



A Fairfax County Public School

Langston Hughes Middle School

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August 2010

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students,

With warm regards and great anticipation I welcome you to the 2010-2011 school year. I hope that you have had a wonderful summer and are ready to face the opportunities and adventures that lie ahead. This is my favorite time of year when everything is beginning new. The Langston Hughes staff and students will be building on the success of last year. The academic achievements at Hughes are the result of the entire community: school staff, students, and parents working together to maintain the focus on performing at the highest level of academic attainment. We could not educate students without the many hours of dedication from the parents and families of our students. Please volunteer in any way during the school day or outside of school hours as your schedule permits. I count it a privilege to work together with you on the mission to develop students that are outstanding scholars and productive citizens.

Please find here some important information you will need to start the year off informed. The teachers will be arriving soon, and we anticipate all of our students' arrival on Tuesday, September 7, 2010. **September 7 is a regular day of school with classes scheduled from 8:00 a.m. to 2:50 p.m. The warning bell rings at 7:55 a.m.** Students who are driven to school should be dropped off at Kiss & Ride on Ridge Heights Road, avoiding the faculty parking lot and the bus lanes.

OPEN HOUSE

We are pleased to open the building to all 7th grade and new 8th grade students and their families on **Wednesday, September 1, from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. for an Open House.** Students and parents meet the administrators, purchase PE uniforms, establish lunch accounts, buy spirit wear from the PTA, and tour the building. All students must be accompanied by an adult.

INFORMATION PACKET

All students will receive a bulk packet of information the first day of school. Please look for this packet as it will contain a lot of important information. Inside the packet, you will find forms which must be returned in order for students to be issued a locker:

- Emergency Care Card—Please sign, date & record any changes.
- Parent Signature Sheet from FCPS Students Responsibilities and Rights Handbook
- Health Form
- Bully Flyer

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

On the first day of school students are expected to come prepared with a notebook and a pencil. Individual teachers or teams may require additional supplies, and students will be provided with this information once school begins. A generic school supply list can also be found on the Hughes Middle School website.

STUDENT LOCKERS

Student lockers will be issued during the second week of school. All signature forms must be signed and returned to the school, and all outstanding financial obligations must have been paid to obtain a locker. Students are requested **NOT TO BRING BACKPACKS** to school until lockers are assigned. Once lockers are issued, students may begin using backpacks to transport books and materials to and from school. **Students are reminded that the use of iPods, electronic games and cell phones is prohibited during the school day, and these electronic devices must be out of sight and completely turned off during the school day.** If the device is seen or heard during the school day, the item will be confiscated, and a parent will be contacted to pick up the device. Students and parents are reminded that the use of cell phones on school buses is not permitted.

DRESS CODE

Students are expected to dress appropriately for the K-12 educational environment. **Any clothing that interferes with or disrupts the educational environment is not permitted.** Examples of prohibited clothing include but are not limited to **pajamas, slippers**, sagging or low-cut pants, low-cut necklines that show cleavage, tube tops, halter tops, backless blouses or blouses with only ties in the back, spaghetti straps, clothing constructed of see-through material, hats, head coverings unless required for religious or medical purposes or clothing which promotes the unlawful use of weapons, drugs, alcohol, tobacco, or gang-related activity. Students not complying with this code will be asked to cover the non-complying clothing, change clothes, or go home. Repeated infractions will result in disciplinary action.

LUNCH PROGRAMS

The cost of lunch is \$2.75; milk is \$0.60. Breakfast is also available in the cafeteria before school at a cost of \$1.50. Information about the free and reduced lunch program will be mailed directly to parents. Forms must be completed and returned every year for program eligibility to continue. Students may bring cash to pay for their lunch; parents may write a check to Hughes Middle School; or may pay online through mylunchmoney.com and the money will be deposited to your student's individual account. Details can be found at http://www.fcps.edu/fs/food/food_at_school/.

WEBSITE INFORMATION & KEEP IN TOUCH

Please visit our web site at <http://www.fcps.edu/HughesMS/> throughout the year for information on what is happening at Hughes MS. Parents/guardians of FCPS students are automatically enrolled in the Keep In Touch system which is used to send emergency, attendance and outreach messages. It is important that parents keep their child's emergency contact information up to date with the school by updating the Emergency Care Card sent home with your student the first day or online through weCare@School, a feature of [FCPS 24-7 Learning \(Blackboard\)](#). Eighth grade parents might also sign up for the high school's site where their child will attend next school year through KIT Plus at <http://www.fcps.edu/kit/>.

CLINIC

For students who will need to take medications during school hours, the School Health Aide (SHA) will be in the Hughes Health Center on **September 1** from 3:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. for **PARENTS** to bring in the medicine to the clinic. The physician's form needs to be completed, and the medication must be in the original container. Over the counter medications (i.e., Tylenol) must be in an unopened, original package. Students are never permitted to carry medications with them. A form must be completed to carry an Epi-pen or an inhaler and are available at <http://www.fcps.edu/forms.htm>. Parents/guardians may also bring medication and forms to the clinic once school starts.

SCHOOL CALENDAR...UPCOMING DATES!

September 1	Open House, 3:00-5:00 p.m.	October 2	TJHSST Open House (Tentative)
September 7	First Day of School	October 11	Columbus Day Holiday
September 9	PTA Meeting	October 21, 22	Fall Pictures through PE
September 16	Back-to- School Night, 6:30 p.m.	November 11	Touch Base with Teachers, 7:30-10:30 a.m.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or a member of my administrative team should you have any concerns or suggestions throughout the year. We look forward to working with your student in September!

Sincerely,

Aimée Monticchio
Principal