

CCPS launching text message notifications this school year

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New this school year for Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) parents and staff are text message notifications. CCPS has a new notification system called School Messenger, which is used to send systemwide and school emails, phone calls and text message updates.

Text message recipients must opt-in to receive text alerts. The text alert feature will be available on Oct. 2. Parents and staff will receive an opt-in text message from CCPS on Oct. 2 through the new School Messenger notification tool. The message will come from the short code, or short set of numbers, 67587 to all parents and staff members who have provided CCPS with a cell phone number.

To opt-in, users must text YES or Y to 67587. Text STOP to 67587 at any time to stop receiving text message alerts from CCPS. Standard text message rates by cell phone carriers apply.

Parents and guardians who want to opt-in for text messages should list a cell phone number on their child's emergency notification card, distributed to all students on the first day of school. Parents should provide a working phone number and valid email address on the emergency card in order to receive important updates.

Parents who change cell phone numbers during the school year should update their contact information with their child's school. Once the number is updated with the school, parents should receive a new opt-in message from 67587. Staff members who change cell phone numbers during the school year should contact the CCPS Human Resources Department to update their employee information on file.

The School Messenger notification system uses data from the CCPS student information system YouVue, also called Synergy. Because School Messenger uses data imports managed by CCPS, the system cannot send messages to outside community members.

Attendance records and absentee notifications for parents are generated through the YouVue system. Call the CCPS Communications Department at 301-934-7220 or your child's school with questions about School Messenger notifications.

About CCPS

Charles County Public Schools provides 26,400 students in grades prekindergarten through 12 with an academically challenging education. Located in Southern Maryland, Charles County Public Schools has 36 schools that offer a technologically advanced, progressive and high quality education that builds character, equips for leadership and prepares students for life, careers and higher education.

The Charles County public school system does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age or disability in its programs, activities or employment practices. For inquiries, please contact Dr. Patricia Vaira, Title IX/ADA/Section 504 Coordinator (students) or Marvin L. Jones, Title

IX/ADA/Section 504 coordinator (employees/ adults), at Charles County Public Schools, Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, P.O. Box 2770, La Plata, MD 20646; 301-932-6610/301-870-3814. For special accommodations call 301-934-7230 or TDD 1-800-735-2258 two weeks prior to the event.

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