



Weekly Parent Newsletter

November 20, 2020

Important Date Reminders

Kids Ride Free cards pickup 11/25 – Please contact office to let us know you need to pick a card. See info below for more information.

Thanksgiving Break 11/25-27 – No school for students for Thanksgiving Break

School Calendars are Here

If you would like a DCPS school calendar, please stop by school and pick one up. They are available at the front door in English and Spanish for grab and go. Digital version can be found [HERE](#).

CARES Classrooms

CARE Classrooms serving elementary school students will open in phases during Term 2. At this time Cooke is preparing to open 1 CARES classroom for 3rd grade on December 9th. We will be contacting families in 3rd grade to provide more information regarding seat availability. For more information regarding CARE Classrooms, please visit dcpsreopenstrong.com.

Need Internet Access at Home?

Mayor Muriel Bowser wants to make sure your student has internet at home during this virtual school term. DC Government will be paying for a year of residential internet service for eligible households provided by Comcast and RCN.

DC Government will reach out to SNAP and TANF eligible households with PK3-12th grade students enrolled at DC traditional and charter public schools. Please see attached flyer for more information.

Visiting the School

Starting Monday, November 23rd, anyone needing to come to school must have a scheduled appointment. Visitors are not allowed at school without an appointment at this time. To make an appointment, please contact the main office at 202-939-5390 or you can send an email to Ms. Emma Amaya (emma.amaya@k12.dc.gov) or Ms. Jackie (Jacqueline.alvarado@k12.dc.gov).

Aspen Parent Portal

The goal of the [District's Parent Portal](#) is to create an open portal of communication between teachers and families to more easily work as a team in supporting each student's learning. The portal provides families more insight into what occurs in the classroom, helping them become better equipped to support their child's strengths and areas of growth. Term 1 report cards are now available in the Parent Portal. Click [HERE](#) for information on how to access the portal.

Your initial log-in information for the Parent Portal should have arrived via email. If you haven't received your username and password, please reach out to the main office to make sure we have your correct email address and have granted you Parent Portal access in the system.

Impact Aid Survey Forms

Each year, DCPS asks all families to complete the Impact Aid survey to generate additional federal funds for DCPS. This year, the survey has moved to an electronic format using the Seamless platform and will be open for completion from October 30th to December 22nd. All DCPS families should complete one survey per child, not household, in their preferred language and submit by Tuesday, December 22, 2020. To access the form click [HERE](#).

DCPS Wants to Hear from You!

We value your opinion, and your perspective is critical as we continue to navigate this public health emergency together. To ensure we are hearing more from you and engaging directly with families, DC Public Schools is partnering with Trendency Research, an independent research firm, to track your experience with learning at home and the school year overall.

Survey Links

- English: bit.ly/DCPS-November-Survey
- Spanish: bit.ly/DCPS-noviembre

Updated Physicals and Oral Health Assessments

REQUIRED FOR IN-PERSON LEARNING -- Health physicals and oral health assessments are required annually. Medical forms must be turned in to the school as part of the enrollment process, and any updated forms throughout the school year should be submitted to the school. Students must have an up-to-date health assessment form on file with the school once in-person learning begins. This is the best time to ensure your student's health form is updated. Schedule an appointment with your doctor if your student needs a current physical.

Students will NOT be able to return to in-person learning without an updated health and immunization form on file.

You may call the school to find out if your student has an updated health form (202-939-5390) or you can email your current health form to Ms. Emma (emma.amaya@k12.dc.gov).

You can find all the forms by visiting: [School Health Requirements](#)

School Year 20-21 Dietary Accommodations

If your student requires dietary accommodation for the 2020-2021 school year, please complete the appropriate dietary accommodation form. Note that the form(s) must have all applicable sections completed for the form to be processed.

New accommodation forms must be completed each school year, each summer, and if your student moves to a different school during the school year.

Forms can be found [here](#).

Kids Ride Free

If you would like to request a new Kids Ride Free SmarTrip card, please contact the main office and we can have one ready for you to pick up. Next pickup date is **11/25**. You must contact the school to request one prior to picking up.

For more information you can visit: [Kids Ride Free FAQ](#)

Having Technology Problems?

If you are having problems with technology or login into your class, contact the Family Support line by calling (202) 442-5885 or visit: [DCPS Support Page](#)

Breakfast and Lunch for Students (and Food Distribution)

Even though we will be starting the year with virtual instruction, DCPS remains committed to supporting our students with meal distribution during the pandemic. Ensuring access to nutritious meals means that students are set up for success and ready to learn.

Grocery sites are available throughout the District to provide fresh fruits, vegetables, and non-perishable groceries to families. Residents are encouraged to bring a cart and/or tote bag to transport groceries at home. Masks are required at the grocery sites. Grocery sites are open 10 am – 11:30 am (Friday's at CHEC).

The closest location to our school for breakfast/lunch and food distribution is Columbia Heights Education Campus (CHEC): 3101 16th St NW. You can find more locations by visiting: [Food Distribution](#)

Parent University

DCPS Parent University is a workshop series for families facilitated by the Communications and Engagement Office. Each session is designed to help families play their important role in supporting student learning and growth. The workshops are an opportunity for families to share strategies and learn new ones from each other and DCPS Central Office teams.

To view or register for upcoming sessions, visit: [Parent University](#)

News from PTO:

Back in October we had our "Stock the Pantry!" food and donation drive. We were able to raise almost \$1,000 with your help! Thank you all so much for your generosity. The PTO will use the funds raised to purchase and distribute groceries for Thanksgiving dinner to families in need. If you would like to make a donation for this effort, please use our PayPal link: <https://www.hdcookeschool.org/pto>

WhatsApp Groups

If you'd like to be able to contact other parents, please join the WhatsApp group that was created by PTO for your grade. Download the App to join us.

Prek3 - <https://bit.ly/3jHB1yZ>

Prek4- <https://bit.ly/2GS76ph>

Kinder - <https://bit.ly/34AX1p8>

1st - <https://bit.ly/3nroull>

2nd/3rd - combined - <https://bit.ly/3jIZyUm>

4th/5th - combined - <https://bit.ly/30MaVDJ>

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