

# Wayne County School System Back-to-School FAQs



1) When do students actually go back to class? Thursday, August 8

2) What are the most common problems associated with the beginning of the school year and what can I do to help?

- Traffic congestion is always a challenge the first few days of school. We ask parents/guardians who are dropping off students leave home a few minutes early so that they can drive safely and get their children to school on time.
- Students who ride the bus are asked to be at their designated bus stop 5-10 minutes early the first few days of school. It will take bus drivers several days to get their schedules settled. Students may not board a bus at any place other than their designated bus stop. NEVER PASS A BUS WHEN ITS AMBER LIGHTS ARE FLASHING.
- We want all students to come to school prepared to work. Supply lists for each school can be found by clicking on the 2019-2020 School Supply List link on the school system's home page.

3) Are there any significant changes about which I need to be aware?

In an effort to increase security and safety for our students, faculty, and staff, all schools will be implementing controlled entry points. Guests will be required to buzz in to gain access to the school office.

## Immunizations

- If your child is under five years of age, he/she will need the PCV13 vaccination.
- Children under five years who attend Pre-K must have two doses of Hepatitis A vaccine or show laboratory proof of immunity.
- Children currently enrolled in a 4 year old Pre-K program may need to obtain a 2<sup>nd</sup> dose of chicken pox, measles, and mumps vaccines.
- All 7<sup>th</sup> grade students are required to have the following immunizations to attend school: Tdap & MCV4 (Td does not count).
- 7<sup>th</sup> grade students must also have had 2 MMR and 2 VZV immunizations.
- New entrants to GA schools must also meet 7<sup>th</sup> grade requirements.

All Schools – Cell phone use is prohibited during school hours.

Wayne County High School – To improve security and safety, students will be issued a school ID that they will be required to wear while on campus.

**4) Are there any school-related events before school starts or in the first few of weeks of school I need to know about?**

- Open House for all Wayne County schools is Tuesday, August 6, from 3:30-6:00.
- Wayne County High School – *First Day at the Nest* – Freshman Orientation, Wednesday, July 31, from 2:00-3:15. Parking Permits will be available for purchase beginning July 30<sup>th</sup> (Time TBA). Permit form at <https://www.wayne.k12.ga.us/domain/146>.
- Arthur Williams Middle School – Jumpstart is Mon., August 5, 5:30-8:00pm. Parents will meet in the lunchroom where they will receive information about middle school from our administration, the counselor, and 6th grade teachers. Students will be divided into groups with each group competing in a locker relay, viewing a fashion show with appropriate & inappropriate dress code for middle school, participating in a scavenger hunt to become more familiar with the school, and playing a ball game that aids in organizational skills. These stations will be run by the 6th grade teachers. This is a great opportunity for parents & students to become more familiar with middle school!
- Martha Puckett Middle School – *Day Camp* for all 6<sup>th</sup> grade students will be Wednesday, July 31, from 9:00-1:00. An \$18 registration fee covers lunch and a custom MPMS T-shirt. Students are responsible for transportation to and from camp.
- Jesup Elementary School - To make our campus as safe as possible and to better facilitate the flow of traffic after school, students will be taken to vehicles by a parapro, teacher, or administrator. Parents are not allowed to walk-up to pick up children. Please remain in your vehicle and your child will be brought to you.
- James E. Bacon Elementary School – In the mornings, all car-riders should be dropped off at the back of the gym as normal procedure. There will be no drop-off at the front of the school unless a student is tardy after the 7:50 bell. At that time, the parent must walk the student inside to complete tardy slip. Afternoon pick-up will be Pre-K through first grade at the front of the school. Grades 2-5 will be at the back of the gym.

**5) What else do I need to know to make sure we start the school year right?**

- We ask that all parents/guardians and students read and sign the Parent-Student Handbook they will receive on the first day of school. The signature page in the back should be returned to the student's homeroom teacher within three school days.
- We encourage all parents to complete and return the Free-Reduced Lunch form that will go home on the first day of school. Significant funding is tied to the percentage of students receiving free or reduced lunch so it is imperative that we get back as many forms as possible. Only one form is required per household.
- Creating an early pattern of consistent school attendance establishes attitudes and habits that will carry over into adult work habits. Your child's success in school depends on having a solid educational background, one that can only be gained through regular school attendance.