**Seven Oaks Elementary School**

**Ready to Go Far: 2025–2026 Info at a Glance**

**Dates to know:**

**Friday, August 8, 2025, Student Schedules Available in FOCUS**

Parents/guardians assigned educational rights in FOCUS are able to access student schedules as of

August 8th

* If you do not have an account, please click the link: [Creating a Parent Account for Schoology/Focus](https://cdnsm5-ss3.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_2744/File/Tech%20Support/Creating%20a%20Parent%20Account%20in%20B2C.pdf)
* If you have difficulty, click the link for help: [Tech Support](https://www.bcps.org/tech_support)

**Thursday, August 21, 2025, Sneak-a-Peek**:**5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.**

Sneak-a-Peek is a great opportunity for students to see their classroom, meet their teacher, and get excited

for the year ahead. While our teachers are looking forward to greeting you, we kindly ask that you save

in-depth questions or conversations for **Back-to-School Night on September 9th**, when more detailed

information about the year will be shared. This helps ensure that all families have a chance to stop by and

say hello. Thank you for your understanding and support!

Staff will be available at “Sneak-a-Peek” to guide families to classrooms or provide classroom information if needed.

**Monday, August 25, 2025, Opening Day of School for Students - Grades 1 through 5**

* School hours are **8:45 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.**
* Pre-School, Pre-Kindergarten, and Kindergarten parents will receive communication explaining the gradual entrance procedures. Please feel free to contact the school with any concerns or questions.
* Students returning to Seven Oaks will report to their assigned classroom. Staff will be strategically located throughout the building to guide and assist.
* ALL students in grades 1 – 5 who are new to Seven Oaks Elementarywill report to the main lobby. Staff will be available to greet and take students to their classrooms.
* To ensure the safety of students, and to allow for teachers and students to begin building their classroom community, routines, and procedures, we cannot accommodate visitors on the first day. Help will be available to take students to their classrooms. Please be prepared to say your goodbyes at the door. ☺
* Arrival and dismissal procedures are explained below. Please read the information carefully.
* A complete Family Handbook will be shared in September that will provide additional information regarding many important topics such as grading, attendance, transportation, and technology.

**Wednesday, August 27, 2025, First Full Day for Pre K 3 & 4 and Kindergarten**

Information from Pre-K and Kindergarten teachers will be shared with families.

**Wednesday, September 3, 2025, First PTA Meeting of the Year, 6:00pm!**

Please plan to join in the SOES library for our first PTA meeting of the year! Childcare will be provided at no charge by Caliday. A healthy and well supported PTA makes an immeasurable difference for our students. To learn more about our PTA, upcoming PTA events, and ways to get involved, click here: [SOES PTA](https://soes.ptboard.com/)

**Tuesday, September 9, 2025, Back-to-School Night, 5:30 – 7:30**

We’re excited to welcome all families to **Back-to-School Night on Tuesday, September 9, 2025**! Come early and grab a bite—**food trucks will be on site starting at 5:30 PM**.

At **6:00 PM**, we’ll gather in the cafeteria for a brief welcome and overview before heading to classrooms for teacher sessions where you'll learn more about the year ahead.

We can’t wait to partner with you for a great 2025–2026 school year!

**Information to know:**

**Breakfast & Lunch Program**

* + - Breakfast and Lunch are ***FREE*** for all students. More information regarding student meals can be found by clicking here, [Welcome Back BCPS Families](https://cdnsm5-ss3.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_2744/File/Business%20Services/Food%20&%20Nutrition%20Services/Start%20of%20Year%20Communications/SY24-25/Welcome%20Back%20Families%2024-25%20Eng.pdf)



* + - Students are welcome to bring a lunch from home if they prefer. **We kindly ask that all lunches be sent with students as part of their morning routine. Our front office is a busy place during the school day, and it can be challenging to ensure that late-delivered lunches reach students in time for their scheduled lunch periods.** Thank you for helping us keep our day running smoothly!
    - To ensure the health and safety of all our students—especially those with food allergies—**outside food from restaurants, such as McDonalds or Chick-Fil-A or delivery services such as DoorDash will not be accepted at school**. We appreciate your understanding as we work together to maintain a safe environment for every child.

**Arrival & Dismissal Procedures**

**Car Riders:** School doors open at 8:45 am each day. Please follow the flow of traffic in the car rider loop for your safety. Cars are **not permitted to drop off in the front bus loop.** The car rider loop is located on the left side of the building (next to the field) and leads directly to a school entrance. Please be prepared to follow the directions of staff members as they guide you to pull up and drop off. Please have students ready to exit the vehicle in efforts to keep the line moving and to have students quickly enter the building to start their day! Staff members are placed along the way to guide students and ensure safety in the hallway from the side entrance to their classrooms.

Please make sure to complete the attached 2025-2026 **Car Rider** **form and return it prior to the first day of school, August 25, 2025, if your child will be a daily car rider for dismissal.** This will help us prepare for a smooth and safe dismissal experience for all students. **Please note that parking in the Seven Oaks Senior Center will be closely monitored and is not considered a viable option for picking up or meeting your student.**

**Bus Riders:** Parents should be at the bus stops in the morning and afternoon to assist in monitoring their children. Students should arrive at their bus stops at least 10 minutes before the buses arrive. Bus riders will be dismissed for their bus from their classrooms according to the order that buses arrive. Students will follow the directions of bus drivers and/or assistants on the bus. Students are expected to stay seated and not engage in any disruptive or dangerous behaviors. Failure to follow the bus rules may result in removal from the bus. All students will receive the Baltimore County Student Handbook which outlines expectations for student behavior.

**We have Walkers!**

**Important transportation change for students who previously rode bus number 5492/5846.**

In collaboration with the Office of Transportation and the Baltimore County Police Department, **students living within the bus route covering the following areas: Cedar Chip, Meadow Bank Ct., Plantagenet Cir., Medici Ct., Bernadette Ct., Romanoff Ct., East Orange Ct., Seven Cts. Dr., Hapsburg Ct., Bourbon Ct., and Neves Ct., will now be designated as walkers** for the upcoming 2025-2026 school year. This change follows a thorough review of student safety, pedestrian access, and neighborhood infrastructure.

To support this transition, **Baltimore County Public Schools has completed the painting of a new crosswalk across the entrance to our school from Seven Courts Drive**, which complements the existing crosswalk within the area. With these improvements, we now have **safe, central crosswalks that allow students to cross Seven Courts in both directions**. We are also grateful that the **Baltimore County Police Department will provide two crossing guards daily** to support our school community during morning arrival and afternoon dismissal.

If you would prefer for your child to be a **car rider instead of a walker**, please complete the attached 2025-2026 Car Rider **form and return it prior to the first day of school, August 25, 2025.** This will help us prepare for a smooth and safe dismissal experience for all students. **Again, please note that parking in the Seven Oaks Senior Center will be closely monitored and is not considered a viable option for picking up or meeting your student.**

**In efforts to have a safe and orderly dismissal for all students, please adhere to the following:**

* Cars are not permitted to pull into the front bus loop after 3:00 pm. Please park in the school parking lot and come into the building to pick up your child.
* Changes to dismissal cannot be made after 3:00 pm.
* The office is very busy at the end of the day, therefore, we request that if you are picking up your child early you arrive before 3:15 or at 4:00.

**The Daily Dismissal Form attached to this email must be completed for each student and returned to the Main Office prior to the first day of school. Thank you!**

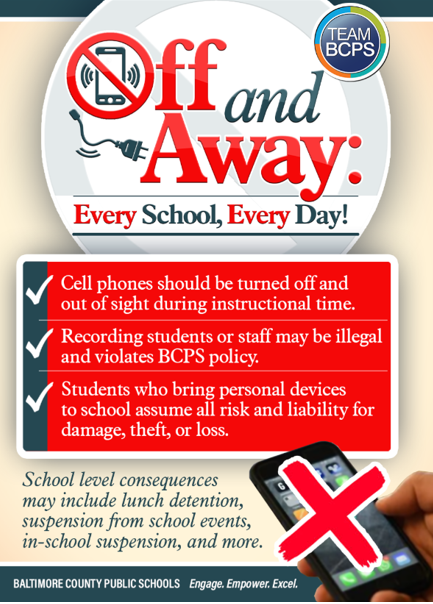
**Attendance**

There is a strong and positive correlation between student attendance and student achievement. Regular, full day attendance at school ensures that the students maximize their opportunities to learn and collaborate with their peers. Thus, we strongly encourage parents to make certain students are present, on time, and ready to learn. MSDE and BCPS require students to have a 94% attendance rate.  For example, six days absent for the first two quarters would be approximately 94%.

* Please review [Rule 5120 - Enrollment and Attendance - Attendance and Excuses](https://go.boarddocs.com/mabe/bcps/Board.nsf/files/CJPL9L557610/$file/RULE%205120_092722_Finalized.pdf)
* Please utilize the attached Attendance Tracker to monitor absences: [Attendance Tracker](https://cdnsm5-ss3.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_2744/File/Offices/Pupil%20Personnel%20Services/Attendance%20Toolkit%20&%20Reso). The tracker provides a visual for what is considered low, moderate and chronic absences.
* Work for planned vacations during the school year will not be provided ahead of time. All missed work must be made up when your child returns.
* Planned vacations are marked as unexcused absences.
* Upon your child’s return after an absence, please provide an absence note, stating the reason for the absence. This note can be e-mailed directly to your child’s teacher or placed in your child’s folder.
* Students arriving after 9:00 am are considered late and will be marked as Tardy. Arriving on time each day sets students up for success. When students are on time, they can ease into the day, hear important announcements, and engage fully in morning routines that build classroom community and prepare them for learning. Every minute counts, and consistent, on-time attendance helps students feel confident, connected, and ready to learn!

**New Student Cell Phone Policy**

More details to follow, but please review the graphics below for BCPS expectations.

A poster of a cell phone instruction

AI-generated content may be incorrect.