

EVENT CALENDAR

July 27, 2018

Dear Member of the Class of 2022,

Welcome to Cougar Nation! You are now a Quince Orchard High School Cougar and we are thrilled to welcome you. I know that you are excited about your freshman year of high school and we are looking forward to beginning the journey with you. Principals, administrators, and teachers from Ridgeview, Lakelands Park, and Roberto Clemente Middle Schools, among others, have said so many great things about you! I can't help but look forward to your arrival. I know that your class is going to contribute to the proud traditions here at Quince Orchard High School, in academics and the arts, on our athletic fields, and through our commitment to the school and community.

I am confident that you will feel more than welcome as you enter our halls; we are committed to helping you have a smooth transition. You will continue to be with friends that you made in middle school, but you will also have the chance to come together with many new peers. We encourage you to take an active part in forming new friendships. Through your classes, extracurricular activities, and the sports in which you participate, you will meet many new people who will challenge you to learn about yourself. From your very first class, your studies will help you acquire knowledge and skills you need to prepare for your life after high school. I know that you will find our teachers to be challenging academically, but you will also find that they are supportive and willing to help you do your very best.

Participation in the whole school program is important as you start your freshman year. We also welcome your parents' participation, and urge them to join the PTSA and the QO All-School Booster Club. Membership information is enclosed with this letter. As the school year approaches, if you and your parents have any questions, please do not hesitate to call our Counseling Office at 240-740-3620. Take a moment to look at our website, <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/qohs/>, for current information about events at school and for access to forms that are necessary for participation in the extracurricular programs, summer reading assignments, and other timely topics.

The QO event calendar is posted on our website and is included in the student agenda book which you will receive at the beginning of the school year.

August 6	Fall Sports Online Registration Due
August 7	Student Meet & Greet Mrs. Thomas 3:00 pm
August 8	Fall Sports Try-outs and Practices begin
August 28	Parent Meet & Greet w/ Mrs. Thomas 6:00 pm
August 29	9 th Grade Family Cookout and Parent Meeting --- 6:00 pm
August 30	New Student Orientation --- 7:45 – 11:30 am; Bus transportation provided. Bus schedules are on the Quince Orchard website. Pick up times are listed on the schedule. If you ride the bus, it will depart school at the end of Orientation at 11:35 am.
September 4	First Day of School --- Welcome Back!
September 6	Back to School Night - 7 pm
October 15	Start of Spirit Week
October 10	Schoolwide PSAT for grades 9 - 11
October 18	Homecoming Corners
October 19	Homecoming Parade and Football Game
October 20	Homecoming Dance

I am looking forward to seeing many of you at QO during our student meet & greet and/or fall sports try-outs which begin August 8, 2018. I also hope that you will attend either our Booster Sponsored Parent Meet & Greet on August 28, 2018 at 6:00 and/or New Student Family Picnic on Wednesday, August 29, 2018 at 6:00 pm. The picnic will be followed by a parent information meeting in the Auditorium at 7:00 pm. On August 30, 2018, the buses roll, and we will conduct our 9th grade orientation throughout the morning. Bus schedules will be posted on the Quince Orchard website. Please make sure that you attend this important “first day” of school – it will be devoted to you and your classmates and to the success we will be working toward during your first year of high school.

Enjoy the remaining days of vacation and make sure that you complete your summer assignments (listed on the QO website). As school begins, I look forward to meeting you and getting to know you. As members of the Class of 2022, welcome to Quince Orchard High School! And never forget....We can't Hide Our Cougar Pride!

All the best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elizabeth L. Thomas". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Elizabeth L. Thomas (Beth)

Important Information

What to Bring on the First Day of School or Before

Students should come to school with paper, pencil and pen. Teachers will go over supply lists for their courses as well as course expectations during the first class.

All families should complete the emergency contact form available on the website or in the Main Office of the school by filling in their **parents' address and work and home phone numbers** and other important information. These forms should be brought to school on the first morning and given to each student's advisory teacher. Parents are also encouraged to provide cell phone numbers and e-mail addresses in order to help us with communication and the need to contact them in case of emergency.

If you plan to participate in athletics, you must have a current physical on file and have paid the **activity fee** through the Board of Education by **August 7**. The form is enclosed with this letter and available at the school and online. Please check the QOHS website for a link.

Bring your enthusiasm, your work ethic, and your Cougar Spirit!

If you have a **financial obligation** to the school, please help us by paying immediately. Please contact Ms. Jackie Kumiega in the Business Office at 240-740-3611 if you have any questions.

A Statement about Hazing

Hazing and bullying are strictly prohibited. Students should be aware that acts of hazing and bullying will not be tolerated. If students carry out such acts, they risk suspension from school. The school administrators and coaches appreciate your cooperation.

A Note on Military Recruiting and Directory Information

If a parent does not wish to have his/her child's name made available to military recruiters and/or does not wish to have their child's directory information included in the student directory, they should complete the form, "Request to Withhold Directory Information for the 2018-2019 School Year." As with most of our forms, it is available online and may be obtained in paper format in the Main Office. The form must be returned to the school by September 14, 2018.

Testing Accommodations for the College Board Tests (AP, SAT, PSAT)

In order to receive accommodations on these tests, a student must request the accommodations by submitting a Student Eligibility Form. The form must be completed by parents and school officials and then mailed to the College Board **at least seven weeks in advance of the student taking the first test**. The criteria established by the College Board for granting testing accommodations varies significantly from those used by Montgomery County Public Schools. Students who have an Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) or a 504 Plan are not guaranteed that the College Board will provide accommodations. The College Board requires current neuropsychological testing (within the past three years) which documents the specific need for each requested accommodation. Please contact Mr. David Mullaney in the Counseling Office (240-740-3620) in order to obtain the forms and to ask questions about this process.