

Thunder Hill Elementary

2023-2024



Remember, the **First day of school is Monday, August 28th, 2023!**

School Hours:

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Doors Open for Students at 9:05 a.m.
Student Hours: 9:15 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Important Dates:

- August 22nd Community Blacktop Bash
- August 25th Open House
 - 10:00-11:00 Kindergarten in the Cafeteria
 - 1:15-2:00 New Student Orientation
 - 2:00-3:00 Grades 1-5 Open House
- August 28th First Day of School! Doors open at 9:05
- September 13th Back to School PTA Welcome 5:30 pm
- September 13th Back to School Night K-2 6:00 pm
- September 14th G/T Parent Information Night 5:30 pm
- September 14th Back to School Night Grades 3-5 6:00 pm

A Message from Administration

Dear Thunder Hill Families,

On behalf of our entire staff, we would like to extend a warm welcome to our new and returning students for the 2023-2024 school year! At Thunder Hill, we value each and every one of our students. Our community is amazing because of you and your children. Much planning and preparation has gone into preparing for a successful year. We are looking forward to seeing all of our smiling students.

Our staff returned this week, and will be working diligently to plan engaging academic and social/emotional lessons for your children. All teachers and support staff will spend time engaging in professional development curriculum meetings and student data review meetings. Secretaries and office staff will continue to register new students and support families with HCPSS connect. Also, we would like to offer sincere gratitude to our custodial staff members. They worked diligently throughout the summer to clean and prepare the school for our return to a safe, clean, and sparkling learning environment!

Finally, we want to send a big thank you to our PTA for supporting our students and staff! We are looking forward to another great year of partnership! Parents, your membership in our PTA is a critical component of our school's success! Please [become a PTA member](#) now. Join today! We thank you in advance for taking an active role in your child's education! Learn more [here](#).

We are excited to welcome our newest staff members, students, and families! We look forward to an exciting school year!

Mrs. Hurd, Principal

Ms. Dillard, Assistant Principal



ThunderBird Welcome

We are looking forward to building new relationships with new staff members that are slated to begin their journey here at Thunder Hill in the fall. Please click [here](#) to view a complete list of our Thunder Hill Staff.

Homeroom Teacher Information & Family File Updates

20% of Thunder Hill families have updated their information so far. All families must update this information every year. It is very important that parents update their child's information before the start of the school year on August 28th. *On August 23rd, families who completed their family file updates will be able to view their child's homeroom teacher in Synergy at 8am.* Please remember to update your child's [Family File information](#) today!

School Supply List

Please find our K-5 grade level supply list [here](#) for the 2023-2024 school year! Families may recycle and reuse your previous year's supplies when possible.

Family Guides: What your Child Will Learn this Year

Do you want to get a head start on the school year? We encourage all parents/guardians to visit the link below to learn what your child will learn this year in grades PreK-5! Once you click on your child's grade level, use the yellow "course navigation" box in the top right corner to navigate standards, free games, and family activities for each subject area. Happy learning!

<https://www.hcpss.org/academics/what-your-child-will-learn-guides/>

School Hours

Doors will open for students at 9:05 AM and the late bell rings at 9:15 AM. Students should be in the building ready for instruction to begin at 9:15 AM.

Arriving to School by Bus

For families that receive bus transportation, bus stop information for the 2023-2024 school year is available now and can be accessed online via the Bus Stop Locator or HCPSS Connect Synergy under More Options and then Homeroom / Transportation / POS.

We encourage you to view the HCPSS Help Site to see answers to questions related to a number of topics. Additionally, please check in regularly to the page that will provide updated information for the 2023-2024 school year. Both of these sites are updated regularly so check back often for more information.

Walkers and Car Riders

For families that do not receive bus transportation, if your child will be walking or riding their bike to school, We encourage you to take time now to familiarize your child with their route to and from school. Map out and walk the route between your home and school to ensure all roads, sidewalks and pathways are familiar for your child. In addition, review crosswalks and intersections that are safe for crossing the road if required and review [safe pedestrian tips](#) with your student. If you encounter any issues regarding safety as you walk these routes with your student, please contact the [HCPSS Office of Student Transportation](#) to make HCPSS staff aware.

Adults are not permitted to escort their child to their classroom. We have staff assigned to help direct students to their classroom each morning

Car Rider Dismissal

For students who will be car riders at dismissal, students will receive a hanging tag for the rearview mirror. Please write the student's last name on the tag with a permanent marker. This process will assist with dismissal procedures.

Dismissal for Walkers and Bike Riders

Students who are walkers can walk alone, with a friend(s), or have someone waiting for them at the designated areas at 3:40. We do not have staff available to watch children after dismissal who are waiting for someone that is scheduled to meet the child(ren). Please make sure that you practice your child(ren) route so they are prepared to walk home each day.

Transportation Form

Please click on the link below to complete the form to indicate your child's arrival and dismissal transportation plan.

[Transportation Form](#)

Health Room Medication

Medication Drop Off will be available on Thursday August 24th and August 25th between 9:00 am and 3:00 pm. If your child requires medication (prescription or over the counter) during the school day, your child's health care provider must complete a [medication form](#) and/or an [Epi-Pen Care form](#) dated after July 1st, 2021. All prescribed medications must be in properly labeled containers that include the following information:

- Student name
- Medication name
- Dose to be given
- Time & Frequency of medication
- Prescriber's name & signature
- Date of medication order

Pharmacy labels will usually contain this information. Over-the-counter medications should be new, unopened containers labeled with the student's name. A parent or guardian must deliver the medication to the health room.

Please feel free to contact the health room with any additional questions at 410-313-6922.

Want to Learn Who Your Child's Teacher is Before School Starts?

Please visit [HCPSS Connect](#) to update your Family File for the 2023-2024 school year today! It is mandatory for parents/guardians to complete the Family File every year to ensure that THES has the most current and accurate information for each year.

Did you know that your child will not be allowed to go on a field trip without this completed? Parents/guardians will be asked to provide or update the following information...

- Student Information
- Parent/Guardian Contact
- Emergency Contacts

- Please list multiple emergency contacts!
- Medical Information
- Arrival/Dismissal Procedures and Transportation Options
- Photo Approval
- Data Confidentiality
- Student Creative Work Approval
- PTA/PTSA Directory

Family File must be completed in order for families to access teacher assignments for the child/children prior to the start of the school year. It is anticipated that teacher assignments will be made available to families during the week of August 21st. Only families who have completed Family File will be able to view their child's teacher! Thank you for updating your child's Family File today in [HCPSS Connect!](#)

Helpful Family File Resources:

- [FAMILY FILE QUICK REFERENCE CARD \(ENGLISH\)](#)
- [FAMILY FILE USER GUIDE \(ENGLISH\)](#)
- [FAMILY FILE USER GUIDE \(SPANISH\)](#)
- [FAMILY FILE USER GUIDE \(CHINESE\)](#)
- [FAMILY FILE USER GUIDE \(KOREAN\)](#)
- [HOMEPAGE FOR HCPSS CONNECT GUIDES & TUTORIALS](#)

School Lunch/Free and Reduced Meals (FARMS)

Breakfast and lunch are served daily for all students at EES. Daily meal prices apply to students who do not qualify for free and reduced meals. The cost of breakfast is \$2.00 and the cost of lunch is \$2.80. Students from households that meet federal income guidelines are eligible to receive free or reduced-price meals. Parents/guardians must submit an application every year to maintain their student's eligibility. All families are asked to use this [link](#) to apply. **This application must be completed each year.** Any family who has not filled out an application up to the 30th school day will have their prior status changed to full pay status until a new application is received.

School Communication and Supports this year

Check our school's website at <https://thes.hcpss.org/> for notices and updates throughout the year. Here, families can learn who the points of contact are for common need areas, and parents can

view all of our archived community messages here! Don't forget to follow us on twitter [@hcpss](#) thes to keep current on all our school happenings!

- Principal, Mrs. Sonia Hurd Sonia_Hurd@hcpss.org
- Assistant Principal, Ms. Kimberly Dillard Kimberly_Dillard@hcpss.org
- Principal Secretary, Ms. Nichols Laura_Nichols@hcpss.org
- Registration Support, Secretary Danielle Frere Danielles_Frere@hcpss.org
- Attendance, Synergy and Family File Support, Secretary Jaleeah Hopewell Jaleeah_Hopewell@hcpss.org
- Counselor Katherine Veenstra Katherine_Veenstra@hcpss.org