

# THE WEEKLY FALCON

for the week of 10/8/2023



## NEWS FROM THE NEST...

To Our SEED DC Families:

We hope the extended weekend gives you time to enjoy the fall weather, and provides a slight reprieve from the busy schedule of a traditional week. Our scholars are continuing to find their way forward individually and collectively as we move towards the conclusion of Quarter 1. It is my expectation that you see our staff as engaged, approachable, and committed to the daily experiences and success of your scholar. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you are in need of assistance with this important line of communication.

Although the upcoming week is short, we have a great deal to accomplish as a school community. Unlike years past, the SEED Network MAP testing has been expanded to include all four grade levels. This important assessment allows us to better understand the academic levels of our scholars in both Mathematics and English. Testing occurs three times each school year, creating a storyline about the progression and growth of our scholars individually and as a cohort. It is imperative that we have this data on each scholar. If your son/daughter has not completed both assessments, they will be testing on Tuesday, October 10 and/or Wednesday, October 11. Please emphasize the importance of giving one's best effort on this academic evaluation. Currently we have about 22% of our students who have not sat for both assessments.

Equally significant, on Wednesday our seniors will take the SAT test as part of the District's commitment to providing all students with this opportunity, free of charge during their final year of high school. This multi part assessment will take the entire morning and is also an important reflection of our students aptitude. As part of the SEED Network, we are committed to ensuring our students have multiple opportunities to demonstrate their knowledge on nationally recognized tests, like the SAT and ACT. Please remind your scholar of the importance of taking all testing seriously as it is a critical element of college readiness and success during one's collegiate journey. I have been fortunate to be a part of college readiness and the educational experiences of literally thousands of high school students over nearly 3 decades. I am committed to implementing universal protocols and practices that directly impact our scholars testing readiness and performance moving forward. I have told a handful of the seniors that we will figure out how they can sit for an additional SAT test date to ensure we have strategically provided opportunities for preparation and practice.

This upcoming week of testing brings up a very poignant part of the

SEED experience for all of our scholars. Grounded in the belief that each of our students will be ready for success throughout their college years, SEED DC is committed to providing purposeful programming that enhances one's understanding of the reasoning behind academic assessments. It is easy to rationalize poor academic outcomes by explaining that students do not take testing seriously or simply do not care. I have never subscribed to that excuse, nor will I as your Head of School. Instead, I believe that students view and understand the importance of testing based on the adult perspectives they witness, and the thoughtful preparation provided them. We must teach young people that when they commit to a task, the expectation is they give their very best effort. This important mindset will prove beneficial far beyond their years at SEED and their years as undergraduate scholars. We understand the significance of commitment, in friendships, to family and to one's word. The same holds true when our scholars sit for an assessment – this is an opportunity to demonstrate who they are, what they know, and the vast potential and promise they represent. This will be a learned behavior we focus on as the SEED DC community.

Finally, I look forward to meeting those of you who have already signed up for our two grade level dinners this week. As always, I am also open to your calls and texts, as well as face-to-face meetings when they work with your busy schedules. The sign up for my first family dinner on October 22nd will open next weekend. I am limiting that to 12 families in an attempt to offer a small, intimate environment, and personalized conversation. I will continue to host those dinners several times a month indefinitely.

Please remind your scholar of the following rules as we continue to enforce the dress code, and will begin with the phone policy distribution this week. We will not tolerate bonnets, ski masks, or any other headgear, as that is not who we are at SEED DC. For those of you still in need of a uniform, please contact the FACE office as I know we have recently made another significant purchase of those khaki pants and polos. I urge you to look through your scholars bag prior to their departure on Sunday evenings, and two assist them in avoiding bringing any items on campus that are prohibited. We are in the process of determining how best to increase both our security measures and intensify the bag checks in the near future. We will not allow items on campus that create an unsafe environment or compromise the learning opportunities of our scholars. Please assist us in this effort by only allowing your son/daughter to bring the items listed in their original enrollment documents. I will determine the best way to send a reminder of this list in my next communication, as well as have this information for those of you who come to campus for one of this week's events.

Thank you again for working with us and giving us the opportunity to educate your scholars. It is a privilege to lead the Falcon Family. I look forward to continuing on this journey towards the success of our scholars today, tomorrow and far into the future.

Grateful,  
Ms. Hood

# 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.*

*Congratulations!*

# New Conditional College Acceptance

**Kayla A.**

Frostburg State University (MD)

**Ja'Kiya A.**

Frostburg State University (MD)

**Davien D.**

Fayetteville State University (NC)

Jackson State University (MS)

**Malachi D.**

Ohio University-Main Campus (OH)

**Dyonte G-A.**

Frostburg State University (MD)

Wingate University (NC)

**Kamarah G-S.**

Frostburg State University (MD)

**Ayriana H.**

Arizona State University-at Tempe (AZ)

Frostburg State University (MD)

**Jade J.**

Frostburg State University (MD)

**Tavon K.**

Frostburg State University (MD)



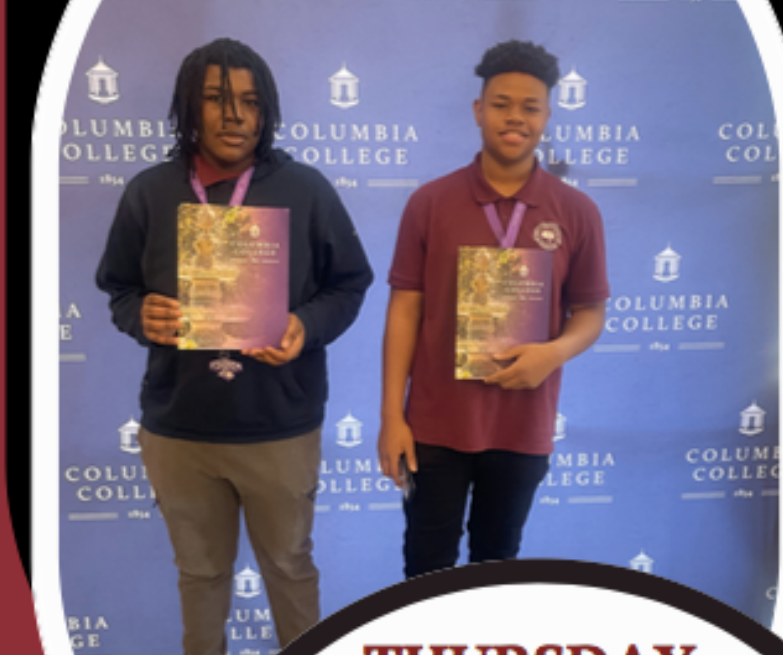
# FAMILY COLLEGE COUNSELING NIGHT!



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**

# 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.apa1908.org

**SEED DC**  
**Class of 2024**

**Mandatory In School**  
**SAT<sup>®</sup>**  
**Day**  
**October 11, 2023**

College Just Ahead

## ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADES 10-12

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 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	
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	
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: <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
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. Finalist Meeting: <b>December 20</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: <b>December 21</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!

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

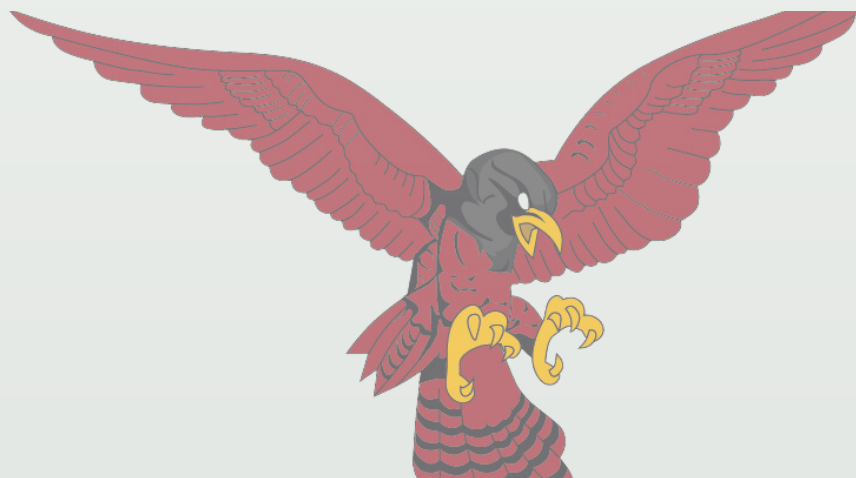
## 2023-2024 School Year

<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.







# 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:

-  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)**