

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL!

Dear Parents, Students, and Community,

I am incredibly excited and looking forward to welcoming both our new and returning families to Place Bridge Academy for the 2019/2020 academic year.

My name is José Martinez. I am honored to have been selected as an interim principal to support Place Bridge Academy. In the past few years, I have served as a Teacher, Counselor, Principal, Director of Equity, Executive Director of Schools, and Community Superintendent. I am excited to have the opportunity to bring my experience and all that I have learned to this wonderful community. Since my retirement from Jeffco Schools I have been the Principal at George Washington High School, Cheltenham Elementary and Bryant Webster ECE – 8. I am motivated by a clear purpose and a deep passion for providing a quality education for all students. I believe together we can make a significant difference in the lives of our children.

I am looking forward to getting to know your children, spending time with them, and learning their respective interests. Please know that I am here to support you should you need any help navigating any aspect of our school. My goal is to ensure that all students at Place Bridge Academy are safe, healthy, and happy, so they may learn as much as they can.

Furthermore, I am looking forward to a productive partnership with you to ensure our students can achieve to their highest potential. We recognize that in order to be successful in school, your children need support from both home and school. Our teachers are back and working very hard to ensure a pleasant and successful year for everyone. I am counting on you to guide and support your child's learning by:

- Ensuring that they attend school daily and arrive on time,
- Complete all homework assignments given by teachers,
- Read to them daily to improve literacy skills, and
- Share school experiences with you to keep you informed of their school activities.

PLEASE BE INFORMED THAT WE NO LONGER HAVE EARLY RELEASE ON FRIDAYS. OUR NEW SCHOOL HOURS ARE MONDAY - FRIDAY FROM 8:50 AM – 4:00 PM.

Kindly note the important information and dates below as I will be looking forward to seeing you all.

- **First day of School - Monday, August 19th (1st - 8th grades only)**
- **Kinder and ECE start date - Wednesday, August 21st, 2019.**
- Back to School Night - Thursday, August 29th - 5:30 – 7:30 pm
- First Parent Meeting - Wednesday, September 11th - 10:00 – 11:00 am (meet and greet the Principal, interpretation will be provided).

Homework at PBA:

K-2 grades

If your child is in primary grade (ECE-2nd) you can expect homework in math and/or literacy for 20 minutes each day 4 days a week.

3rd - 5th grade

If your child is in the intermediate grades (3rd-5th), you can expect homework in reading and math. You can expect about 20-30 of reading nightly and math work that should take approximately 20-30 minutes everyday.

6th - 8th grade

If your child is in middle school you can expect about 60-80 minutes a night in the content areas (math, literacy, social studies, science).

K - 8th grade

From your specials teachers, you can expect practice 3x a week for about 15 minutes and students will

need to demonstrate their growth in their class.

Again, thank you for your involvement. We look forward to the 2019-2020 school year with great anticipation.

José A. Martínez,
Principal
Place Bridge Academy

UPCOMING EVENTS!

August 19 - First day of school - 1st - 8th grade students

August 20 - Boys Soccer, Girls Softball & XC (boys and girls) Try-outs - 4:00 to 6:00 pm

August 21 - First day of school - ECE & Kinder students

August 26 - 29 - Registration for Free Adult English Language Classes - 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

August 29 - Back to School Night - 5:30 - 7:30 pm

August 31 - Free Citizenship Workshop - 1200 Federal Blvd Denver, CO 80204 - 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

September 2 - LABOR DAY, NO SCHOOL

September 3 - Free Adult English Language Classes start date - Parent Welcome Center - 9:00 am

September 3 - Denver Human Services Eligibility Representative Start Day - PBA RM 89 next to Parent Welcome Center - 8:30 am - 3:30 pm

September 4 - First day of Bridges After School Program

September 11 - First Parent Meeting - Meet and Greet the Principal, Interpretation will be provided.

REMINDERS!

IMPORTANT SCHOOL REMINDERS:

SCHOOL DAYS - Monday - Friday - 8:50 am - 4:00 pm

BREAKFAST- Free for all students - 8:15 am - 8:45 am

BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHT - THURSDAY, AUGUST 29 - 5:30 - 7:30 PM

Please join us on Thursday, August 29, for Back To School Night! The evening will start with a presentation at Place Bridge Academy at 5:30 pm.

FREE ADULT ENGLISH LANGUAGE CLASS REGISTRATION - AUGUST 26TH - 29TH, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM AT PBA PARENT WELCOME CENTER

PBA is offering a **FREE ADULT ENGLISH LANGUAGE CLASSES** at our Parent Welcome Center in partnership with Emily Griffith. **Registration starts Monday August 26th - Thursday, August 29th from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm** each day. Beginner and Intermediate Level classes offered. Classes will start on September 2nd! **SPACE IS LIMITED!**

FREE CITIZENSHIP WORKSHOP - AUGUST 31ST, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

The Denver Office of Immigrant & Refugee Affairs, Denver Human Services & CIRC are hosting a **FREE** Citizenship Workshop on Saturday, August 31st, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm. This workshop will help individuals apply for Citizenship, DACA and Green Card Renewals, and determine qualification for a full/partial fee waiver, and will have trusted attorneys to review applications.

When - Saturday, August 31st

Where - Denver Human Services, 1200 Federal Blvd Denver, CO 80204

Time - 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Interested, Register at bit.ly/ColoradoIsHome or call 970-430-6729. Click [here](#) to start your registration!

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2 - LABOR DAY, NO SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER 3 - DENVER HUMAN SERVICES REPRESENTATIVE START DAY - 8:30 am - 3:30 pm

Starting September, Representatives from Denver Human Services will be here at PBA every Tuesday and Wednesday to help you with **EMPLOYMENT AND ELIGIBILITY ASSISTANCE**. If you have questions about employment services, eligibility, re-determination process, and other resources that relate to General Assistance and/or any Eligibility programs, be sure to come meet with a DHS Specialist here at PBA (SEE DETAILS BELOW).

FOR EMPLOYMENT SERVICES - EVERY TUESDAY FROM 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM - STARTING SEPTEMBER 3RD - PBA RM 89 (NEXT TO PARENT WELCOME CENTER)

- Job Readiness Training
- Vocational Training

- GED Preparation Resources
- Referrals to community
- Agency resources

FOR ELIGIBILITY - EVERY WEDNESDAY, 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM - STARTING SEPTEMBER 4TH - PBA RM 89 (NEXT TO PARENT WELCOME CENTER)

- Rental Assistance Application *
- Motel Vouchers
- Family Reunification
- State ID/Birth Certificate Waivers
- Medicaid, SNAP, TANF Assistance

Please Note: Rental assistance application will be accepted until 1:00 pm by appointment only – call 720-483-6606 to schedule your appointment.

JOBS FOR YOU

Are you looking for a job? **The DoubleTree by Hilton Denver – Stapleton North located at 4040 Quebec Street, Denver, CO 80216 has job openings for our PBA families.** You do not have to know how to speak English to be hired. If hired, ECO PASSES will be provided to cover your cost of transportation (RTD or Light Rail) to work, however, you must be full time employee working 32 hour or more to qualify. **For more information or to apply, please call Rosemary Fierra, Assistant Director of Human Resources at 303- 262 -7703, or Megan at 303-321-6666.**

SHOP AMERICAN FURNITURE WAREHOUSE (AFW)

Shop American Furniture Warehouse, Make any purchase at any AFW location, online or by phone ANYTIME or INVITE FAMILY/FRIENDS and support our school. Use Promo Code “SCHOOL” During check-out or mention our school or our **School ID: PBA 354** See more details [Here!](#)

SPORTS!

Welcome Back to all our upper academy student-athletes and families. We have an exciting year ahead for sports.

Our Early Fall Sports are **Boys Soccer, Girls Softball and XC for Boys and Girls! Try-outs will be Tuesday, August 20th after school from 4:00 to 6:00 pm.** Our buses will be running so students can try-out. Please bring a water bottle and tennis shoes or cleats for the try-out.

Please be aware that a \$25 participation fee per sport is required should you make the team. Additionally, prior to any middle school student's participation in a sport, the school must have on record, a current doctor's physical and an emergency card.

Feel free to contact me with any question(s) you may have.

Good Luck!

**Kathleen Nickless
Athletic Director
Phone: 720-424-1042
Email: kathleen_nickless@dpsk12.org**

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Welcome to the 2019/2020 School Year! I hope you had a wonderful summer break!

The first day of school is usually an exciting time. The children can't wait to meet their new teacher, see their old friends and use their new backpack. After a few days however, it doesn't seem quite as exciting to get up early in the morning and out the door!

Here are some tips for the first week of school: Using the following ideas can help your mornings run more smoothly and help everyone get on their way with smiles:

- Have a bedtime routine that allows for your children to get enough sleep. Children who are tired will definitely not want to get up in the morning!
- Be consistent with your expectations. Make sure your child knows what you expect. If the morning routine means waking up, getting dressed, making the bed, eating breakfast, brushing teeth, packing lunch & backpack, then make sure your child completes all those duties before

- letting them play or watch television.
- Work together by telling them if they can get ready quickly enough, there will be time to read a book together.
- Make breakfast easy. It's the most important meal of the day! Have healthy options in a place where children can get to them. Cereal, instant oatmeal, bagels or toast are all items that most children can prepare themselves.
- Prepare the night before. Have clothing picked out, take baths or showers, make sure all items needed are in the backpack ready to go! Have your child put his/her backpack near the door.

I will look forward to meeting our new students and seeing all your beautiful faces in the hallways!

**Tami Koenig MA,
School Counselor:
Phone: 720-424-0973
Email: tami_koenig@dpsk12.org**

BRIDGES AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM!

Welcome Back to a wonderful new school year. The BRIDGES staff and I look forward to being with your children after school. We have many fun activities planned for them in addition to providing daily homework help and dinner. Below are details for this year:

*****FREE NO COST AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM*****

- Start Date: Wednesday, September 4, 2019
- Time: 4:00 PM to 6:15 PM
- Days: Monday through Thursday – **NO FRIDAY BRIDGES**
- Free No Cost Program
- Daily Dinner and Homework Help
- Many fun activities weekly!

Click [HERE](#) to download and print Bridges registration form or stop by the front office to pick up one.

Stay tuned for more information on a BRIDGES Early Morning Program starting sometime this Fall! For more information please call or email:

**Roxie Berkman
BRIDGES PROGRAM DIRECTOR
PHONE: 720-424-0960 before 4:00 PM
CELL PHONE: 720-437-1183 after 4:00 PM
EMAIL: Roxie_Berkman@dpsk12.org**

CIVICS BEE!

As part of Place Bridge Academy effort to help our students and families become more informed and engaged in the political system in the United States, we will be continuing our Civics Bee this year!

Each week, starting the 1st week of September, there will weekly trivia questions (1 for Lower Academy & 1 for Upper Academy) asking questions about the United States government and political system.

Students can turn in their answers in the bin located in the library and a winner will be chosen each Friday afternoon!

**Hans Broers
8th Grade Social Studies Teacher
720-424-0960**



SHOUT OUT!



**CLICK [HERE](#) FOR DISTRICT 2019/2020
CALENDAR**



PLACE BRIDGE ACADEMY
— Bringing the World Together —

School Vision: Competent, Confident, and Caring Students Ready to Pursue their Dreams!

Place Bridge Academy
Attendance Line: 720-424-0968
720-424-0960 | place.dpsk12.org