



August 8, 2023

Dear Hawthorne families:

Welcome to the 2023-24 school year! This summer, I have been hearing great things from students who have completed exciting internships and pre-apprenticeship experiences. I have also heard from staff members who have been engaged in impactful professional development to build on their professional practices. It's been a very busy summer, but I am excited to see these summer experiences pay off in the new year. As we prepare for the 2023-24 school year, please be mindful of the following updates for students and families:

- **Student Class Schedules**- Student class schedules will be available via Powerschool for students to view beginning on August 16. Students may log in to Powerschool to access course schedules.
- **Child Nutrition**- Breakfast is provided daily at no charge to students, but there is a fee for lunch. See the included information or CMS website for more information on child nutrition updates and forms.
- **Open House Information & Parent Meetings**- Open house and parent meeting events will be held on Thursday, August 24 at Hawthorne. The parent meeting will include information about joining our Parent Ambassadors Club and working with the School Improvement Team, as well as updates regarding school operations/policies related to transportation, student dress, student technology and more. Please plan to attend one of these sessions. See the following schedule for Thursday, Aug. 24:
 - 12:30 - 1:00 PM Parent Information Meeting (Cafeteria)
 - 1:00 - 2:30 PM 9th Grade and New Student Open House
 - 2:30 - 4:00 PM Returning Students (10-12th grade) Open House
 - 3:45 - 4:15 PM Parent Information Meeting (Cafeteria)
- **Transportation Information**- As communicated in the spring, Hawthorne will be operating on Express Bus stops this year. The parent meetings during open house will provide an opportunity for Q&A on transportation shifts for the new school year.
- **Hawthorne Website**: All CMS schools have a school website linked to the main CMS website. Our tech team is currently working to update the website to better reflect information on both academies through the website. In addition to weekly ConnectEd calls and ParentSquare, Hawthorne's website gives 24/7 access to school news.
- **Weekly Parent Messages & ParentSquare**: During the school year, I send out a weekly message by phone and email at the end of each week. Please take time to listen to these messages in their entirety each week to stay abreast of happenings in the school community. If you are not receiving these phone messages or emails, please contact our school registrar Ms. Damekiya Washington (damekiya1.washington@cms.k12.nc.us) or front office administrator Ms. Bria Wright (briat.wright@cms.k12.nc.us) so they can confirm your student's Powerschool information is accurate. Please include your student's name, student ID, parent's name, parent's phone number and parent's email in your email communications.
- **Follow us on IG**: Social media creates platforms for us to stay connected with our families. Last year, we streamlined social media platforms with Instagram (Profile: @hawthorne_cms) being our primary social media site. In addition to my weekly messages, our social media team posts announcements related to school events via Instagram. This is just one more way for students and families to stay connected with school happenings.

Best regards,

Sharon A. Bracey, Principal
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