APPLICATION AND SELECTION TIMELINE**  
OSSE Scholars Website: [Click Here to Visit](#)  
OSSE Scholars 2024 Application: [Click Here to Begin](#)

Application Opens: Wednesday, Sept. 20, 2023

The Application and Selection process for the 2024 OSSE Scholars cohort has five parts. All applicants must complete both parts of the QuickBase application by the posted deadlines to begin the process. Applicants who meet the minimum eligibility criteria will be considered for an interview and all interviewees are considered by the OSSE Scholars Selection Committee for acceptance into the 2024 OSSE Scholars cohort.

QuickBase Application	
<b>PART 1</b> Part 1 of the QuickBase application is a simple account creation form. Applicants enter their name, personal contact information, high school contact information, and verify they meet the minimum eligibility requirements for the OSSE Scholars program. Part 1 opens: <b>September 20</b> Part 1 closes: <b>October 20</b>	<b>PART 2</b> All eligible applicants who submit Part 1 by the deadline are invited to complete Part 2 of the QuickBase application. Part 2 mirrors a college application; applicants must complete short answer questions and an essay, and upload several documents to verify program eligibility. Part 2 closes: <b>November 10</b>
Interview	
<b>PART 3</b> Interviews are conducted virtually over Microsoft Teams. Two interviewers from OSSE conduct each interview. Students must be prepared to discuss the summer college programs they are most interested in and how the program(s) will contribute to their personal college and career goals. Interviews: <b>December 4-8</b>	
OSSE Scholars Selection Committee Convenes: <b>December 13-14</b>	
Finalist Decisions Released: <b>December 15</b>	
Finalist Meeting	OSSE Scholars Orientation
<b>PART 4</b> This meeting is held virtually over Microsoft Teams and required for applicants to be considered for the 2024 OSSE Scholars cohort. Attendees have the opportunity to learn more about the program and expectations of an OSSE Scholar before committing to the program. Finalist Meeting: <b>December 20</b>	<b>PART 5</b> Orientation for the 2024 OSSE Scholars cohort is held virtually over Microsoft Teams. Attendance is mandatory. Orientation: <b>January 4</b>

Final Decisions Released: **December 21**

Applicants and families should mark these meeting dates on their calendars when applying. If you are selected to move forward to Parts 4 and 5 of the application process, attendance is **mandatory** - it is important to plan ahead now!



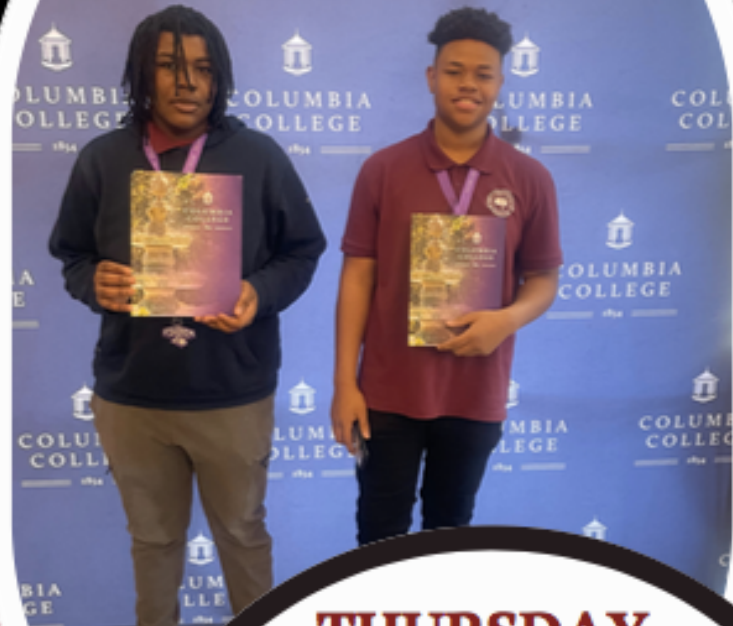
# FAMILY COLLEGE COUNSELING NIGHT!



It's never too early to start preparing students for college! Come learn how to help your child achieve college planning and success together!

- ✓ 9-11th Grade College Planning
- ✓ 12th Grade College Admission Application Process
- ✓ Develop a post-graduation plan with educational and career goals
- ✓ Finding Scholarships
- ✓ Get your questions answered

**For More Information Contact**  
**Director of College Success Programs,**  
**Ms. Anshay Tull, M.Ed.**  
**202-381-8044, [atull@dc.seedschool.org](mailto:atull@dc.seedschool.org)**



**THURSDAY  
OCTOBER  
19  
6-8 P.M.  
SEED MEDIA  
CENTER**



**RSVP is  
REQUIRED**

SEED FALCON'S

DEBATE

CLUB

2023



**WE'RE LOOKING FOR GREAT DEBATERS**

UNLEASH YOUR INNER DEBATER AND JOIN THE DEBATE CLUB WHERE STUDENTS WORK TOGETHER AS A TEAM TO DEVELOP CRITICAL/ANALYTICAL THINKING, IMPROVE PUBLIC SPEAKING, LEARN RESEARCH SKILLS, AND COMPETE IN COMPETITIONS AROUND THE DMV AND THE NATION.

SEE DR. BAGLEY (OFFICE 101D) TO REGISTER

# Attendance Incentives Calendar

## 2023-2024 School Year

<p>September 8:</p> 	<p>September 22:</p> 	<p>October 6:</p>  <p>PIZZA OR NACHOS</p>
<p>October 20:</p>  <p>DENIM DAY</p>	<p>November 7:</p>  <p>Attendance Board Design: Scholars will design name tags for board</p>	<p>November 17:</p>  <p><b>BROWNIES</b></p>
<p>December 1:</p> <p>Fidget Spinner</p> 	<p>December 15:</p> <p>HOT CHOCOLATE</p> 	<p>January 5:</p> <p>Free Period!!</p> 
<p>January 19:</p> <p>CANDY</p> 	<p>February 2:</p> <p>Donuts</p> 	<p>February 14:</p>  <p>movie</p>
<p>March 1:</p> <p>Chips</p> 	<p>March 14:</p>  <p>CUP noodles</p>	<p>March 29:</p> <p>Popcorn</p> 
<p>April 11:</p> <p>GUMMY BEARS</p> 	<p>April 26:</p> <p>Grade vs Grade Events Week of 4/22-4/26 Compete in different events to see which grade wins!</p>	<p>May 10:</p>  <p>SMOOTHIE DAY</p>
<p>May 24:</p> <p>Field Day!!</p> 	<p>June 7:</p>  <p><b>ATTENDANCE CELEBRATION!</b></p>	

\*Please note that these incentives are subject to change

# STUDENT LIFE DEPARTMENT UPDATES & REMINDERS

- Parents are not permitted on campus during check-in.
- Students are only permitted to check-in with **ONE** duffle bag/suitcase, **ONE** backpack, and **ONE** grocery bag for snacks. Additional bags or items are not permitted.
- Students' snacks should be turned in to their Youth Development Educator (YDE) to be stored in the pantry, not in their dorm room.
- Students are not permitted to visit each others' dorm rooms.
- Students are not permitted to access the dormitory during the academic day for any reason.
- Students are not permitted to order outside food while on campus (with the exception of pre-approved special occasions and events).
- Parents and families are also not permitted to bring outside food to students.
- Students are not permitted to leave campus without permission or for non-emergencies for any reason.
- All students and guests are required to undergo bag and security checks.
- No weapons permitted, this includes the following: self-defense objects, knives, tasers, pepper spray, mace, ice breakers, rattail combs w/metal tips, etc.
- No Drugs Permitted (including OTC meds): Prescription medication must be turned in to the school nurse upon entry & must be accompanied by Medication Authorization Form signed by a doctor.
- **Item Drop-offs:** If you have items that you need to drop off to your scholar, please do so before 9 p.m. Security will contact the appropriate adult to pick it up for them or have your student to pick it up.





# WELLNESS SUITE MEDICATION REQUIREMENTS

Please be reminded that that only parents/guardians/caregivers or authorized adults can bring medication to the Wellness Suite. Medication will not be accepted from students and students are not allowed to carry medication on their person, with the exception of an asthma inhaler.

In order for the school to administer prescription medication, a [medical authorization form](#) must be filled out by the doctor. Parents must also sign the form before school medical personnel can administer medication. Only creams, antibiotics, or medical equipment will be sent home on Fridays during checkout and that no student will be allowed to take medication home. Be sure to request for your pharmacist to divide the medication in two (2) bottles, one to keep at home and one to be left at school. Also we have over the counter medications here and all parents should fill out the form if their student needs to take any over the counter medications. All of the medical forms mentioned here can be found on the [health & wellness suite page](#) of the school website.

Click here to review the full [medication policy](#).

Thank you,

The Wellness Team:

Nrs. Colbert & Ms. Faison

202-248-3008 (phone)

202-318-8625 (fax)

## Maintaining Your MENTAL HEALTH

Need someone to talk to? We're here to help! Certified clinicians are available for you 24/7. Call the Department of Behavioral Health mental health hotline: 1-888-793-4357.

### Tips for Reducing Anxiety:

-  Reach out for help; your mental health is important.
-  Exercise regularly.
-  Limit time spent in public places.
-  If working from home or in self-quarantine, arrange your space so it's calming. Make sure you shower and get dressed like you're going to work.
-  Moderate news intake.
-  Practice deep breathing exercises or other methods of meditation.

CORONAVIRUS.DC.GOV

DC HEALTH  
GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
DC MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

# PowerSchool Portal for Parents & Families

*The SEED School of Washington, D.C. is proud to offer a tool that parents and family members may use to stay connected to their scholar and their school.*

*The PowerSchool Parent & Family Portal gives you real-time access to valuable information such as grades, assignment details, & messages from teachers.*

**Through the portal, view your scholar's:**



**ACADEMIC HISTORY**



**TEST RESULTS**



**ATTENDANCE**



**& MORE!**



You can log in any time from any computer, tablet, or mobile phone.

**GET ALERTS VIA:**



**TEXT**



**PHONE**



**EMAIL**

**Receive alerts about attendance, school events, & weather-related closures.**

Turn over for more info on how to set up your Parent Portal,

# Parent & Family Portal: Getting Started

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How do I sign up for the Parent & Family Portal & set up my account? You must have a personal email address to sign up for a Parent & Family Portal account.

You can register for a free email account using Gmail, Outlook, Yahoo, or a similar service..

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## WHERE DO I START?

Visit <https://seedschool.powerschool.com/public/>

1

- Click "Create an account"
- Enter your first & last name and email address
- Create a password - at least 6 characters
- Re-enter password
- Enter student's name (If you have multiple student's @ SEED, each will have their own access ID & password)

2

## HAVE YOUR CONFIDENTIAL ID READY

- Enter Confidential ID (provided by school)
- Enter Access Password (provided by school)
- Select appropriate relationship to student

Once completed, you will be taken to the login page of the Parent & Family Portal

3

## DOWNLOAD THE MOBILE APP

- App Store or Play Store
- Enter district code: **FQGN**
- Click Continue
- Enter Confidential ID
- Enter Password
- You're all set to go!

Still need help?

Contact the registrar:

[ctyson@seedschooldc.org](mailto:ctyson@seedschooldc.org)