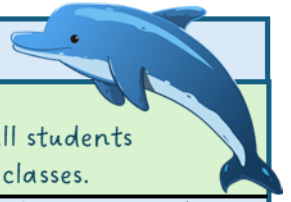


Issue #1

Dolphin News

August 2024



BE A PART OF THE TEAM!

The HCPS Instructional Priority

All schools will implement systems and structures of accountability that ensure all students master learning, at the depth and breadth of the standards or better, in all classes.

Culture FOR Learning

Culture OF Learning

Data Informed Decision Making

Vision

Dowdell Middle Magnet will foster an environment that encourages students to maximize their potential while being accountable and trustworthy to themselves, the school, the environment, and each other.



Mission

Dowdell Middle Magnet will provide a secure and diverse learning community through equitable instruction where all students achieve academically.



TRUST



EQUITY



ACCOUNTABILITY



MAXIMIZE



JOIN PTSA



more info on p.7



MAGNET CONNECTION

Mrs. Tamargo, Magnet Lead & Ms. Guiterrez, Agriculture Teacher



21 DAYS LATER



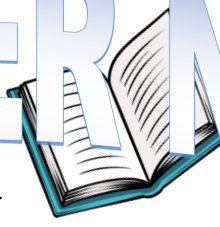
The **environmental and agriculture Magnet students** have been working with a **Farm Ed program**. They are using a controlled environment grow chamber in the classroom to improve their learning experience and create the next generation of agriculture leaders, and environmentalists. Our school acquired these with a grant from the DOE, Florida Department of Education.



MEDIA CENTER NEWS



Mrs. Hawley, Media Specialist



Students have completed the Media Center Orientation to learn the procedures and rules within the Dowdell Media Center. Students are limited to 3 books per check out at a time with only one book from a series at once.

All lost or damaged library books are \$5.



SCHOLASTIC Book Fair

Book Fair will be September 16-20th in the Media Center and will be open on conference night. Set up your student's ewallet and preview what will be sold here :

<https://www.scholastic.com/bf/dowdellmiddleschool1>



Summer Reading myON challenge winner!

Congratulations Yaretzi! She won a FREE laptop!

Beginning September 1st, all Dowdell students can start logging their reading in **Beanstack** to earn badges and be entered to win a **Barnes and Noble gift card** in our first reading challenge of the school year. Our goal is for EVERY Dowdell student to develop a reading habit of at least 15 minutes a day. For more information, check out the Beanstack tutorial on the Programs and Sign Ups page of the Media Center Canvas page.

 **beanstack**

Log onto myON Sept. 1st for the challenge!

Yaretzi Sanchez-Gomez



Language Arts

Mrs. Johnson, Literacy Coach

We have been busy in Language Arts. Our students have already started their first readings.

- ♦ Mr. Lewis's **sixth graders** started reading the short story "Eleven."
- ♦ Mrs. Bunting and Mrs. Allen Jones's **sixth graders** started with an excerpt from the historical fiction novel entitled Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry.
- ♦ Mr. Robinson's and Ms. Reynold's **seventh grade** students started with the short story, "Rikki-Tikki-Tavi", and their **eighth graders** began with the essay "Let 'em Play God."

Ask your student what they thought about their first readings!



First Round of FAST Testing

This will let your student's teachers know what standards for the new grade level they are already strong in so that they can **personalize** instruction.

- Reading - Thursday, August 29th
- Math - Wednesday, September 4th

Science

Mr. Wilson, Science SAL

- ♦ **6th grade Science** is kicking off the year learning about the different spheres of the Earth: Geosphere, Hydrosphere, Cryosphere, Atmosphere and Biosphere.
- ♦ **7th grade Science** has started learning about the classification of different living things by using the Linnean Hierarchy: Life, Domain, Kingdom, Phylum, Class, Order, Family, Genus, and Species.
- ♦ **8th grade Science** has begun to learn about Forces and Motion, identifying if the force is either Contact or Non-contact: Electrostatic, Magnetic, Air Resistance, Friction, Gravitational, Applied, and Normal Forces.
- ♦ **IAPS** is investigating how to handle and dispose of hazardous waste by conducting lab activities to learn the procedures to start to identify mixtures of substances. Corrosive, Flammable, Toxic substances, and the safety precautions and what you need to wear (PPE) personal protective equipment such as gloves, glasses, and proper hygiene requirements.

Preparing your child for the Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) can be a smooth process with the right strategies. Here are some tips to help your child feel confident & ready:

- **Understand the Test Format:** Familiarize yourself and your child with the types of questions and the format of the FAST assessments. This can help reduce anxiety and improve performance.
- **Use Practice Materials:** Utilize online practice tests and sample questions. These resources can help your child get comfortable with the test format and types of questions.
- **Daily Reading and Math Practice:** Encourage daily reading and math activities. Reading aloud together for at least 15 minutes a day and engaging in math-related activities like counting and sorting can be very beneficial.
- **Create a Study Schedule:** Establish a regular study routine that includes breaks. Consistent, short study sessions are often more effective than cramming.
- **Encourage a Positive Attitude:** Help your child stay positive and confident. Praise their efforts and progress, and remind them that it's okay to make mistakes and learn from them.
- **Healthy Lifestyle:** Ensure your child gets enough sleep, eats nutritious meals, and stays hydrated. A healthy body supports a healthy mind.
- **Simulate Test Conditions:** Practice under test-like conditions to help your child get used to the environment. This includes timing practice tests and minimizing distractions.

Dress for Success

Monday to Thursday

- white polo
- navy blue polo
- navy blue zip-up hoodie
- khaki pants
- khaki skirt
- khaki shorts



Friday

- Dolphin Pride spirit shirt
- DMMS club spirit shirt
- NEW raglan spirit shirt
- BLUE jeans
- BLUE jean shorts



Vístete para el éxito

Opciones de lunes a jueves

- polo blanco
- polo azul marino
- pantalones caqui
- pantalones cortos caqui
- falda caqui
- sudadera con capucha azul marino con cremallera



Opciones para los viernes

- camiseta con espíritu Dolphin Pride
- camiseta DMMS club spirit
- NUEVA camisa raglán spirit
- Mahones o jeans AZULES
- Pantalones cortos de jean BLUE



MARK THIS ON YOUR CALENDAR **DATES**

DMMS Progress Reports & Conference Nights - 4:30 PM to 7:00 PM

First Conference Night

Grading Period	Grades Due for PRs	PRs Distributed in HR	Conference Night	End of Grading Period	Report Cards Available Online
1st Grading Period	Tues., September 10, 2024	Thurs., September 12, 2024	Thurs., September 19, 2024	Friday, October 11, 2024	October 30, 2024
2nd Grading Period (End of 1 st Sem.)	Tues., November 12, 2024	Thurs., November 14, 2024	Thurs., November 21, 2024	Friday, December 20, 2024	January 23, 2025
3rd Grading Period	Tues., February 4, 2025	Thurs., February 6, 2025	Thurs., February 13, 2025	Friday, March 14, 2025	April 9, 2025
4th Grading Period (End of 2 nd Sem.)	Tues., April 22, 2025	Thurs., April 24, 2025	Thurs., May 1, 2025	Friday, May 30, 2025	June 11, 2025

Primera Noche de Conferencia de 4:30 p.m. a 7:00 p.m.

Información de progreso académico y noches de conferencia de Dowdell:

Período de calificación	Fecha límite para calificaciones de progreso académico	Entrega de Reporte Académico en salón hogar	Noche de conferencia	Fin del período de calificación	Boletines de calificaciones disponibles en línea
1er Período de Calificación	martes, 10 de septiembre de 2024	jueves, 12 de septiembre de 2024	jueves, 19 de septiembre de 2024	viernes, 11 de octubre de 2024	30 de octubre de 2024
2º Período de Calificación (Fin de la 1ª Sem.)	martes, 12 de noviembre de 2024	jueves, 14 de noviembre de 2024	jueves, 21 de noviembre de 2024	viernes, 20 de diciembre de 2024	23 de enero de 2025
3er Período de Calificación	martes, 4 de febrero de 2025	jueves, 6 de febrero de 2025	jueves, 13 de febrero de 2025	viernes, marzo 14, 2025	9 de abril de 2025
4º Período de Calificación (Fin de la 2ª Sem.)	martes, 22 de abril de 2025	jueves, 24 de abril de 2025	jueves, 1 de mayo de 2025	viernes, mayo 30, 2025	11 de junio de 2025





Mrs. Robinson, Student Success Coach

Thank you to the
Truth Center Church for
donating sneakers to give
to students at DMMS!



Calling all Parents/Guardians

Profesión Llamando a todos
los padres/tutores

5 PM

Title 1 Meeting
Reunión de Título 1

September 19th during
Conference Night

El 19 de septiembre durante
Noche de conferencia

Mrs. Sabina, RTI Lead

FOR
CONFERENCE

05
Sept

Invitamos a
todos los
papás!

20
24

Dowdell Middle School - 1208 Wishing Well Way Tampa, FL 33619
Es el anfitrión de "Desayuno con papá" el primer jueves
de cada mes de 7 a 8 AM.

CONFIRME SU ASISTENCIA EN EVERETT.ANTHONY@hcps.net



W
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05
Sept

Calling All
Dads!

20
24

Dowdell Middle School - 1208 Wishing Well Way Tampa, FL 33619
Is hosting "Breakfast With Dad" every 1st Thursday of the Month
from 7 to 8 AM.

RSVP AT EVERETT.ANTHONY@HCPS.NET



Mr. Anthony, School Counselor

PTSA

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

WE'RE LOOKING FOR PTSA SUPPORTERS

PTSA Officers

Genesis Zschocher, President
Quadaryl Woods, Vice President
Salome Castro, Treasurer (Parent)
Ronisha Marcus, Secretary
VACANT, Marketing

PTSA Member Goal 30

About Dowdell PTSA

There is strength in numbers and increasing PTSA membership, even by just one, makes it possible to fund essential school initiatives and curriculum needs at Dowdell Middle School. We invite you to join, because we can do more together than apart!
It's so easy to join: Simply email our President
Genesis.Zschocher@hcps.net
Thank you for your support!

CONTACT US

Phone
(813) 744-8322



Website
floridapta.org

Why join the PTSA

- Build powerful relationships
- Strengthen your school community
- Advocate for student success
- Plan school functions
- Fundraise for school initiatives
- Stay informed and connected

SCAN HERE TO
JOIN



of Bloomingdale

Join us as we support
Dowdell Middle School

**COOL
COMMUNITY**

**WEDNESDAY
SEPT. 18TH
12PM-CLOSE**

20%

OF YOUR ORDER WILL BE DONATED!

**MENTION
Dowdell when
ordering!**

825 East Bloomingdale Ave #1009 | Brandon, FL | 33511



SEPTEMBER

2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 LABOR DAY	3 SNACK CART	4	5	6 SNACK CART	7
8	9	10 SNACK CART	11 PTA BODY GENERAL MEETING	12	13 SNACK CART	14
15	16	17 SNACK CART	18 PTA SPIRIT NIGHT @ Jeremiah Italian Ice	19	20 SNACK CART	21
22	23	24 SNACK CART	25	26 ICE CREAM SPECIAL ADDITION SNACK CART	27	28
29	30					

SNACK CART

- Chips, drinks & snacks
- Sold @ dismissal
- Items \$1

PTA General Meeting

- 4 PM
- Media Center

Spirit Night Fundraiser

- Jeremiah's Italian Ice
- 12 PM to Close
- 825 E Bloomingdale Ave.

Ice Cream Cart

- Ice cream treats
- Sold @ dismissal

NO CELL PHONES

Cell phones must be stowed away in a purse or backpack and turned OFF during the school day. (From the *ENTRY* to-campus to the *EXIT* of campus.)

Call the office if you need to speak to your child.

NO TELÉFONOS CELULARES

Los teléfonos celulares deben guardarse en un bolso o mochila y apagarse durante el día escolar (desde la entrada al campus hasta la salida del campus).

Llame a la oficina si necesita hablar con su hijos.

if you
SEE
something

SAY
something



FORTIFYFL
APLICACIÓN DE INFORMES DE ACTIVIDAD SUSPICIOSA

FortifyFL es una herramienta para reportar actividades sospechosas que le permite enviar información a las agencias del cumplimiento de la ley apropiadas y a oficiales escolares.

#FORTIFYFL
GETFORTIFYFL.COM

App Store Google Play

DESCARGAR AHORA



FORTIFYFL
SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY REPORTING APP

FortifyFL is a suspicious activity reporting tool that allows you to instantly relay information to appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials.

#FORTIFYFL
GETFORTIFYFL.COM

App Store Google Play

DOWNLOAD NOW

Meet our TEAM!

Stacey Schlarbaum - Principal

Maria Jacobs - APC (curriculum)

(Grade 6 & Grade 7 Last Names A-L)

Pamela McNair - APA (transportation, safety)

(Grade 8 & Grade 7 Last Names M-Z)

Deputy Ryan Zarbo - School Resource Deputy

Sarah Courson - School Counselor

(Grade 6 & Grade 7 Last Name A-L)

Everett Anthony - School Counselor

(Grade 8 & Grade 7 Last Names M-Z)

June Robinson - Student Success Coach

Kristin Sabina - RTI Lead

Vacant - ESE Specialist

Stephanie Tamargo - Magnet Lead

Elizabeth Hawley - Media Specialist

Deana Mastropietro - School Social Worker

Jennifer Berger - School Psychologist

Lauren Spero - 6th Grade Team Leader

Quadaryl Woods - 7th Grade Team Leader

Codie Reynolds - 8th Grade Team Leader

Nikole Johnson - Literacy Coach

Michael DeDecker - Math SAL

Steven Wilson - Science SAL

Timothy Makovec - Elective Lead

Tina Johnson - Student Nutrition Services

Idelsa Martinez Lorenzo - Head Custodian



GET SMART

Know When Antibiotics Work

Get Smart. Take a look at this chart to find out which respiratory infections are usually caused by viruses – germs that are not killed by antibiotics. Talk with your doctor about ways to feel better when you are sick. Ask what you should look for at home that might mean you are developing another infection for which antibiotics might be appropriate.

Illness	Usual Cause Virus	Bacteria	Antibiotic Needed
Cold	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
Flu	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
Chest Cold (in otherwise healthy children and adults)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
Sore Throats (except strep)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
Bronchitis (in otherwise healthy children and adults)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
Runny Nose (with green or yellow mucus)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
Fluid in the Middle Ear (otitis media with effusion)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No



From the CLINIC

Nurse Maylene, RN
Nurse Krystal, LPN

Quick Flu Facts

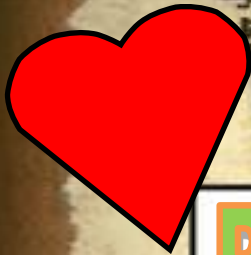
- Influenza, also called flu, is a contagious viral infection of the nose and throat. Flu can spread easily through coughing and sneezing.
- Flu can cause secondary complications such as sinus and ear infections and pneumonia or make chronic medical conditions like asthma worse. (CDC, 2016b)
- The flu is a serious disease; **much more dangerous** than the common cold for children.
- The best way to protect children from flu is to **get them vaccinated** each year.
- **Anyone can get sick with flu**
- Every year in the United States:
 - Flu results in approximately 20,000 hospitalizations in children younger than 5 years of age (CDC, 2017a)
 - On average, **100 children** die from flu; many of whom were otherwise healthy (CDC, 2017b; Flannery et al., 2017).
 - On average in the United States, children miss approximately **38 million school days** every year due to flu (Adams et al., 1999).
 - Flu is **not the same as the "stomach flu,"** which is a viral infection of the stomach and intestines that will typically go away on its own within a few days.
 - Most pediatric flu deaths since 2004 have occurred in unvaccinated children; therefore, increasing flu vaccination rates among children and adolescents could prevent flu-associated deaths (Flannery et al., 2017).

WANTED

PBIS Store Donations

- Individually wrapped chips, Takis, cookies, or candy
- Fun school supplies like erasers, fancy pens or pencils, decorated notebooks or folders
- Fun female items like hair accessories, nail accessories, & makeup items
- Fun male items like trading cards, NFL/NBA accessories
- Arts & Craft kits
- Sports items like footballs, basketballs, or soccer balls of any size
- Stuffed animals & Squishmallows

Contact Codie.Reynolds@hcps.net for questions or drop off items in the main office!



ATTENDANCE

Ms. Mastropietro, School Social Worker

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Missing a day of school here and there may not seem like much, but absences add up!

When a student misses 2 days a month..	When a student misses 4 days a month..
They will miss 20 DAYS a year.	They will miss 40 DAYS a year.
They will miss 30 HOURS of math over the school year.	They will miss 60 HOURS of math over the school year.
They will miss 60 HOURS of reading & writing over the school year.	They will miss 120 HOURS of reading & writing over the school year.
They will miss over 1 YEAR of school by graduation.	They will miss over 2 YEARS of school by graduation.

every day MATTERS

EVERY DAY MATTERS!

Regular school attendance means...

Preschoolers: Learn their letters and numbers. Develop skills and habits to become kindergarten ready.

Elementary Students: Read on-level by the end of third grade.

Middle Schoolers: Develop time management, organizational, and study skills.

High Schoolers: Develop leadership skills, responsibility, and stay on track for graduation.

College/Trade School Students: Earn degrees, receive hands-on training, and gain technical certifications.

Workforce: Succeed in their jobs and in life.

every day MATTERS

Teaching and Learning Begins Monday, August 12

Every day matters when it comes to attendance! There is a strong link between regular attendance and academic success. Research indicates that missing 10% of the school year, which is 2 days a month, negatively affects a student's academic performance.

Compared to students who are chronically absent, students who attend school regularly have greater success in all grade levels.

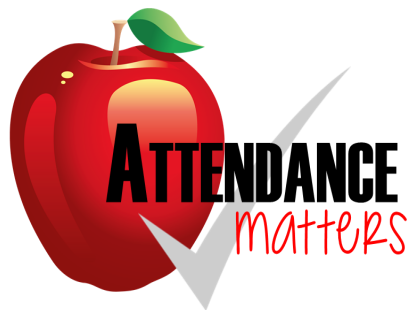
Elementary school students who regularly attend class are 1.7 times more likely to achieve grade-level scores in English Language Arts and 2 times more likely to achieve grade-level scores in Math.	Middle school students who attend school on a regular basis are 2 times more likely to score on grade level in English Language Arts and 2 times more likely to score on grade level in Math.	High school students who are consistently in class are 1.7 times more likely to score on grade level in English Language Arts and 2 times more likely to score on grade level in Math.
> Chronic absenteeism leads to students struggling to read proficiently.	> Absenteeism in sixth grade leads to students facing difficulties with their coursework.	> Chronic absenteeism for high school students leads to them being off-track for on-time graduation.

If your student is facing any obstacles that affect their attendance, our schools and counselors are here to help. Please reach out to your school for assistance. You can also visit hillsboroughschools.org/attendance for additional resources. Let's work together to make the 2024-2025 school year the best one yet!

We'll see all students back on Monday, August 12!

hillsboroughschools.org

Hillsborough County PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Preparing Students for Life



It is important your student comes to school **EVERY DAY** and **ON-TIME**! Please limit student sign outs to emergencies only. **EVERY** class counts! **We all teach literacy!**

¡Es importante que su estudiante venga a la escuela **TODOS LOS DÍAS** y **A TIEMPO**! Por favor, limite las salidas de escuela temprano de los estudiantes solo si es emergencias. **¡CADA** clase cuenta! **¡Todos enseñamos a leer y escribir!**



cada día IMPORTA⁺

CADA DÍA IMPORTA!

La asistencia regular a la escuela significa...

Estudiante de preescolar: Aprenden las letras y los números. Desarrollan habilidades y hábitos para estar listo para el jardín de infantes.

Los estudiantes de primaria: Leen a nivel al final del tercer grado.

Los estudiantes de intermedia: Desarrollan habilidades de administración del tiempo, organización y estudio.

Los estudiantes de secundaria: Desarrollan habilidades de liderazgo, responsabilidad y se mantienen comprometidos hacia la graduación.

Estudiantes de la universidad/escuela de comercio: Obtienen títulos, reciben capacitación práctica y obtienen certificaciones técnicas.

La fuerza laboral: Tiene éxito en sus trabajos y en la vida.

cada día IMPORTA⁺

La enseñanza y el aprendizaje comienzan el lunes 12 de agosto

¡Cada día importa cuando se trata de asistencia a la escuela! Existe un fuerte vínculo entre la asistencia regular y el éxito académico. Las investigaciones indican que faltar al 10% del año escolar, que es 2 días al mes, afecta negativamente el rendimiento académico de un estudiante.

En comparación con los estudiantes que están crónicamente ausentes, los estudiantes que asisten a la escuela regularmente tienen mayor éxito en todos los niveles de grado.

Los estudiantes de primaria que asisten regularmente a clase tienen 1.7 veces más probabilidades de alcanzar puntajes de nivel de grado en Artes del Lenguaje en Inglés y 2 veces más probabilidades de lograr puntajes de nivel de grado en Matemáticas.	Los estudiantes de escuela intermedia que asisten a la escuela de manera regular tienen 2 veces más probabilidades de obtener un puntaje a nivel de grado en Artes del Lenguaje en Inglés y Matemáticas.	Los estudiantes de secundaria que están constantemente en clase tienen 1.7 veces más probabilidades de obtener un puntaje al nivel de grado en Artes del Lenguaje en Inglés y 2 veces más probabilidades de obtener un puntaje al nivel de grado en Matemáticas.
> El ausentismo crónico hace que los estudiantes tengan dificultades para leer con fluidez.	> El ausentismo en sexto grado hace que los estudiantes enfrenten dificultades con sus trabajos de clase.	> El ausentismo crónico de los estudiantes de secundaria los lleva a estar fuera del camino para graduarse a tiempo.

Si su estudiante enfrenta algún obstáculo que afecte su asistencia, nuestras escuelas y consejeros están aquí para ayudarlo. Comuníquese con tu escuela para obtener ayuda. También puedes visitar hillsboroughschools.org/attendance para obtener recursos adicionales. ¡Trabajemos juntos para que el año escolar 2024-2025 sea el mejor!

¡Volveremos a ver a todos los estudiantes el lunes 12 de agosto!

hillsboroughschools.org

Hillsborough County PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Preparing Students for Life