



Weekly Parent Newsletter

December 18, 2020

Important Date Reminders

Winter Break December 23 – January 1, 2021 – No classes for students during winter break. Have a safe and relaxing break.

Kids Ride Free cards pickup 12/30 – Please contact office to let us know you need to pick a card. See info below for more information.

CARE Class Update

Greetings H.D. Cooke families,

It sure has been an eventful week! I hope your kiddos got to enjoy the first real snowflakes of the season this week. As shared in the letter sent out Thursday evening, the asymptomatic testing conducted this week for the students in our CARE classrooms included a positive case – so our CARE program is now closed for quarantine through next week and will reopen in January. We wish the students and family well.

While we regret the disruption to our CARE classrooms – which are bringing students, staff, and families much-needed joy and support – I am grateful that the testing protocol quickly identified asymptomatic cases so we could respond immediately. Additionally, we are trusting that the safety measures and protocols that we have in place are helping – mask requirements, social distanced classroom setup, and enhanced air filtration. We will continue to keep you posted as we learn more about how to most safely do in-person school in these challenging times.

Principal Lam

Grade Level Class with Inner Core

Tuesday, December 22nd, during the Inner Core block, each grade will gather together to celebrate the Holiday season. Students will still go to their Inner Core class Canvas page, or the schedule on their Homeroom Teacher's Canvas page to find the TEAMS link.

Materials Needed: Paper and crayons/markers/colored pencils

Looking forward to celebrating together!

Cooke Time!

Thank you for joining us during the month of December for our Cooke Time sessions! We have made some great desserts. They have been so fun. Please be on the lookout for more to come in January!! Let me know if you want to show off your cooking skills and host one!

Winter Night of Fun

We will have a fun night of virtual activities on December 22 at 5 pm. We will do read a louds, play a couple of games, learn about winter holidays and maybe we will have a visit story read by Santa! The event will be via Zoom. Hope to see all of you to celebrate the start of winter and winter break!

Topic: Winter Night of Fun

Time: Dec 22, 2020 05:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/9858253234?pwd=bzdTSDIDL2FjdDRjdmJpNU9pZXlFdz09>

Meeting ID: 985 825 3234

Passcode: sonic

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](#).

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. Contact the school or your student's teacher for more information.

Visiting the School

Anyone needing to come to school must have a scheduled appointment. Visitors are not allowed at school without an appointment at this time. All visitors will have temperature checks at the door. 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.

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 you 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 **12/16**. 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:

Dear families, thank you so much for your generous contribution to the PTO during the Giving Tuesday. The money has been added to our family help fund.

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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