

**IMPORTANT
ANNOUNCEMENT !**

INTRODUCING OUR NEW PRINCIPAL ANDREW SCHUTZ!



A Letter from the Principal!

Members of the Place Bridge Community,

It is with tremendous excitement that I introduce myself as the new principal at Place Bridge Academy. I know Place Bridge is a school with a great history and a proud community, and I am honored by the opportunity to be a part of the next chapter. I am especially looking forward to getting to know the students, educators, and families that make up Place Bridge. I am dedicated to working with all to make the school a place where students have a joy of learning, a sense of pride and purpose, and the ability to achieve at a high level.

My experience in education started as an ELA-S teacher at McMeen Elementary. At that time, McMeen was a school with over 40 different languages spoken and a wonderfully diverse community. It was there that I learned about strong instruction and the importance of supporting the social-emotional needs of every child. After my years in the classroom, I began my journey in school leadership as an assistant principal at Sabin World School in Southwest Denver. For the last five years, I have been the principal at Valverde Elementary. During this time, the school has made significant progress, and gone from Red to Green on the district and state SPF. During my time as a leader in SW Denver, I have gained valuable experience in supporting educators as they support students, partnering with families and community members, and creating a culture for kids and adults that is positive and geared towards the success of all those involved.

My time as an educator has given me an appreciation for creating an environment in which students, teachers, and families want to come together around a common goal of success that includes both mind and character. I look forward to partnering with the Place Bridge community to build on the school's existing strengths, and create such a place for our students.

I am a Denver native and a DPS graduate. My wife and I have two young-adult children (21 and 19), as

well as a six-year-old daughter. I know how important it is to me that they have every opportunity in life. I also know that is exactly how you all feel about the children at Place Bridge. I want to stress that I share in that sentiment, and will do everything in my power to ensure that every child in our school can succeed and leave with the tools necessary to actualize their individual dreams and aspirations. I know it takes a strong team to make a school highly effective, and I very much look forward to working with all members of the community to make Place Bridge just that. I am excited to share more with you about myself, and look forward to the chance to learn more about each of you.

Sincerely,

Drew Schutz

Click to download [ARABIC](#), [BURMESE](#), [FRENCH](#), [KAREN](#), [NEPALI](#), [SOMALI](#), [SPANISH](#), [SWAHILI](#).



JANUARY 13th – FEBRUARY 14th, 2020

Dear Parents,

Our ACCESS TESTING started Tuesday, January 13, and will end Friday, February 14. English Language Learners (ELLs) in grades kindergarten through twelfth grade are participating in the ACCESS 2.0 for ELLs assessment. The test has four components: Speaking, Reading, Writing and Listening.

Please be sure that your student arrives on time during these days so that they do not miss sections of the test, as this would require a make-up session.

You can help your child to do his/her best by:

- **Making sure your child gets a good night's sleep the night before testing**
- **Making sure your child attends school on testing days**
- **Reminding your child to ask the teacher questions if he/she does not understand the test directions**
- **Advising your child not to worry about the test, and**

If you have questions regarding the assessment, please contact your student's teacher, or contact Marisol Chavez, Site Assessment Leader @ MARISOL_CHAVEZ@dpsk12.org or by phone @ 720-424-1043.

Access Testing Schedule can be found [HERE!](#)

Thank you,

José Martínez
Principal

PLACE BRIDGE ACADEMY LAND SITE



YOU ARE INVITED!

Please join us for a community meeting with the Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment to discuss **the land site north of Place Bridge Academy**. All Place Bridge Academy neighbors, staff, families, and community members are welcome and encouraged to share their vision for the site.

WHEN - Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2020

VENUE - Place Bridge Academy Cafeteria, 7125 Cherry Creek North Drive

TIME: 6:00 to 8 p.m.

To learn more, please email PBA_LandInfo@dpsk12.org or call 720-423-3050. Flyer found [HERE!](#)

SCHOOLCHOICE ROUND 1 2020/2021 REGISTRATION WINDOW IS OPEN!

The DPS Round 1 of SchoolChoice for the 2020-2021 school year is now open and will close at 4:00 pm on February 18, 2020. The Denver Public School's traditional Choice Process allows students to apply or re-apply to any DPS school, as well as register students for kindergarten or ECE. Forms will be available at PBA or through the DPS website. Click [HERE](#) or go to <http://schoolchoice.dpsk12.org> to apply!

SCHOOLCHOICE APPLICATION HELP DAY - MONDAY, JANUARY 27, 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM!

PBA will have a Counselor from George Washington, Ms. Grace Munoz here on Monday, January 27, from 8:30 am - 4:30 pm, to help with application forms and/or answer any question(s) you may have.

NEW THIS YEAR: If you are submitting an ECE-4 application, you must upload the following documents in order to submit your application:

- Birth certificate
- Proof of address
- Proof of income – 30 consecutive days

SchoolChoice online applications cannot be submitted without these documents.

UPCOMING EVENTS!

January 17- Mizel Museum Educator Presentation - Ceremonies & Festivals - Celebration of Martin Luther King's Day

January 20 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day - NO SCHOOL - OFFICES CLOSED

January 22 - 8th Grade Field Trip to Winter Park Resort. Departs PBA @ 6:45 am, Return @ 6:30 PM

January 23- Free Health screening at St. Fraternity, 8720 E Colfax Ave, Denver, CO 80220 from 12:00 - 3:00 pm

February 11 - CSC Meeting - Library - 4:30 pm

February 14 - Professional Development day for Teachers - NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS

February 14 - Valentine's Day

February 17 - President's Day - NO SCHOOL, OFFICES CLOSED

February 18 - PBA Professional Development for Teachers - NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS

March 10 - CSC Meeting - Library - 4:30 pm

March 30 - April 3 - Spring Break- NO SCHOOL , OFFICES CLOSED

March 31 - Cesar Chavez Day

REMINDERS!

IMPORTANT SCHOOL REMINDERS:

SCHOOL DAYS - Monday - Friday - 8:55 am - 4:00 pm

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

8 GRADE FIELD TRIP TO WINTER PARK RESORT SPONSORED BY DENVER PARKS AND RECREATION - JANUARY 22 - 6:45 AM - 6:30 PM

Our 8th grade students will be going on a field trip to the Winter Park Resort, (thanks to the Denver Parks Recreation), on Wednesday, January 22, 2020. The bus will depart PBA promptly at 6:45 am and will return back to PBA at 6:30 pm. **Parents, please drop off your students before 6:45 am and pick them up after 6:30 pm.**

ADULT ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND CITIZENSHIP CLASSES OFFERED BY ASIAN PACIFIC DEVELOPMENT CENTER (ADPC) IN AURORA

ENGLISH LANGUAGE CLASSES - COST TO ATTEND - \$25/10 WEEKS

Morning Classes -----9:00 - 11:00 pm

Afternoon Classes -----12:30 - 2:30 pm

Evening Classes -----6:00 - 8:00 pm

LOCATION:

1. **ADPC -----1537 ALTON ST, AURORA, CO. 80010, OR**
2. **MLK LIBRARY -----9898 E. COLFAX AVE, AURORA, CO. 80010**

Beginner classes - Level 0 - 3, Intermediate Levels 4 & 5, Advanced Level 6 offered!

FREE BABYSITTING AVAILABLE DURING MORNING AND AFTERNOON CLASSES AT ADPC ONLY.

CITIZENSHIP CLASS - COST TO ATTEND - \$20/10 WEEKS

To prepare parents to become U.S. Citizens, ADPCs citizenship classes cover:

- Vocabulary for citizenship test and interview
- 100 civics questions
- Interview practice
- Assistance filling out citizenship application (N-400) and fee waiver form
- High rates of interview and exam success for parents who attend citizenship class

CLASSES AT APDC:

Thursday and Friday, -----10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Thursday and Friday, -----6:00 - 8:00 pm

CLASS AT MLK LIBRARY:

Monday and Wednesday, 12:30 - 2:30 pm

FREE BABY SITTING AVAILABLE DURING MORNING CLASSES AT ADPC ONLY.

QUESTIONS CONTACT:

ESL CLASSES - Heidi Burgess at 303- 923-2940 or heidiburgess@apdc.org

CITIZENSHIP CLASS - Alexandra Bisges at 303-617-2567 or alexandreabisges@apdc.org

DENVER HUMAN SERVICES REPRESENTATIVES ARE HERE TO HELP YOU WITH ELIGIBILITY ASSISTANCE AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

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 - 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 - 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!

This week our basketball teams played Slavens and Denver Green. Both the boys and girls teams played with integrity, effort, and perseverance despite their loss.

Next week, the teams will play at Merrill on Tuesday January 21st, with boys starting at 3:45 and girls following at 4:45. Please come out to support our student-athletes!

As always, feel free to contact me with any question(s) you may have.

Go Roadrunners!

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

COUNSELOR'S CORNER!

The L's of Parenting

- **LOVE** your child. For your child to be successful, he or she must feel valued. Your gentle touches, smiles and hugs communicate love.
- **LOOK** for the good in your child and make specific comments on what he or she does well. You must believe in your child's worth before he or she can believe it.
- **LISTEN** without judgment, to your child express his or her thoughts and feelings. If you do not listen, your child may attempt to gain your attention by misbehaving.
- **LAUGH** with your child, not at him or her. Laugh and play together.
- **LABOR** diligently and with pride so that your child will want to work hard, and do his or her best.
- **LEARN** new information. Take the time to read and thus instill a love of learning.
- **LEAVE** the television and other media off.
- **LIVE** life to its fullest. Take pleasure in little things.

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

BRIDGES AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM!

Happy New Year to our BRIDGES families and students. We hope everyone had a good break and holiday season. Our BRIDGES after school program started Tuesday, January 7, 2020. We are so happy to see our regular students back with us, and excited to welcome some new students who have joined BRIDGES. As a team we look forward to spending quality time with your students after school. The remainder of the school year will be fun for our after school program.

We are continuing our very popular Chess Club, and will be adding a new class that will give our students skills and resources to engage in positive social relationships and settings. As the weather warms up our students will have more opportunities to engage in outside activities. As always we rely on our students input to craft activities that they are interested in. Some of these new activities include knitting, cursive handwriting instruction, working and mentoring our younger students, more science and computer projects, and of course more arts and crafts. We still allow time for homework help, free reading and writing time, and a healthy filling snack. If you are interested in enrolling your students in BRIDGES you can pick up an application in the Main Office or email the Program Director at Roxie_Berkman@dpsk12.org for an electronic version.

More details about the program include:

- Days: Monday through Thursday – BRIDGES ends on Thursday, May 14, 2020
- Time: 4:00 PM to 6:15 PM
- Grades: K-8th grade
- Free/No Cost Program
- Healthy Snack Every Day
- Trained and qualified staff and teachers
- All students receive a minimum of 30 minutes of homework help time, and enrichment activities during regular program hours.
- DPS buses to Pine Creek and Grace Apartment communities. All students who live outside those communities will need to be picked by parents or authorized guardians.

Thank you for allowing the BRIDGES staff to spend time with your students. We look forward to an exciting second half of the school year!

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

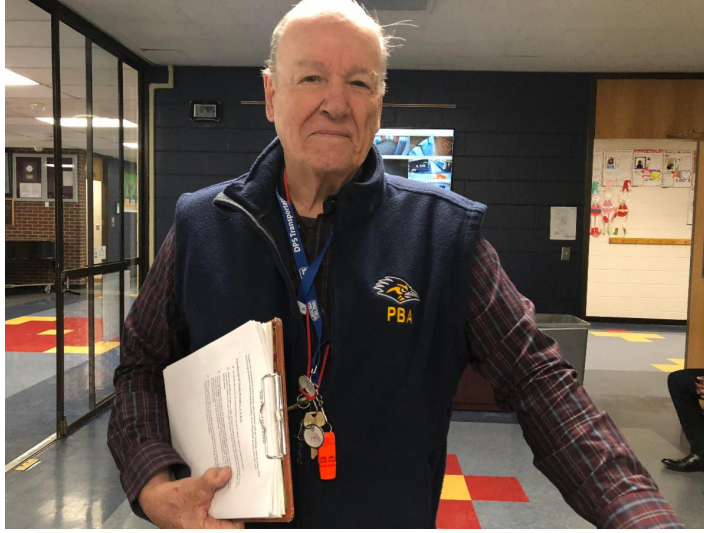


Shout Out!



THANK YOU

MR. FROHMUND BURGER!



Immense thanks to Mr. Burger, who weather rain, shine, snow, cold or hot to make sure that all our students get off the buses safely every morning. This is a commitment that is greatly appreciate!

Huge **SHOUT-OUT** to all our staff who help unload the buses in the morning! You set the tone for the day and truly do a wonderful job getting our students quickly off the buses and in to school.

2019/2020 PBA SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR FOUND [HERE](#)



PLACE BRIDGE ACADEMY
— Bridging 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