

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT !

OUR NEW PRINCIPAL IS DREW SCHUTZ!

Dear Place Bridge Academy Community,

It is with great enthusiasm that I announce Mr. Drew Schutz as the next principal at Place Bridge. From his days as a bilingual teacher at McMeen, to his most recent tenure as the highly successful principal of Valverde, Mr. Schutz brings a wealth of strength and experience to the school. I could not be more excited for the Place Bridge community to have him lead you forward. As Mr. Schutz shared in his application process: "As both a teacher and school leader, I have been able to support students in achieving significant results. Recently, I have led the Valverde school community through significant change. Our school has gone from Red to Green on the district SPF, and was recognized as a Top Mover on the SPF two out of the last three years. Through this process, I have learned the importance of authentically engaging the community, building a strong culture for both kids and adults, and setting high expectations for all. All of this work has been grounded in meaningful relationships, and a belief that everyone involved can achieve at a high level." Please know that your school will be in great hands under Mr. Schutz's leadership.

Thank you to the Collaborative School Committee (CSC) and School Leadership Team (SLT) for helping us to shape a rigorous and comprehensive process that involved multiple opportunities for data collection and input on strengths and areas of growth opportunity before a final decision by the superintendent was made. Thank you to the students, family, and staff representatives who served on the School Principal Selection and Advisory Committee (SPSAC). Thank you to those who came out and shared your perspective of candidates at our community forum. Thank you for your continued support for Place Bridge through this critical time of transition.

We are beginning the process of figuring out dates for Mr. Schutz's transition. In the first couple months of the new year, he obviously needs to maintain his primary focus at Valverde, but will be able to set up a meet and greet event and participate in key meetings related to planning for the 2020-2021 school year. As the semester goes on, we aim to provide him more and more time at Place Bridge. It is our high priority that Place Bridge receives the utmost support during this time of transition and know that Mr. José Martínez and the current administrative team will continue to lead day-to-day operations.

For now, please help me in congratulating and welcoming Mr. Schutz to Place Bridge.

I want to take this opportunity in closing to share my hope that the year 2020 brings you and your family peace and joy.

Sincerely,

Kevin King, Ed.L.D.
Regional Instructional Superintendent, Near Northeast Schools



Dear Parents,

Beginning on January 13th, English Language Learners (ELLs) in grades kindergarten through twelfth grade will participate in the ACCESS 2.0 for ELLs assessment. ACCESS stands for Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State to State. This assessment measures a student's English language skills in the areas of speaking, listening, reading, and writing. ACCESS 2.0 is a state assessment and is used by classroom teachers to determine the level of language support that a student may need during instruction. With this information, we are also able to monitor student progress on an annual basis, and determine when a student is ready to be placed in mainstream instruction. Click [HERE](#) to learn more about this assessment or visit the following web page: <https://wida.wisc.edu/assess/access/tests>.

Place Bridge Academy will be administering the assessment between January 13, 2019 and February 14th, 2019. 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.

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

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

Thank you,

José Martinez
Principal

SCHOOL CHOICE - 2020 – 2021 REGISTRATION

The DPS Round 1 of SchoolChoice for the 2020-2021 school year will open at 8:30 am on January 15, 2020 and 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](#) for forms or go to at <http://schoolchoice.dpsk12.org>. You may pick up a DPS enrollment guide at the school.

UPCOMING EVENTS!

January 13 - Basketball Games at PBA - Boys play @ 3:45 pm, Girls play @ 4:45 pm
January 14 - Basketball Games at PBA - Boys play @ 3:45 pm, Girls play @ 4:45 pm
January 14 - CSC Meeting - Library - 4:30 pm - New Principals update
January 15 - 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
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

REMINDERS!

IMPORTANT SCHOOL REMINDERS:

SCHOOL DAYS - Monday - Friday - 8:45 am - 4:00 pm

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

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 BABYSITTING 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!

Welcome Back and Happy 2020 from your Athletic Department at PBA!!

This week our basketball teams are back at it getting ready for their games with practice only. Next Monday the 13th and Tuesday the 14th of January we play at PBA. Please come to support our student-athletes!

As always, please 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!

Dear Parents,

Welcome back, and Happy New Year. Here are some important guidelines that would help your children to develop good homework and study habits!

- Create an environment that is conducive to doing homework starting at a young age. Children need a consistent work space in their bedroom or another part of the home that is quiet, without distractions, and promotes study.
- Schedule ample time for homework; build this time into choices about participation in after school activities.
- Establish a household rule that the TV and other electronic distractions stay off during homework time.
- Supervise computer and Internet use.
- By high school, it's not uncommon for teachers to ask students to submit homework electronically and perform other tasks on a computer. If your child doesn't have access to a computer or the internet at home, work with teachers and school administration to develop appropriate accommodations.
- Be available to answer questions and offer assistance, but never do a child's homework for them..
- Take steps to help alleviate eye fatigue, neck fatigue and brain fatigue while studying. It may be helpful to close the books for a few minutes, stretch, and take a break periodically when it will not be too disruptive.
- If your child is struggling with a particular subject, speak with your child's teacher for recommendations on how you or another person can help your child at home or at school. If you have concerns about the assignments your child is receiving, talk with their teacher.
- If your child is having difficulty focusing on or completing homework, discuss this with your child's teacher, school counselor, or health care provider.
- For general homework problems that cannot be worked out with the teacher, a tutor may be considered.
- Some children need extra help organizing their homework. Checklists, timers, and parental supervision can help overcome homework problems.
- Some children may need help remembering their assignments. Work with your child and their teacher to develop an appropriate way to keep track of their assignments – such as an assignment notebook, or in their cell phone.

**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

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



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