THE WEEKLY
FALCON

for the week of 10/15/2023

NEWS FROM THE NEST...

Communicating, Connecting, and Moving Forward

To Our SEED Families:

This was a busy week for us as a school community, as we completed the first chapter of MAP testing, our senior sat for the SAT on Wednesday, and numerous community partners joined us on campus for our annual SPARKS Fair on Thursday. Our Falcon volleyball team and flag football team continue to be victorious in their athletic pursuits. Collectively, these activities and opportunities remind us that the comprehensive high school experience is one that involves not only high-quality academics, but additional, supplemental endeavors that bring meaning, excitement and new ideas to our scholars. It is imperative that we partner in insisting on our students choosing to be intentionally engaged in their journey.

Not only is meaningful extra-curricular participation a mandatory part of collegiate readiness, this is often the difference maker in terms of academic progress and positive decision making. Research demonstrates that when a young person is actively engaged, their time thoughtfully structured, success rates exponentially increase. Conversely, extensive free time and a lack of meaningful connection often leads to disengagement at a minimum. It is our mission and expectation that all Falcons discover at least one, and ideally three, activities, clubs, and/or organizations to pursue and commit to during their time at SEED DC. Please discuss this with your scholar and remind them that the SPARKS sign ups will take place this coming week. All scholars are required to register during the allotted timeframe.

One of my highlights this past week was meeting a number of you at our first quarterly grade level dinners I hosted on Wednesday and Thursday. Please know it is my intention to present meaningful information, answer questions, and be available specifically for you at these events. In my next message, I will give you the dates for the remaining evenings so you are able to plan in advance if you would like to participate in the upcoming quarters. Additionally, several of the items discussed is electronically included below, including SEED's Dress Code, Cell Phone Policy, and the terminology we use when an incident occurs. Additionally, as I have indicated for several weeks, we will begin this year's 1:1 roll out on Monday with the Class of 2024 cohort. Our technology use agreement and handbook is included in this publication. If there are additional documents or policies, that you believe would be helpful to review, please do not hesitate to contact me. For the 2024/2025 school year, we will be returning to a printed version of the annual Scholar/Family Handbook for all community members.

I am assessing the best way to ensure that we have covered and publicized the expectations we have for students and families at this juncture. I think it is imperative that we review and hold fast to the Code of Conduct for all scholars, and clarify our expectations of staff as well, in order to create a positive, productive and equitable environment for all to thrive.

Finally, I wanted to share an exciting staffing update with you. After numerous interviews, we had the privilege of adding 4 classroom teachers, 3 dedicated support staff members and one additional Youth Development Educator to our team this week. We are in the process of finalizing an important orientation and on-boarding step with the intent of getting them into their professional positions as thoughtfully and quickly as possible. Additionally, after an extensive search, and review process, we have four finalists for our Senior Director of Academics who will fill the much needed role of leading the building throughout the academic day. This position is one step above a traditional Principal with a broader skillset. I believe it is imperative to bring in an experienced leader to swiftly participate in moving our school community forward. All finalists have an extensive background in curriculum and instruction, building-level leadership, and multiple branches of secondary education. I am in the process of determining what role we will have parents/families play in the process and final selection, as I believe yours is a critical voice. I am in the process of determining what role we will have parents/families play in the process and final selection as I believe that is a critical voice.

I cannot thank you enough for your patience and flexibility in this dynamic chapter. As I continue to express, I am deeply committed to remarkable outcomes for our scholars universally, and creating the exceptional college preparatory experience they so deserve. Please find the Google sheet for the October dates of "Family Dinner with the Head of School" beginning the 22nd. It is my belief that this small group setting will give us the opportunity to connect, communicate, and specifically discuss how we can make SEED DC the best comprehensive, boarding experience for your high school scholar.

Grateful,
Ms. Hood

Chromebook Distribution: First 25 Minutes of All Lunch Periods
- Monday, 10/16 - Seniors
- Tuesday, 10/17 - Juniors
- Wednesday, 10/18 - Sophomores
- Thursday, 10/19 - Freshman

Links to Other Important Information
- SLIDES - Student Technology 1:1 Program
- FORM - Student Technology Help Request
- Student Technology Plan
- Phone Policy Implementation Guide
- Uniform Policy and Dress Code Implementation Guide

FULL UNIFORM COMPLIANCE EXPECTED

Please continue to check your scholar's luggage to ensure they have enough uniforms for the entire week. Also, remind her/him that bonnets, ski masks, or any other headgear is not allowed.

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	- All school scholars must wear a burgundy polo shirt that bears the SEED DC logo. - Shirts must be tucked in at ALL times. - Seniors may wear the striped senior oxford
Pants/Skirts/Shorts	- Tan khaki uniform pants, skirts, shorts or jumpers (knee length only) must be worn throughout the school year. - All tan khaki pants and shorts must have belt loops. - 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).
Belts	- Belts must be worn with pants, shorts or skirts with belt loops. - Belt buckles must be plain and appropriate.
Head Gear	- 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. - Scholars are permitted to wear any solid color headband
Outerwear	- 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. - Scholars must wear polo's underneath ALL outerwear. - Scholars are not allowed to wear hooded sweatshirts
Shoes	- Scholars can wear shoes of their choice with the exceptions listed below. - Scholars may not wear high heel shoes or wedges (exceeding 1") flip-flops, sandals, slippers, or any other open-toed or heel out shoes.
Physical Education	All scholars must change into athletic skid-free sneakers, a t-shirt, and athletic shorts (must be knee-length) and/or sweatpants.

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.

Lifetouch

PICTURE DAY IS COMING!

¡YA LLEGA EL DÍA DE LA FOTO!

Monday, October 16, 2023

SEED Public Charter School of Washington, DC

Scan to order!
¡Echa un vistazo para encargar!

How it Works:

Pre-order today on mylifetouch.com using your Student ID or Picture Day ID:

EVT67NK83

Students are photographed on Picture Day

Orders will be sent home with your student after Picture Day

Cómo funciona: Encarga de manera anticipada en mylifetouch.com usando tu ID de estudiante o la ID del Día de la Foto. Los estudiantes son fotografiados el Día de la Foto. Los pedidos serán enviados a tu casa con tu estudiante después del Día de la Foto.

Questions? Contact our Help Center at lifetouch.com/support-us. Select K-12 School Photography for assistance.

¿Preguntas? Comunícate con nuestro Centro de Ayuda en lifetouch.com/support-us. Selecciona Fotografía Escolar K-12 para recibir asistencia.

Click the flyer below to access the RSVP Link

SEED FALCONS

FAMILY COLLEGE COUNSELING NIGHT!

THURSDAY OCTOBER 19

6-8 P.M.

SEED MEDIA CENTER

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

RSVP is REQUIRED

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

www.apa1906.org

ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADES 10-12

Click on the flyer for more information.

Office of the State
Superintendent of Education

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA DUAL ENROLLMENT CONSORTIUM PROGRAM

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 10th, 11th or 12th 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.

SCAN HERE
TO LEARN MORE AND APPLY!

osse.dc.gov @OSSEDC @osse.dc (202) 727-6436

GOVERNMENT OF THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DC 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	
PART 1	**PART 2**
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.	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 1 opens: **September 20**	Part 2 closes: **November 10**
Part 1 closes: **October 20**	

Interview
PART 3
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: **December 4-8**

OSSE Scholars Selection Committee Convenes: December 13-14

Finalist Decisions Released: December 15

Finalist Meeting		OSSE Scholars Orientation
PART 4		**PART 5**
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.	*Final Decisions Released:* **December 21**	Orientation for the 2024 OSSE Scholars cohort is held virtually over Microsoft Teams. Attendance is mandatory. Orientation: **January 4**
Finalist Meeting: **December 20**		

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!

SEED FALCON'S

DEBATE
CLUB
2023

governance
economic growth
competitiveness
international standards
foreign investment

national sovereignty
access to medicine
intellectual property rights
biosafety and environment
inclusive development

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

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.

STAYING HEALTHY & SAFE

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.

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.

NEWS

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

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..

1

WHERE DO I START?
Visit https://seedschool.powerschool.com/public/
- 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