



KIRK A. SYKES
HEAD OF SCHOOL



<http://SEEDSchoolMD.org>



(410) 843-9477



200 Font Hill Avenue
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THE SABER LOOP

Quote of the week:

*"Don't let your learning lead to knowledge.
Let your learning lead to action." ...*

-Jim Rohn

Dear SEED MD Family,

Week three has been quite eventful as we pulled together to respond to the Mayor's and the Department of Public Works boil water advisory. We are grateful for the care that was provided by the student life team and also extend gratitude to the facilities, IT, and CORE leaders who assisted us in providing water and planning for remote instruction. It's not always the things that happen to us, it's often how we respond that makes the difference. With that said, it's you the teachers and counselors, and deans who are the real heroes this week for keeping students encouraged and supporting us through these unforeseen circumstances.

Our school year calendar can be impacted by weather or environmental emergencies like the boil water advisory we experienced this week or by power outages, water main breaks, snow days, etc. These emergencies in some instances may require us to

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cancel school and extend our school year. This is because we must have 180 instructional days in the school year. If and when this happens, we will be sure to forecast the expected impact of the emergency. Where we can have a remote learning day we will certainly ask MSDE if that is allowable and can count as an instructional day.

R.E.S.P.E.C.T. find out what it means to me... The queen of soul said it and we agree with her. We are continuing to embed respect in all things that we do and model this CORE value for our scholars this week. It is the foundation of our CORE Values and supports us in developing the student and adult culture that supports teaching and learning. Last week, we shared some ways to embed respect in your lessons with adolescents. Here are some others. Click on this [link](#) for HS 9-12 Respect Lessons and this [link](#) for Middle School Respect Lessons.

At SEED MD, we really encourage staff members to get involved in mentoring, coaching, and supporting student life and extra-curricular activities. This year, we

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have the following opportunities for program leadership and project management at our school. These leadership opportunities support academic and student life programming as well as leadership development and student success. Please see the [link](#) for a list of the openings.

As far as COVID-19 updates, I would like to share that our numbers are still low. We had five cases this week and three last week.

Please save the date of Sept 20th at 7:30 a.m., 12 noon, and 3 p.m. I will host coffee, cupcakes, and conversations with the **Head of School** in the library. This is the first sit down, no agenda, get acquainted question and answer opportunity for staff. Please stop by at a time that is convenient for you. Because we have no agenda, please come prepared with any questions and/or requests that you would like to discuss. Last week, we shared the Re-Opening Plan, the School Improvement Plan, the Staff Handbook, the Family Student Handbook, and the calendar for the Communication Committee. If you have thoughts on any of those docs, we would love to hear from you.

As you know, [Calendarwiz](#) is where we list school-related activities and events. At times, we know there are last-minute opportunities

that come to you that you feel will benefit students or staff.

Please know that before those are scheduled, they will need to be vetted departmentally and approved by the Chief of Staff as she controls the schoolwide calendar. We do this to mitigate the impact of last-minute swerves across departments and/or any changes that could potentially impact program planning. Thanks for helping us maintain a high level of communication, collaboration, and collegiality. Also, the testing schedule for next week is below.

Have a great weekend!

Kirk A. Sykes
Head of School

MAP Testing Schedule

Assessment	Date	Time
Grade 6 – 10 Reading	September 13 (Tuesday)	1st and 2nd Period
Gr 6 – 10 Math	September 14 (Wednesday)	1st and 2nd Period