

## FAMILY FRIENDLY SCHOOLS INITIATIVE & VOLUNTEERISM

### FAMILY FRIENDLY SCHOOLS INITIATIVE

The Family Friendly School initiative has been developed by the DeKalb County School District's Department of Parent and Family Engagement to help schools create and maintain a positive learning climate. This initiative will engage families and build a positive relationship between our families and the school. This initiative will improve student academic achievement and strengthen the family-school partnership. It is our goal that all schools communicate "Welcome!" to students and families by creating an environment that is friendly, inviting, and culturally sensitive.

September - December 2020

#### *Family Friendly Schools Survey Pop-ups*

During the first semester of the school year, we will set up a table and/or tent at the schools and take a short survey from parents in the building. We will target days when parental engagement activities are in progress. This will be a 10 questions survey that parents can complete as they visit the school. In the event that COVID-19 social distancing is prolonged, we will conduct these surveys electronically.

January - April 2021

#### *Family Friendly Schools Survey Pop-ups*

- Evaluate 5 schools in each region with the Family Friendly School Survey (35 schools).
- Calculate the score of all schools and apply a rating band.
- Utilize a point system survey to determine the ranking of schools. This will aid in determining the schools that will receive the Family Friendly School Award. The building administration will receive guidelines on how to make their school distinguished if they receive a satisfactory or unsatisfactory result.
- Recognize one volunteer per region who receive an Exceptional Volunteer Award (7 awards).

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Demone Gunter  
District Family Engagement Liaison

## PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

Region 1	Chamblee M.S.	Dunwoody E.S.	John R. Lewis E.S.	Montgomery E.S.	Oakcliff E.S.
Region 2	Avondale E.S.	EHawthorne E.S.	Idlewood E.S.	Sagamore Hills E.S.	Smoke Rise E.S.
Region 3	Lithonia M.S.	Marbut E.S.	Pine Ridge E.S.	Redan M.S.	Redan H.S.
Region 4	DeKalb Academy of Technology and the Environment	Freedom M.S.	Hambrick E.S.	Jolly E.S.	Stone Mill E.S.
Region 5	E.L. Bouie E.S.	Browns Mill E.S.	Chapel Hill E.S.	Miller Grove M.S.	Miller Grove H.S.
Region 6	Bethune M.S.	Canby Lane E.S.	Columbia E.S.	DeKalb Prep	Tony E.S.
Region 7	Cedar Grove E.S.	DeKalb School of the Arts	Early Learning Academy	McNair M.S.	Oakview E.S.



## VOLUNTEERISM

Volunteering provides opportunities for family and community members to become partners in education with DeKalb County School District, by helping our students and schools. Volunteers can strengthen school-community relations and support student achievement. We thank our parents and community volunteers in advance for supporting our school by donating their time and talent that will contribute to the educational experience of our students.

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## VOLUNTEER TRAINING

The Department of Parent and Family Engagement will offer virtual Volunteer Training sessions every Thursday morning at 10:00 a.m. Evening sessions will be available by appointment only. Please note, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, in-person Volunteer Training sessions have been suspended until further notice.

<https://bit.ly/DCSDVolunteerTraining>

First Semester	Second Semester
Thursday, August 6, 2020 Thursday, August 13, 2020 Thursday, August 20, 2020 Thursday, August 27, 2020	Thursday, January 7, 2021 Thursday, January 14, 2021 Thursday, January 21, 2021 Thursday, January 28, 2021
Thursday, September 3, 2020 Thursday, September 10, 2020 Thursday, September 17, 2020 Thursday, September 24, 2020	Thursday, February 4, 2021 Thursday, February 11, 2021 Thursday, February 18, 2021 Thursday, February 25, 2021
Thursday, October 1, 2020 Thursday, October 8, 2020 Thursday, October 15, 2020 Thursday, October 22, 2020 Thursday, October 29, 2020	Thursday, March 4, 2021 Thursday, March 11, 2021 Thursday, March 18, 2021 Thursday, March 25, 2021
Thursday, November 5, 2020 Thursday, November 12, 2020 Thursday, November 19, 2020	Thursday, April 1, 2021 Thursday, April 8, 2021 Thursday, April 15, 2021 Thursday, April 22, 2021 Thursday, April 29, 2021
Thursday, December 3, 2020 Thursday, December 10, 2020 Thursday, December 17, 2020	Thursday, June 3, 2021 Thursday, June 10, 2021 Thursday, June 17, 2021 Thursday, June 24, 2021 Thursday, July 1, 2021 Thursday, July 8, 2021

**Volunteer Virtual Training: TBA**

## DEKALB COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT EXCEPTIONAL VOLUNTEER AWARD

The Exceptional Volunteer Award is an annual award given by the DeKalb County School District's Department of Parent and Family Engagement. It is a great way to thank the many special DCSD volunteers and organizations that serve our district. Recipients will receive the Volunteer I.M.P.A.C.T. Award at the end of the school year. The objective of this award is to encourage school volunteerism, recognize, honor and appreciate volunteers who have made significant contributions to DeKalb County School District.

## NOMINATIONS FOR THE "EXCEPTIONAL VOLUNTEER AWARD"

Nominations for the "Exceptional Volunteer Award" are accepted under the following criteria:

- Nominee must be a volunteer for the DeKalb County School District, who has served a minimum of one hundred (100) validated hours of unpaid volunteer time. A student volunteer receiving educational credit is not eligible.
- Nominations may be made by more than one individual, but one of those nominating must be an employee of the DeKalb County School District.
- Nominations must include a description of the volunteer's contribution and indicate how the nominee's volunteering is linked to school improvement or academic success for students.
- Organizations may be eligible as a group volunteer. (Example, 25 volunteers belonging to one organization have donated four (4) hours each of volunteer work).

Awards are determined by an Award Selection Committee based on award criteria and by the date that the nomination is received.