Sunday, December 18, 2022

Duke Ellington School of the Arts est. 1974
ELLINGTON EXPRESS

From the Principal's Desk

Greetings Ellington Community,

We wish you the best in the next few days as you wrap up your academic and artistic work for this term! Let's keep up the good work this week and finish the year off strong. Winter Break starts on **Friday, December 23***.

Thank you to all of you who came out to support the **Vocal Music** holiday concert this weekend! It made me proud to see familiar faces and a full house. Congratulations to **Vocal Music** and **Technical Design and Production** students, faculty, and parents for putting together a fantastic show! Let's keep the same energy for the **Instrumental Music Winter Concert on Wednesday, December 21 at 7:00 p.m.**

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTION CEREMONY
We're proud to celebrate our 2022 Winter National Honor Society students on **Tuesday, December 20** in the Performance Hall at 12:00 p.m.

STUDENT TASK FORCE MEETING
Join us for a special student task force meeting with Principal Logan during lunch in the Theatre on **Wednesday, December 21!**

BELL SCHEDULE FOR WINTER BREAK
Dec. 19- Odd Advisory Day
Dec. 20 -- Even Advisory Day
Dec. 21 -- Odd Advisory Day
Dec. 22- Even Advisory Day
De. 23 - January 2-- No School (Winter Break)

That's it for now. I hope you enjoy the rest of your weekend! Thank you, and see you this week!

V/r,

Sandi M. Logan
Principal / Head of School

"Build your own dreams or someone else will hire you to build theirs."

– Farrah Gray

Important Update from our Director of Strategy and Logistics

Happy Sunday and good afternoon to my Duke Ellington family,

December 16, 2022, marked my fourth month at this great institution I am thankful for the opportunity to serve this community. After surveying the daily operations, immersing myself in the culture, and receiving much-needed tutelage from many of you, I feel comfortable executing my professional duties and responsibilities.

Effective immediately all requests for use of space at DESA must go through my office (Director of Strategy and Logistics) via my email address, **Vernard.howard@k12.dc.gov.** I am currently working on a DESA facilities request form (hard & soft) copies. My office will honor programs already on the performance calendar for SY 2022-2023.

I work closely with Mrs. Veronica (Roni) Martin, Executive Assistant to the Principal and Collaborative Projects Coordinator, to ensure DESA programs are properly scheduled, staffed & maintained. This applies to the following: department chairs, teachers, student organizations, alumni, and outside stakeholders.

Each entity must follow these protocols, or your event will not be recognized as an approved event to be held at DESA.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully,
Vernard Kam Howard, M.Ed
Director of Strategy and Logistics, Duke Ellington School of the Arts

2022 Winter National Honor Society Induction Ceremony

Parents and faculty are encouraged to join us as we celebrate this huge accomplishment on **Tuesday, December 20, at 12:00 p.m. in the Performance Hall**. We're asking families to bring **no more than 3 guests**. There will also be a small reception with light refreshments following the ceremony!

For those of you who can't attend in person, here is the **link** and meeting passcode: **277585** to watch the ceremony virtually on the day of.

LIST OF STUDENTS: Bailey Allen, Ari Andelman, Nia Campbell, Matthew Crittenden, Eric Curry III, Jonathan Hobbs, Antoinette Jean-Baptiste, Cecilia Lapetina, Autumn Peterson, MacKayla McNeill, Jayla Norwood, Willow Singleton, Rebecca Spring, Cairo Waters, and Ariel Wright.

Dress Code for Inductees: black and white with gold or blue accents.

LMC Open Casting Call!!!

The LMC Department is seeking student actors for their upcoming showcase films. We are casting for the following short films and live performances.

Open auditions will be held **Tuesday, December 20, from 2:15 - 6:00 p.m.**, **in room 245, LMC Studio**. You can bring a prepared piece, or sides will be provided if you prefer cold reads.

SHORT FILMS

***Awakening* by Sergio and Lucia Hill.** Drama. A girl wakes up from a coma to find her best friend is missing. Six actors are needed.

***Trending Tragedies* by Mylo Ulloa**. Drama. Mercedes, Ava, and Riley study for an upcoming

LIVE PERFORMANCES

***The Moving of a Pillar* by Laura Jablow.** Drama. An enterprising young man gives an older man, depressed with the state of his village, a chance to change it.
Two actors are needed.

test, but what happens when a debate about social media gets in the way of their study session? Three actors are needed.

***Spiders* by John Monaco and Efrata Trolla.** Drama. A young girl suffers through a case of molestation by her parent. One actor is needed.

***Lost in a Ruff Day* by Anouk Scheider.** Comedy. In this self-deprecating comedy, Irene discovers that her partner has lied about being interested in cats throughout the relationship. Three actors are needed.

***The Library* by Anouk Scheider and Sheridan Feldman.** Comedy. A teenage girl discovers her sexuality with the help of her friend and small interferences. Five actors are needed.

***Familiar Patterns* by Reese Mitchell.** Drama. Familiar Patterns is a show about Grayson, an audacious ballet prodigy, who meets Andrew, an older boy who becomes entranced by him. Mutually intrigued by each other, their once-loving relationship becomes twisted over four years. One male actor is needed.

***Achilles* by Harley Adamske.** Drama. A theatrical poem adaptation of an exchange between mythological warrior Achilles and his mother Thetis as they navigate their relationship and that of the past - a piece of ancient history brought to the stage. Four to six actors are needed.

Flyers are posted with a QR code for students to sign up. Students must select a 5-minute timeslot to audition. After auditioning, students will be escorted back to class.

The sign-up deadline is Monday, December 19, by 10:00 pm. Scan the QR code to sign-up.

Upcoming Events

December 21 | 7:00 p.m. |
The Main Theatre

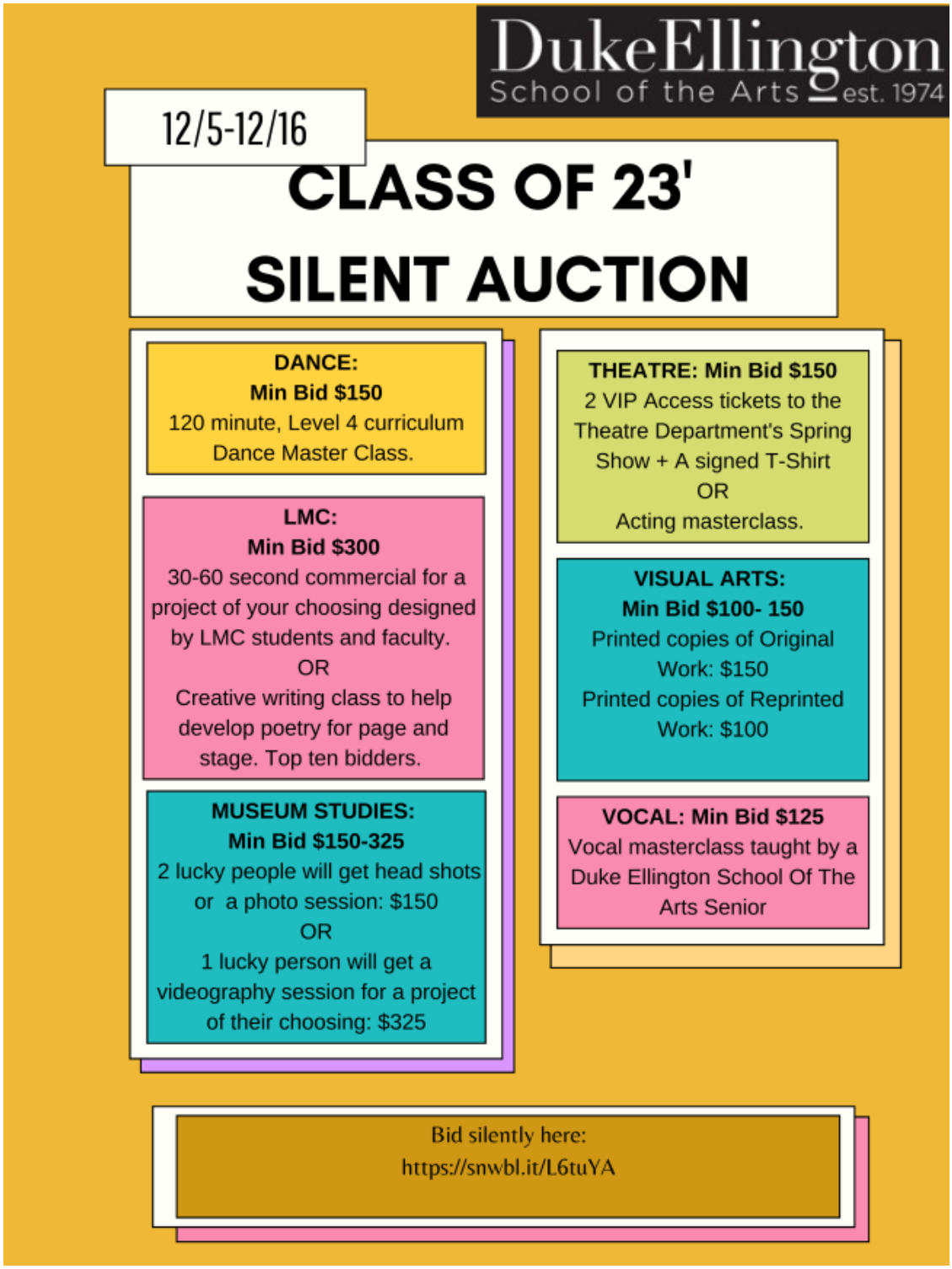
Join Duke Ellington School of the Arts **Instrumental Music Department** for our annual **Winter Concert**! Featuring music from the Jazz Orchestra, String Ensemble, and Wind Ensemble. There will also be music from the guitar ensemble, Duke's 88 Piano Ensemble, and a special collaboration piece from students in the Dance Department. Tickets are $5 for students and $15 for adults.

Visit our **Box Office** to purchase tickets!

Annie's Collection Holiday Open House December 21, 2022

Still looking for the perfect gift? Come and support Annie Whatley's Holiday Open House on **Wednesday, December, 21**! 20% of the sale proceeds will go to support the school's life-changing arts education.

Last Chance to Bid: Class of 2023 Online Auction



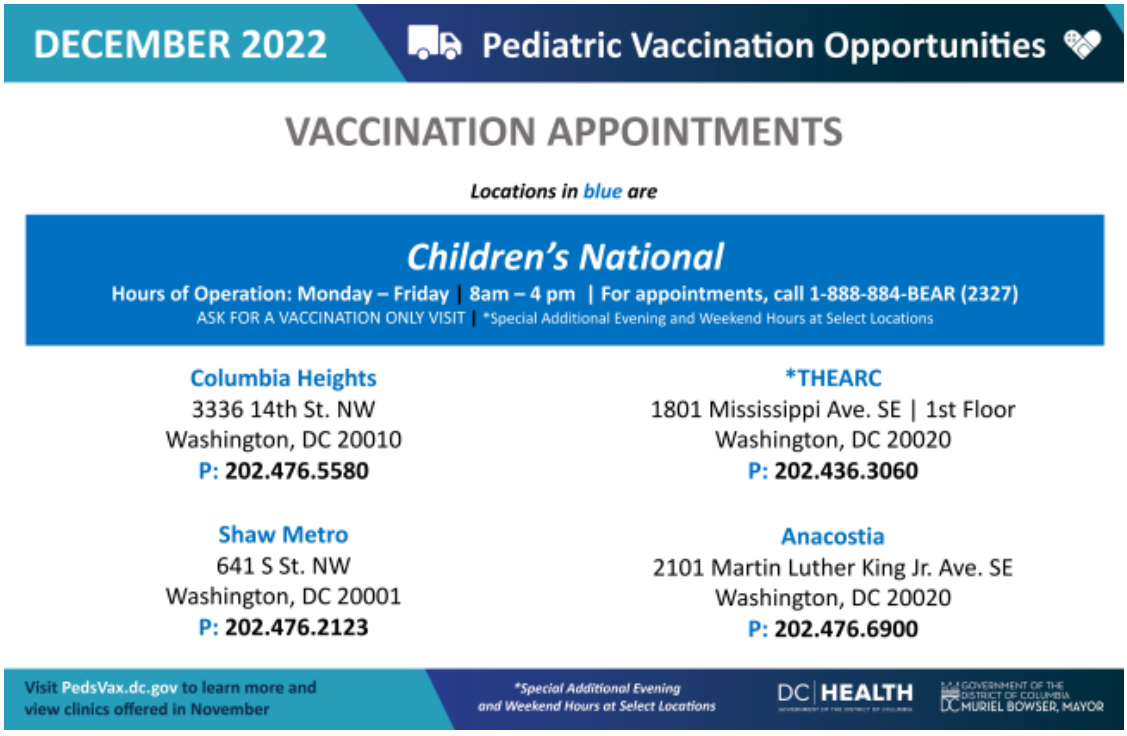
Help support DESA seniors! Bid online now for artworks, Master Classes (10 spots available for each class), services, and experiences provided by the class of 2023. Please contact Mrs. Veronica Martin at **vmartin@ellingtonarts.org** if you have any questions.

The bidding deadline has been extended to 7:00 p.m., Sunday, December 18.

Unless other arrangements are made, all items must be picked up at the front office of the school during business hours beginning December 19 through 21.

December 2022

Pediatric Immunization Resources & Locations



CVS Minute Clinics

Accepting walk-ins and online scheduled appointments.

Please confirm vaccine availability and insurance coverage. Find a CVS Minute Clinic based on your insurance carrier or plan at: https://www.cvs.com/minuteclinic/insurance-and-billing/insurance-check

56. 4859 MacArthur Blvd., NW Washington, DC 20007 https://www.cvs.com/minuteclinic **Monday - Friday 8:30am – 6:30pm** **Saturday 9:00am – 5:30pm** **Sunday 9:00am – 4:30pm**	**57.** 1275 Pennsylvania Ave., NW Washington, DC 20004 https://www.cvs.com/minuteclinic **Monday - Friday 8:30am – 7:30pm** **Saturday 9:00am – 5:30pm** **Sunday 9:00am – 4:30pm**	**58.** 2240 M St., NW Washington, DC 20037 https://www.cvs.com/minuteclinic **Monday - Friday 8:30am – 7:30pm** **Saturday 9:00am – 5:30pm** **Sunday 9:00am – 4:30pm**
59. 655 K St., NW Washington, DC 20001 https://www.cvs.com/minuteclinic **Monday - Friday 8:30am – 7:30pm**	**60.** 6 Dupont Cir., NW Washington, DC 20036 https://www.cvs.com/minuteclinic **Monday - Friday 8:30am – 7:30pm** **Saturday 9:00am – 5:30pm** **Sunday 9:00am – 4:30pm**	**61.** 4555 Wisconsin Ave., NW Washington, DC 20016 https://www.cvs.com/minuteclinic **Monday - Friday 8:30am – 7:30pm** **Saturday 9:00am – 5:30pm** **Sunday 9:00am – 4:30pm**
62. 320 40TH St., NW Washington, DC 20019 https://www.cvs.com/minuteclinic **Monday - Friday 8:30am – 7:30pm**	**63.** 845 Bladensburg Rd., NE Washington, DC 20002 https://www.cvs.com/minuteclinic **Monday - Friday 8:30am – 6:30pm** **Saturday 9:00am – 5:30pm** **Sunday 9:00am – 4:30pm**	**64.** 2226 Wisconsin Ave., NW Washington, DC 20007 https://www.cvs.com/minuteclinic **Monday - Friday 8:30am – 7:30pm** **Saturday 9:00am – 5:30pm** **Sunday 9:00am – 4:30pm**

For those of you who **still need your immunizations**, please check out these helpful Immunization Resources:

All District of Columbia Pediatric Immunization Locations, **FAQs for Families**, **Immunization Requirements**, **Universal Health Certificate**, **Pediatric Immunization Locations**, **HPV Opt-Out Form**, **Making the Vaccine Decision: Addressing Common Concerns**

Also, if you have questions about your child's immunization history, contact your medical provider and request a copy of your child's immunization history, or call the **DC Health Immunization Program** at (202) 576-7130.

Admin Reminders

Full Dress Code Policy

All cell phones and personal electronic devices must be silenced and cannot be visible during all instructional periods from 8:30 a.m. to 4:55 p.m.

Full Cell Phone Policy

Please remember to email your student's early dismissal requests to the email below by 10 a.m. to receive a permit to leave a pass for the day. **if you are absent from school, to be excused parents/guardians must email; attendance@ellingtonarts.org. The following reasons are classified as excused:**

- Illness of the student (a doctor's note is required for a student absent five or more cumulative days in a term);
- Illness of a child, for parenting students (a doctor's note for the student's child is required when the student is absent five or more cumulative days in a term);
- Medical or dental appointments for the student;
- Death in the student's immediate family;
- Exclusion by direction of the authorities of the District of Columbia, due to quarantine, contagious disease, infection, infestation, or other condition requiring separation from other students for medical or health reasons;
- Necessity for a student to attend a judicial or administrative proceeding, or court-ordered activity, as a party to the action or under subpoena;
- Observance of a religious holiday.
- Religious event celebration outside of a religious holiday (up to five cumulative days);
- Absences to allow students to visit their parent/guardian who is in the military, immediately before, during, or after deployment.
- College visits for students in grades 9-12 (up to three cumulative days);
- School visits for students in kindergarten through 8th grade (one day);
- Absences of expectant or parenting students for a time period specified by their doctor and any accommodations mandated by law;
- Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day; and
- An emergency or other circumstance approved by DCPS.

Ellington Spotlight!!

Members of the Duke Ellington School of the Arts (DESA) community, including senior vocal student Jonathan Hobbs (pictured), fear that a District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) takeover would eradicate DESA's dual-curriculum arts programming. (Photo by Robert Roberts)

Did you catch **Vocal Music senior Jonathan Hobbs** in the Washington Informer Article on the DESAP x DCPS negotiations? If not, read the article **here**.

"Within a matter of months, Jonathan Hobbs, like thousands before him, will graduate from the **Duke Ellington School of the Arts (DESA)** with extensive vocal arts training and a bevy of professional experiences guaranteed to prepare him for the next level in his career.

Upon entering DESA's vocal department in 2019, Jonathan found his niche as a bass baritone under the tutelage of **Dr. Monique Spells**, a DESA alumna, vocal instructor and director of DESA's celebrated Show Choir. He did so through several hours of group and individual vocal instruction that kept him on campus more than eight hours a day during the academic year, and throughout the summer months." - Sam Collins, Washington Informer

On Thursday, December 8, 2022, **four Museum Studies** seniors interviewed for an internship at ***Gallagher & Associates***, a prestigious internationally recognized design firm and the decision was unanimous!

They will all intern at the design firm in the spring on a mission to produce state-of-the-art designs in exhibition development and more! Check out one of G& A's **recent projects** at the National Museum of African American Music in Nashville, Tennessee.

Congratulations to Museum Studies seniors: Megdelawit **Doni, Emmette Hill, Andrew Brown, and Xochitl Biles!**

See Ellington in the news or want to share your story?

Email tyhoyle@ellingtonarts.org

From the School Librarian....

To get instant access to a 90-day library card, go to: https://www.dclibrary.org/catalog/account/application

Don't Forget to Donate to the DESA Menstrual Drive

The goal of the **Feminine Products Drive is to provide free tampons and maxi pads to students. Feminine products will be placed in female and gender-neutral restrooms throughout the school**.

We are asking students, staff, and families to donate menstrual products such as tampons and maxi pads to help provide for students in need. You may drop off feminine products at the school in the Main Office or subscribe through Amazon to have the products delivered to the school at **3500 R Street, NW, Washington, DC 20007**.

Thank you in advance for your support! For any inquiries, please contact **desasga23@gmail.com** and Ms. Shaw at **Charise.shaw@k12.dc.gov**

The Wellness Team!

Duke Ellington School of the Arts Student Referral for Mental Health and Counseling Support at Ellington

Parents, teachers/staff members, and students can also complete a referral form to connect students with mental health and counseling support at the school. There is a **student self-referral form** and a **student referral form for parents/staff** to complete. Completed forms to **desawellness@ellingtonarts.org**.

Once referral forms are received the team will connect the student to appropriate services.

Staff members providing mental health and counseling support

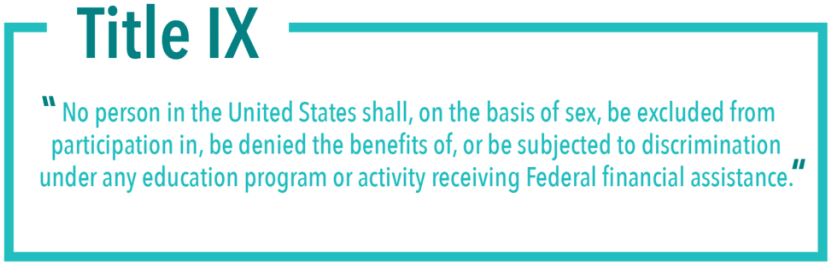
- Peter Boccardi: 9th Grade Social Worker / 504 Coordinator, **peter.boccardi@k12.dc.gov**
- Nicole Frazier: 10th Grade Social Worker / 504 Coordinator, **nicole.frazier@k12.dc.gov**
- Crystal Sylvia: 11th and 12th Grade Social Worker, **crystal.sylvia@k12.dc.gov**
- Dr. Ballard: Part-time Psychologist, **james.ballard@k12.dc.gov**

Additional Student Support Center Staff Members
Academic counselors:

- Suwana Reavis: 9th and 10th Grades, **suwana.reavis@k12.dc.gov**
- Larry Davis: 11th and 12th Grades, **larry.davis4@k12.dc.gov**

More Info

Student Resources for Reporting Title IX Issues and Concerns



It's important that all of us say something if we see something. Please remember that you can report any Title IX Sexual Misconduct or Bullying/Harassment incident by name or anonymously through our school app. You can also report directly to our Title IX Director, Mr. Hawkins at, **arnold@jlm-hrconsulting.com** or our Title IX Coordinators, Director Hayden at, **donna.hayden@k12.dc.gov** and Dean Sims at, **keyonna.sims2@k12.dc.gov**.

On-Campus Supports

Mr. Hawkins, HR & Title IX Director **arnold@jlm-hrconsulting.com**
Director Hayden, Director of Administrative Affairs & Title IX Coordinator **donna.hayden@k12.dc.gov**
Director Watkins, Director of SEL & Student Affairs & Bullying Point of Contact, **greg.watkins@k12.dc.gov**
Dean Sims, Dean & Title IX Coordinator **keyonna.sims2@k12.dc.gov**
Dr. Ballard, School Psychologist **james.ballard@k12.dc.gov**
Ms. Frazier, 9th & 12th **nicole.frazier@k12.dc.gov**
Ms. Sylvia, 10th & 11th **crystal.sylvia@k12.dc.gov**

Additional Title IX Resources

Click **here** for the complete SY22-23 Bell Schedule.

Monday Schedule		
40 Minute Classes		
(5 minute passing)	Period	
8:30am - 9:11am	One*	
9:15am - 9:56am	Two	
10:00am -10:41am	Three	
10:45am - 11:26am	Four	
11:25am - 12:25pm	**Lunch**	
12:30pm - 1:11pm	Five	
1:15pm - 1:56pm	Six	
2:00pm - 2:41pm	Seven	
2:45pm - 3:26pm	Eight	
3:30pm - 4:11pm	Nine	
4:15pm - 4:55pm	Ten	
4:55PM	**Dismissal**	

Advisory		
82 minute classes, 4 minute passing		
	Tues/Thurs (Even)	Wed/Fri (Odd)
8:30am - 9:52am	Two*	One*
9:56am - 11:18am	Four	Three
11:18am - 12:00pm	**Lunch**	
12:05pm - 1:27pm	Six	Five
1:30pm - 2:00pm	**Advisory**	
2:05pm - 3:27pm	Eight	Seven
3:31pm - 4:55pm	Ten	Nine
4:55pm	**Dismissal**	

	Non-Advisory	
85 minute classes, 5 minute passing		
	Tues/Thurs (Even)	Wed/Fri (Odd)
8:30am- 9:55am	Two*	One*
10:00am - 11:25am	Four	Three
11:25am - 12:25pm	**LUNCH**	
12:30pm - 1:55pm	Six	Five
2:00pm - 3:25pm	Eight	Seven
3:30pm - 4:55pm	Ten	Nine
4:55pm	**Dismissal**	

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 20
12:00 p.m.
National Honor Society Induction Ceremony - Performance Hall

December 21
Lunch
Student Task Force Meeting - Theatre

7:00 p.m.
Instrumental Music Winter Concert - Main Theatre

December 23 - January 2
Winter Break!

***Track practice is Monday through Friday at 7:00 a.m**. Student/Artist/Athletes must maintain a minimum G.P.A. of 3.0. Interested athletes can reach out to Coach Nelson at **leonard.nelson@k12.dc.gov** for more

information.

Please note, students will need to fill out a sign-up form by no later than 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday or Wednesday of the tutoring days. Click here to sign-up.

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