



Heyward Gibbes Middle School  
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**Collaborating, Achieving, Succeeding** August 2018

**MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL**



Ron Webb

Welcome to the 2018-19 school year! I hope you had an enjoyable and memorable summer! We are thrilled to welcome you back to a new school year of learning and growing!

I am proud to serve as Principal of Heyward Gibbes Middle School. This year we will be "Soaring Towards Excellence" through collaborating, achieving and succeeding.

I want to personally invite you to our Back to School Night/Meet and Greet on Thursday, August 16, 2018. This will be a great time to meet our new administrative team, faculty, staff, and other families, and learn about the upcoming school year. We

will begin the evening at 4:00 p.m. for our rising 6th grade families in the auditorium. At 5:00 p.m., after the meeting, we will all have a brief school-wide meeting in the auditorium, and from there you will be able to pick up your child's schedule, have IDs made for 6th grade and new students, visit your child's teachers, and enjoy refreshments with me at the Meet and Greet. I look forward to meeting each of you.

As always please feel free to visit us any time. If you have any questions or concerns throughout the year, my team and I will be happy to assist you.



**Kim Brown**  
Assistant Principal



**LaShawnte Sarvis**  
Assistant Principal



**Deon Jackson**  
Assistant Administrator

*"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."*

- Nelson Mandela

TDAP VACCINES REQUIRED FOR ALL 7TH GRADE STUDENTS PRIOR TO 1ST DAY: AUGUST 20, 2018



**Shots for School**

Dates to Remember

- **August 20**—First day of school
- **August 27- September 11**—RI and MI Inventory Assessments
- **September 3**—No School/Holiday
- **September 26**—Q1 Interims
- **October 12**—Student Holiday/Teacher Workday
- **October 31**—Q1 Report



**Soaring Towards Excellence**



# The Transition:

## Supporting Your Child Returning Back to School

We are excited about the year to come and hope that you and your child are ready for what is in store. Here are some practical ways that you use to help make the transition easier for you and your

child:

- **Encourage the love of learning.** Tell your child about teachers who inspired you and the interesting things you did in school. Keep it positive!
- **Treat school as a normal part of your family's activities.** Answer questions and discuss issues, but keep school preparation in perspective.
- **Visit the school with your child.** Visit your child's classrooms and meet school staff. Coordinate visits with the school.
- **Adjust bedtime schedules.** Bedtimes have often been less consistent in the summer months. Use different methods to help your child get back into the routine of going to bed in order to receive at least eight hours of rest.
- **Encourage your child to use an alarm clock.** Have your child to set the alarm each night after choosing clothing for the next day.
- **Shop for school supplies together.** Make a list of supplies needed to avoid conflicts during the outing. Use this time to discuss academic goals and organizational needs.
- **Hold a family meeting.** Discuss the schedule, expectations, and new rules that will go into effect for the school year.
- **Establish routines.** Bed time and wake-up times, getting dressed, after school activities, meals, and homework.
- **Try to get involved in your child's school.** Studies show that students are more motivated to learn when they see their parents involved in school. Plan to be easily available to your child. The first weeks of school are critical.
- **Enjoy.** This is a special process as a family because education is best when the entire family is involved. Everyone wins!

*Excerpt from The Incredible Importance of Effective Parenting by Jim R. Rogers*

## D.L.E.

### Digital Learning Environment

#### What you need to know

- All students will be issued a DLE device. (laptop). All students are responsible for protecting and maintaining their device.
- Students are expected to bring their devices daily to school, fully charged.
- Talk to your child about the values and standards you expect him or her to follow as they use the Internet.
- All district-issued laptops contain a filter for use at home.
- Parents are encouraged to monitor student activity at home, especially Internet access.
- Student email is limited to educational purposes.
- Students and parents should read the Acceptable Use Policy.

Due to the high cost of replacing a broken or stolen device RCSD1 is providing a Mandatory Protection Plan (MPP) to cover the cost of repairing or replacing a broken or stolen device. Please refer to the DLE Technology Handbook for Students and Parents for more information regarding the MPP. The MPP cost will be \$30 per year for each student and it is non-refundable. If the MPP is not paid in full, students will be held responsible for the full cost of repair or replacement. This MPP will not cover damages to the laptop caused by intentional misuse or damage, or the replacement of a stolen laptop if the incident is not reported to the school.

