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Blue Devil Newsletter #1

August 15, 2019

EVENING SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE

Students who are interested in taking Evening School of Excellence classes (night school), please be advised that applications are now available on the Henrico County website or in the school counseling office. The application and payment deadline is September 13th. Questions: Please contact the school counseling department at 226-8700 ext. 2

FRESHMEN TRADITION DAY

This is a reminder for our newest Blue Devils about Freshman Tradition Day on Thursday August 22, 2019, from 2 – 5:45pm. The day will include important information, expectations, people, and some fun! We hope to see you there. If your student is new to Varina but not a freshmen, he/she is welcome to attend as well. VHS Administration will hold a parent meeting at 2:00; the same meeting will be repeated at 5:00. We will not be collecting fees on this day. Please see below for fee collection information. Freshmen attending Freshmen Tradition Day will receive a tentative class schedule. Schedule changes will not be available until the first week of school. The last call for RSPVs is Monday 8/19: <https://tinyurl.com/FreshDay19>

FEE PAYMENTS

Last week, you should have received information on the online option to pay your student's fees. During the week of August 26, Varina will offer three options for fee payment at the school. The dates and times are listed below. We accept cash, check, money order, or card. Card payments are subject to a 4% convenience fee. Student schedules will be available for pick-up at fee night on August 27. Students are welcome to tour the campus on their own. Families will be able to meet their student's teachers at back-to-school night on Monday, September 16.

Here are the dates and times for fee payments:

Monday, August 26 - 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Tuesday, August 27 - 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM and 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Wednesday, August 28 - 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

We will not be open Thursday or Friday for fee payment. If you are unable to make it to the school to pay your fees during the times listed above, your student may bring the fee payment to any of his/her teachers beginning Wednesday, September 4. We are not accepting fee payments on the first day of school. We no longer accept fee payments in the main office. Online payments can be made at any time.

Next week you will receive important back-to-school information specific to Varina High School. Please be sure you share it with your student.

Below is a reminder of the information you received from Henrico County:

• **[RYCOR Online Forms](#)** lets you avoid the long back-to-school paperwork lines. Submit your children's school forms ahead of time, accessed in most instances through the PowerSchool Parent Portal. RYCOR Online Forms opened today, Thursday, Aug. 15. For more information about this service, visit our website:
<http://henricoschools.us/back-to-school-forms/>

- **[Online School Payments](#)** (grades 6-12)

Also open today, Thursday, Aug. 15, Online School Payments allows families of middle- and high-schoolers to pay school fees electronically. **[Log into Online School Payments here.](#)** If you haven't used Online School Payments before, you'll need to set up an account. Please note that there is a 4 percent fee to use the service, which pays for the vendor's costs.

- **School breakfast and lunch: Online ways to pay for meals, check menus and more (grades K-12)**

Also open today, Thursday, Aug. 15, My School Bucks is available for managing your students' cafeteria accounts: check balances and purchases, get low-balance alerts and set up automatic payments. **[Find My School Bucks here.](#)**

See what's on the menu at your school with **[Nutrislice, available here.](#)**

Families interested in applying for the **[national free-and-reduced-lunch program can do so online as well, here.](#)**

- **[PowerSchool](#)**: What is it and when can your family start using it? (grades 2-12)

PowerSchool gives families of students in grades 2-12 easy access to class grades, attendance information and student schedules. The online tool comes in two versions: one for students, and one for parents and guardians called PowerSchool Parent Portal.

On Monday, Aug. 5, PowerSchool Parent Portal access opened for account creation only.

On Friday, Aug. 30 after 4:30 p.m., student schedules will be available for grades 2-12 on the PowerSchool Parent Portal webpage. Note: If you are using the PowerSchool app on your mobile device, then you will not be able to see student schedules until the first day of school.

On Monday, Sept. 16, grades and attendance information will begin posting on PowerSchool Parent Portal for students in grades 6-12.

On Monday, Sept. 23, grades and attendance information will begin posting on PowerSchool Parent Portal for students in grades 2-5.

While students can log in using their HCPS usernames and passwords, parents and guardians must create their own accounts. Parents who used the system in 2018-19 will be able to log in with their existing usernames and passwords. **[For more information about PowerSchool and how to create an account, click here.](#)**

- When will bus schedules be available? (grades K-12)

Bus routes will be available through the PowerSchool Parent Portal after 9:30 a.m. on Aug. 27. They will also appear on RYCOR Online Forms, at your student's school, and on the main school division website: **www.henricoschools.us**

Whew! That's a lot of links. To find all of these links in one place, visit our website at any time: **<http://henricoschools.us/online-services/>**