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CHALK TALK

Published as a public service to Dearborn Heights School District No. 7 families.

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Welcome Back! School Begins September 6th



Welcome to the 2016-2017 school year at Dearborn Heights School District No. 7. I am excited to have our students and staff returning for what promises to be a great year! I also want to extend a welcome to all of our new families. We are happy that you have selected District 7. We have a very safe and caring school system with outstanding teachers and support staff. Many exciting things have been taking place to enhance the teaching and learning environment.

The following new staff members will be joining District 7 when school begins: Asanti Green, high school math; Victoria Sweet, CTE CAD program; Doug White, middle school social studies; James Reed, middle school physical education/health; and Melanie Ward, middle school principal. Additional new hires and changes are still in progress and will be completed as school begins.

I am thankful to the community for providing us with a 4.6 million dollar technology bond. This summer, our technology infrastructure was upgraded to a 10 G network and that means plenty of connectivity and speed for the 2,600 student Chromebooks and teacher computers! Yes, 6th-12th grade students will have 1-1 access to a Dell

Touch Chromebook. Elementary students will share a Chromebook between two students. For the protection of our students, a software program called "Go Guardian" has been installed on all student computers to monitor the usage and sites visited.

The ability to READ is the key to success. Beginning in September, all District 7 students will be taking part in a district-wide reading initiative called ACHIEVE3000. Teachers will be able to assign language arts, social studies and science lessons at the specific reading level of each student. This reading program provides the same material at 12 different reading levels. A student will read, comprehend and write at his/her reading level. Parents will be able to login, monitor and assist their student each night. Look for more information coming to you. Our goal is to improve each student's reading level by at least two years during the school year. Our motto for 2016-2017 is "D7 READS!"

I want each student to be successful at District 7. I believe that to be your wish, also. We are asking our teachers to work with each child to improve their academic abilities at least one year of growth, if not more. In fact, my expectations are that each student grows academically at least one year-- and possibly two. I believe that each student can meet that expectation with hard work and determination.

My door, as well as that of our principals, is always open to you. Please feel free to stop in or call at any time. Remember "D7 READS!" in 2016-2017.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Fazer".

John Fazer
Superintendent of Schools

Dismissal times have changed slightly, see insert page.



Dearborn Hts. Virtual Academy (DHVA)

The Dearborn Heights Virtual Academy is a completely online high school that opened in September, 2010. DHVA is a high school with courses delivered to students completely online! This program is designed for students who struggle with traditional education settings because of attendance problems, chronic illness, bullying, certain discipline issues, etc. These students often find success in our program. Students are able to work from home and at their own pace. Courses are aligned with the Michigan Standards, will have the same rigor and challenge as traditionally delivered high school courses and will lead to a high school diploma.

How many new students DHVA accepts is based on the number of openings we have. We accept new students during July and August for classes that begin in September. We open enrollment again in December for the winter term, if openings are available. Our fall semester begins the Tuesday after Labor Day and runs through the second week of January. Our winter semester begins the second week of January and runs through the third week of June. Please contact Dr. Lynn Wietcha, Director, at 313-203-1431 for more information.

Vocational Education

Dearborn Heights District 7 has a strong Vocational Education Program designed to meet the needs of all students and provide opportunities to learn marketable skills. Three other school districts (Crestwood School District, Westwood School District and Wyandotte School District) work with District 7 to offer a wide variety of vocational education programs. Many have articulation agreements with local business/colleges and offer college credit.

Annapolis High School offers the following:

- Design/CAD
- Management Support
- Health Occupation
- Graphic Arts Technology
- Cisco Networking

Elementary Shuttle Transportation

Shuttle transportation for the 2016-17 school year will be provided for all elementary students who have completed applications for transportation. Students will walk to their designated neighborhood school and then be transported to their instructional school. Transportation will begin on Wednesday September 7th. All students who have completed transportation applications should have received a letter indicating that the district will be providing transportation to them. Students who are not registered to ride the shuttle bus will not be transported due to safety reasons for the students and parents.



School	Pick-up Regular Day	Pick-up Late Start	Drop-off Full Day	Drop-off Half Day
Bedford (gr. 2-5)	7:35 a.m.	8:35 a.m.	3:27 p.m.	11:47 a.m.
Polk (gr. 4-5)	7:45 a.m.	8:45 a.m.	3:12 p.m.	11:32 a.m.
Polk (gr. K-1)	8:15 a.m.	9:15 a.m.	3:42 p.m.	12:02 a.m.
Pardee (gr. K-3)	8:00 a.m.	9:00 a.m.	3:52 p.m.	12:12 p.m.
Madison (all grs.)	7:55 a.m.	8:55 a.m.	3:57 p.m.	12:17 p.m.

Public Notices

ADA Accessibility Notice/

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

Dearborn Heights No. 7 Schools, consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, is committed to ensuring that communications with individuals with disabilities are as effective as communications with others non-disabled individuals and will furnish appropriate aids and services where necessary to meet this commitment. ADA and Section 504 inquiries should be directed to Susan Mitchell at mitchesu@dhsd7.net or (313) 203-1000.

Nondiscrimination Policy

Dearborn Heights No. 7 Schools prohibits unlawful discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, height, weight, marital status, handicap or disability in any of its education programs, activities or employment. Inquiries and grievances regarding discrimination should be directed to Dan Scott at scottdan@dhsd7.net or (313) 203-1000.

Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

FERPA is a federal law that affords parents certain rights with respect to their children's educational records. They include the right to: inspect and review records; request an amendment to records; consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information in student's records (except in instances where disclosure without consent is allowed); and file complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the school district to comply with the requirement of FERPA. Direct inquiries to Dan Scott at scottdan@dhsd7.net or (313) 203-1000.

AHERA Update

Dearborn Heights No. 7 Schools, as required by the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA), conducts ongoing surveillance and re-inspection programs for asbestos. Dearborn Heights No. 7 Schools has an ongoing operations and maintenance program to address the asbestos in the buildings owned and operated by the district. Direct inquiries to John Nicholl at nicholjo@dhsd7.net or (313) 203-3231.

Pesticide Application

Dearborn Heights No. 7 Schools may apply pesticide to school grounds and facilities for the purpose of insect and weed control. Application will be made by trained/certified employees or contractors. As a parent or guardian, you have the right to be notified prior to such applications. Direct inquiries to John Nicholl at nicholjo@dhsd7.net or (313) 203-3231.



Learning Knows No Bounds

Student Support Services in D7

Dearborn Heights District 7 is a quality school district with caring, dedicated staff members and a safe, structured, supportive learning environment. We are large enough to be able to offer a wide range of programs and opportunities, but small enough to provide individualized attention and support. We know our students, their needs and their goals and we work to meet them in a caring, professional way.

We offer both a college-bound curriculum and a strong vocational education program to meet the needs of ALL our students. Our goal that every student achieves-- reminds us that we must work together to promote students with a strong academic foundation and the skills needed in today's rapidly changing global economy.

Every school is served by a team of professional educators who work with the special needs of children, including: reading specialists (elementary), content specialists (secondary), special education teachers, administrators, speech and language therapists, social workers, counselors and psychologists. These professionals, both individually and as a team, work cooperatively with teachers and parents to identify the special needs of students and to develop any needed accommodation plans to support student achievement.

For more information about our services please contact Susan Mitchell, Director, or Leslie Davis, Administrative Assistant, at 313-203-3176.





Food Services

Research shows that students who receive proper nutrition do better in school. It is our goal to ensure that all students have access to a healthy breakfast and lunch while at school. District 7 has partnered with Sodexo to help facilitate this process. Sodexo School Services leads the nation in providing food and facilities management solutions that support the educational process. Effective the 2016-17 school year, school lunch prices have increased as follows:

- \$2.30 Elementary Lunch
- \$2.80 Secondary Lunch

Online Payments to Food Service Accounts: Payment to Cafeteria Accounts must be made through MISTAR ParentPortal (formerly Zangle Parent Connect), so that balance information is accurate. If you wish to make a payment to your child's food service account, go to: <https://zangleweb.resa.net/dearbornheights/parentconnect> You will need your PIN and Password. If you do not have this information, contact your child's building.

District 7 also participates in the National School Lunch Program. Under this program, children from households whose income is at or below a designated level are eligible for free or reduced price meals. If you would like more information of the program or an application, please contact our Foods Services Department at 313-203-3196 or Cindy Cook via email at cookcind@dhsd7.net.



Early Childhood Services Comprehensive Child Care

District 7 offers a comprehensive Child Care Program to meet the needs of working parents and their children. Our program targets social and cognitive skills and is based on a blend of strong curriculum-based activities and fun. Through structured centers, group activities, singing, playing and a great deal of fun, we work to prepare our young students for their next steps. Our school-age program provides activities for children, with adult supervision, in a relaxing, positive environment.

Child care registration will continue until all programs have been filled. You may register at the Child Care Office located at Madison School, 4950 Madison, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Please register as soon as possible to ensure a successful program in the building of your choice. The program accepts Family Independent Agency (FIA) funding for children that are eligible. Please contact Debbie Haskell at the Child Care Office by email at haskelde@dhsd7.net or by telephone at (313) 203-1421 if you have any questions regarding programs.

District 7 offers the following child care programs:

- Madison School**
Preschool.....7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Bedford Elementary School**
Before School.....7:00 a.m. to 8:35 a.m.
After School.....3:32 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- Polk Elementary School**
Before School.....7:00 a.m. to 8:20 a.m.
After School.....3:17 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- Pardee Elementary School**
Before School.....7:00 a.m. to 8:05 a.m.
After School.....3:02 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Great Start Readiness Program

GSRP is a comprehensive Pre-School Program that targets social and cognitive skills. The classes meet full days and run Tuesday through Friday. Classes are taught by a certified teacher and class size is capped at 16. It is funded through a grant from the Michigan Department of Education and is free to eligible District 7 families. For more information and to check eligibility, call 313-203-1421.



Parent Resources

Online Student Information

MISTAR ParentPortal (formerly Zangle Parent Connect), is an informational resource made available to every family at no cost. This resource provides real-time information about your child's grades and attendance, class schedule, immunization records, and includes the balance on his/her nutrition services account. MISTAR ParentPortal provides safe, secure and easy access to your child's school record. Visit <https://zangleweb.resa.net/dearbornheights/parentconnect>

PaySchools: Make Payments Online!

Dearborn Heights District 7 is pleased to bring you the online convenience of our new payment processing system, PaySchools, using Visa, Mastercard, Discover or e-checks. This program allows you to make school-related payments online via e-check or credit card at your convenience, all from our website. Visit www.district7.net/services/payschooldirections.html for more information. Look for online payment under "Parent & Student Resources" on our website: www.district7.net

School Times

High School:	Full Day: 7:50 a.m. to 2:55 p.m. Half Day: 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
Middle School:	Full Day: 8:00 a.m. to 2:50 p.m. Half Day: 8:00 a.m. to 11:07 a.m.
<i>(on 9-6-16 only, O.W. Best: 8:00 am for grade 6, 9:00 am for grades 7 & 8)</i>	
Pardee School:	Full Day 8:05 a.m. to 3:02 p.m. Half Day: 8:05 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.
Polk School:	8:20 a.m. to 3:17 p.m. Half Day: 8:20 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Bedford School:	8:35 a.m. to 3:32 p.m. Half Day: 8:35 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

Late Start Mondays - All Buildings

1 Hour Later on the Following Dates:
Sept. 12, 26; Oct 10, 24; Nov 7, 21; Dec 3, 19; Jan 23;
Feb. 6, 27; Mar 13, 27; Apr 10, 24; May 8, 22; June 3.

Check all district events at:
www.district7.net/district/calendar.html

District Contacts and Phone Numbers

Administrative Offices

20629 Annapolis Street, Dearborn Heights, MI 48125
313-203-1000 phone 313-278-1413 fax

Superintendent of Schools

John Fazer..... 313-203-3180

Assistant Superintendent

Daniel Scott 313-203-3174

Special Education

Susan Mitchell 313-203-3176

Maintenance & Facilities

John Nicholl..... 313-203-3231

Athletic Director

Scott Wiemer 313-203-3306

Buildings

Annapolis High School (Grades 9-12):

4650 Clippert St., Dearborn Heights, MI 48125
313-203-3300 phone | 313-278-1238 fax
Cheryl Howard, Principal

O.W. Best Middle School (Grades 6-8):

22201 Powers St., Dearborn Heights, MI 48125
313-203-3200 phone | 313-278-2470 fax
Melanie Ward, Principal

Pardee Elementary School (Grades 4-5):

4650 Pardee St., Dearborn Heights, MI 48125
313-203-5600 phone | 313-292-3606 fax
Bill Murphy, Principal

Polk Elementary School (Grades 2-3):

4651 Polk St., Dearborn Heights, MI 48125
313-203-0500 phone | 313-563-7189 fax
Mark Brenton, Principal

Bedford Elementary School (Grades K-1):

4650 Croissant St., Dearborn Heights, MI 48125
313-203-4100 phone | 313-278-1980 fax
Brad Allen, Principal

Board of Education

Cary Thompson, President
Robert Brown, Vice President
Vickie Bracken, Secretary
Marcia LeBar, Treasurer
Lori Fujita, Trustee
Phillip Kubitz, Trustee
David Mack, Trustee

Board meetings are held at 20629 Annapolis St., Dearborn Hts. unless otherwise noted. Dates/times of meetings can be found at: www.district7.net/district_information/board_of_education

Dearborn Heights School District No. 7

2016-17 District Calendar

Please Note: This is a general district calendar. Please check your child's school calendar for specific details/updates-- or the district calendar at: www.district7.net/calendar

Dates to Remember

Tuesday, September 6, 2016	FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL – STUDENTS ATTEND AM ONLY K-12
Wednesday, September 7, 2016	FULL DAY OF SCHOOL K-12 - CHILD CARE/LATCHKEY BEGINS TODAY
Monday, September 12, 2016	LATE START MONDAY K-12
Tuesday, September 13, 2016	Building Fall Open House – OW Best Middle School <i>and</i> Pardee School
Wednesday, September 14, 2016	Building Fall Open House – Polk School <i>and</i> Bedford School
Monday, September 26, 2016	LATE START MONDAY K-12
Friday, September 30, 2016	AHS Homecoming Parade/Football Game
Saturday, October 1, 2016	AHS Homecoming Dance
Wednesday, October 5, 2016	Student Count Day ~ <i>Your child's attendance counts!</i>
Monday, October 10, 2016	LATE START MONDAY K-12
Thursday, October 20, 2016	AHS ½ Day – Parent/Teacher Conferences
Monday, October 24, 2016	LATE START MONDAY K-12
Wednesday, October 26, 2016	AHS Fall Music Concert
Monday, October 31, 2016	STUDENTS ATTEND AM ONLY K-12 – Staff Prof. Dev.
Monday, November 7, 2016	LATE START MONDAY K-12
Tuesday, November 8, 2016	NO SCHOOL K-12 – Staff Prof. Dev. <i>and</i> Election Day ~ <i>your vote counts!</i>
Thursday, November 10, 2016	OW Best ½ Day – Parent/Teacher Conferences
November 11 & 12, 2016	AHS Fall Play
Wednesday, November 16, 2016	Bedford/Polk/Pardee ½ Day – Parent/Teacher Conferences
Thursday, November 17, 2016	Bedford/Polk/Pardee ½ Day – Parent/Teacher Conferences
Monday, November 21, 2016	LATE START MONDAY K-12
Wednesday, November 23, 2016	STUDENTS ATTEND AM ONLY K-12
November 24 & 25, 2016	NO SCHOOL K-12 – Thanksgiving Break
Thursday, December 1, 2016	AHS ½ Day – Exams
Friday, December 2, 2016	AHS ½ Day – Exams/End of 1 st Trimester
Monday, December 5, 2016	LATE START MONDAY K-12
Monday, December 19, 2016	LATE START MONDAY K-12
Wednesday, December 21, 2016	AHS Winter Music Concert
December 24, 2016-January 8, 2017	NO SCHOOL K-12 – Winter Break
Monday, January 16, 2017	NO SCHOOL K-12 – MLK Jr. Observance
Monday, January 23, 2017	LATE START MONDAY K-12
Friday, January 27, 2017	Bedford/Polk/Pardee/OW Best ½ Day – End of Semester
Thursday, February 2, 2017	AHS and OW Best ½ Day – Parent/Teacher Conferences
Sunday, February 5, 2017	AHS Senior Class Pancake Breakfast
Monday, February 6, 2017	LATE START MONDAY K-12
Wednesday, February 8, 2017	Student Count Day ~ <i>Your child's attendance counts!</i>
Wednesday, February 15, 2017	Bedford/Polk/Pardee ½ Day – Parent/Teacher Conferences
Thursday, February 16, 2017	Bedford/Polk/Pardee ½ Day – Parent/Teacher Conferences
Friday, February 17, 2017	AHS ½ Day
February 20 & 21, 2017	NO SCHOOL K-12 – Mid Winter Break
Monday, February 27, 2017	LATE START MONDAY K-12
Wednesday, March 1, 2017	STUDENTS ATTEND AM ONLY K-12 – Staff Prof. Dev.
Wednesday, March 1, 2017	AHS Music Concert
Monday, March 13, 2017	LATE START MONDAY K-12
Thursday, March 16, 2017	AHS ½ Day – Exams
Friday, March 17, 2017	AHS ½ Day – AHS Exams/End of 2 nd Trimester
Monday, March 27, 2017	LATE START MONDAY K-12
Friday, March 31, 2017	STUDENTS ATTEND AM ONLY K-12
April 1-9, 2017	NO SCHOOL K-12 – Spring Break
Monday, April 10, 2017	LATE START MONDAY K-12
Friday, April 14, 2017	NO SCHOOL K-12 – Good Friday
Monday, April 24, 2017	LATE START MONDAY K-12
April 28 & 29, 2017	AHS Spring Play
Tuesday, May 2, 2017	AHS Red Cross Blood Drive
Monday, May 8, 2017	LATE START MONDAY K-12
Thursday, May 11, 2017	AHS ½ Day – Parent/Teacher Conferences
Thursday, May 18, 2017	AHS Honors Breakfast
Monday, May 22, 2017	LATE START MONDAY K-12
Wednesday, May 24, 2017	AHS Spring Music Concert
Thursday, May 25, 2017	AHS Honors Banquet
Monday, May 29, 2017	NO SCHOOL K-12 – Memorial Day
Monday, June 5, 2017	LATE START MONDAY K-12
Wednesday, June 7, 2017	AHS Graduation <i>and</i> Senior All-Night Party
Wednesday, June 14, 2017	AHS ½ Day – Exams
Thursday, June 15, 2017	AHS ½ Day – Exams <i>and</i> LAST DAY OF SCHOOL - AM ONLY K-12

