

# THE WEEKLY FALCON

for the week of 10/22/2023



## NEWS FROM THE NEST

### College For All...

To Our SEED Families:

As College Go! Week concludes, I hope you and your scholars had the opportunity to experience firsthand one of our three pillars at SEED- College Knowledge & Advising. On Wednesday, all scholars attended our in-house Fall College Fair and had a chance to interact with representatives from a number of schools. Additionally, a number of you attended our College Information Night hosted by Ms. Anshay Tull. These activities directly align to our mission as a college-preparatory boarding school. It is imperative that our school community clearly understands SEED DC was founded in 1998 to give our scholars access to meaningful experiences and high quality education in order to ensure each individual is positioned for success in college and beyond. We are deeply committed to this vision and are grateful your family values these unique and purposeful opportunities.

I am ecstatic to announce that we have hired several new staff members and these additions will fill our current openings in the academic day. Our student life team continues to play an active role in our scholars' success in the classroom through establishing daily time for homework, tutoring, literacy growth, and other support/enhancement tasks. I am working daily to ensure we are cohesive in our approach to the student experience; that all adults are working collectively to lay the groundwork for each of our scholars. Communication is critical and I encourage you to reach out to our SEED staff with questions, concerns and/or if we might assist you in any way.

As I continue to emphasize, you are an important part of our scholars' journey and I am committed to creating and discovering space for you on campus and within our programming. We will host conferences on Friday, November 3, 2023 and hope you will be in attendance. Our SEED Parent/ Teacher Conferences will provide you with time with both classroom teachers and our Youth Development Educators in order to address the whole scholar experience. Additionally, the Media Center will house representatives from a number of supplemental services and opportunities we provide for our students. We will host a morning session from 8:00 a.m.- 10:30 a.m. and an afternoon session from 1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. We will send out a sign-up with various windows soon for planning purposes. We hope to see you on the 3rd!

Please take some time this weekend to talk to your scholar about managing conflict and making choices that are healthy, positive, and

beneficial, not just in the moment, but long term. We live in an extremely unique setting at SEED that provides both amazing chapters and challenging moments. I see great value in learning to find purpose in each experience. We need to assist them in understanding we can choose to coexist, work towards a larger goal, and share common space with those with differing beliefs, loyalties, and connections. As they move through college and beyond, our scholars will continue to meet a wide variety of individuals. I believe in their ability to make positive contributions to our community and our larger society. We must insist on a campus free of physical aggression and senseless altercations. This is not only a goal, but the non-negotiable expectation.

Finally, I am looking forward to my time with the families who will join me this Sunday evening at 5:30 p.m. for the first Family Dinner with the Head of School! This small group setting has been created so I am able to converse with you in a more informal fashion. I am planning to host these dinners twice a month throughout the year. Please watch for the 10/29/23 sign up if you would like to be part of the next dinner.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve our scholars and your families. I am honored and grateful.

Believing Always,  
Ms. Hood

### Upcoming Events

- **10/23:** Volleyball Home Game v. Parkside, 5 p.m.
- **10/24:** Volleyball Away Game v. KIPP Legacy, 5 p.m.
- **10/26:** Deans Incentive Trip to Medieval Times, 4 p.m.
- **11/2:** Thursday check-out, 3:05-5 p.m.
- **11/3:** No School for Scholars
  - Parent/Teacher Conferences (sign-up required)
    - 8-10:30 a.m.
    - 1:30-4 p.m.
- **11/9:** Thursday check-out, 3:05-5 p.m.
- **11/10:** Veteran's Day - Campus Closed, No School for Scholars & Staff
- **11/21:** Tuesday check-out
- **11/22-24** - Thanksgiving Break - Campus Closed, No School for Students & Staff

# 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	<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



www.apa.org

## ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADES 10-12

 District of Columbia  
Office of the State Superintendent of Education

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

### 2024 OSSE SCHOLARS

Summer Enrichment Program

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. Part 1 opens: <b>September 20</b> Part 1 closes: <b>October 20</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>Final Decisions Released:</b>  <b>December 21</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>

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!



ARE YOU IN HIGH SCHOOL? EAGER TO CHANGE THE WORLD, AT HOME OR ABROAD?

JOIN LEARNSERVE FELLOWS!

LearnServe International brings together high school students from D.C., Maryland and Virginia to come up with ideas and launch businesses that make real impact on issues like climate change, racial equality and social justice. And we're also connecting with local students in Zambia, Paraguay and South Africa to tackle worldwide challenges!

We're seeking dedicated youth from public, independent and charter schools in DC, Maryland, and Virginia that have a passion to create social change with a community of peers. Join an important and committed community of alumni and mentors with LearnServe!

LearnServe gave me a newfound perspective on how I approach social problems, and gave me the tools to find solutions.

HANNAH, LearnServe Fellow 2020

Students interested in being a LearnServe Fellow should see Dr. Bagley or Ms. Grant ASAP. Applications are still being accepted.

Click the flier to the right to apply online.

FELLOWS PROGRAM

Tackle a social issue that makes you mad and create an innovative solution in your community while connecting with like-minded peers across the region! Gain an in-depth understanding of how to design and launch a social venture, combining business and changemaking skills to make an impact. All LearnServe Fellows can receive up to 50 community service hours upon completion of the program.

WHEN

September - March

- In-Person/hybrid weekly sessions
Wednesdays, 2:30-4:30 or Thursdays, 4:30-6:30pET
Location TBD (in downtown DC)

PROGRAM COST

\$50 - \$1,250 sliding scale enrollment fee. Enrollment fee dependent on household financial circumstances. Financial circumstances do not factor into application consideration or program acceptance.

REQUIREMENTS

No prior experience necessary. LearnServe Fellows are curious about the world, open to and excited about meeting people with different perspectives, and determined to make a difference on the issues that matter most.

HOW TO APPLY

Apply online at learnserve.org/fellows by Friday, September 1



OUR IMPACT

- 84% of alumni say LearnServe empowered them to take action beyond our programs.
82% of students volunteer after LearnServe, over half of them serving in leadership roles.
95% mention LearnServe on their college applications.

"It's hard for teenagers like us to get our thoughts out, because we're not taken seriously. It is great to have that chance through LearnServe."

DEMIA, LearnServe Fellow 2020

VISIT US

To learn more about our programs and application deadlines and to read stories from our student alumni, visit www.learn-serve.org or contact our Office Manager, Latoya Felder at latoya@learn-serve.org.

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

# 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

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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.

# 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:

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Reach out for help; your mental health is important.
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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)