

# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



## In the Spotlight

### OUR SCHOOL DEANS!



### MEET OUR DEAN OF STUDENTS, LINWOOD WASHINGTON!

Members of the Place Bridge Community,

I am excited to be member of the Place Bridge Academy family this school season. I moved to the beautiful state of Colorado 15 years ago. Life has blessed me with 2 lovely daughters and I'm honored to share parenthood with their mother, my best friend and queen.

I've had the opportunity to work with youth over the last 2 decades of my life. My career has allowed me to work with High School and Primary Scholars. Regardless of the age I am able to live out my daily goal and that is to go and be a blessing unto others.

I look forward to working with families, students and staff in this community. Please do not hesitate to contact me.

Peace and Blessings!

**Linwood Washington**  
Dean of Students  
[linwood\\_washington@dpsk12.org](mailto:linwood_washington@dpsk12.org)

# THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING OUR 1ST PARENT MEETING LAST THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24!

Dear PBA Families,

It was such a pleasure to see a lot of our parents and students at our 1st Parent Meeting, last Thursday, September 24. Thank you to all who devoted their precious time to attend. The meeting was of great benefit as important information relating to return to in-person learning, safety, and more were shared. Again, a big thank you to everyone who attended. I greatly appreciate the effort made by over 200 parents who joined the meeting after a hard day's job.

**If you missed the meeting, please [click HERE](#) to download the presentation slides. I do love to see you virtually at our next parent meeting on Thursday November 19, at 6:00 pm.**

Again, a big thank to parents for taking out time to attend.

Sincerely,

**Drew Schutz**  
Principal

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## STUDENT DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP TIMES!

Hello PBA families,

I hope you are well. As we get ready to welcome our 1st grade students back on October 5, I wanted to send a quick reminder about the parent drop-off and pick-up locations and times.

- Student drop-off and pick-up will continue to be at the rear entrance behind the school.
- Student drop-off times are between 8:45 and 9:00 (**Please do not drop off your student any earlier than 8:45.**)
- Instruction will begin at 9:00. \_
- Student pick-up will be from 3:30 to 3:45 pm.

We are unable to provide group supervision for early arrivals due to health restrictions requiring that we keep students in their classroom cohort.

As we await the return of our 2nd - 8th grade levels on 21 October, we will be utilizing specific spots for classes to wait to be picked up. We will share more details about what the pick-up protocol will look like for all grade levels in the coming weeks.

Please reach out to us with any questions at 720-424-0960.

Thank you,

Mr. Schutz  
Principal

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## IN-PERSON LEARNING START DATES!

**In-Person Learning for ECE and Kindergarten have started**

**1st Grade start date is - MONDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2020**

**2nd - 8th Grade start date is - OCTOBER 21, 2020**

# UNIVERSAL SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL SCREENING FOR STUDENTS!

Dear Parent or Guardian:

As part of our effort to support the Whole Child, our school will be implementing a universal social and emotional screening for students.

Universal social and emotional screening can provide a fair and impartial way of looking at how students are progressing in their social and emotional development. Screenings can also help identify areas where school personnel can improve or adjust our supports.

Universal social and emotional screening is NOT an assessment or an evaluation. Instead, screenings are a useful tool to help identify students who may need extra social or emotional support.

Denver Public Schools currently uses a social and emotional screening questionnaire called the Behavior and Emotional Screening System (BESS). The online tool takes approximately ten minutes to complete and consists of 28 questions for the student to answer.

The social and emotional screening may occur two or three times over the course of the school year. Repeated screening helps us determine if the supports we provide to students are effective in meeting their needs.

You have the right, upon request to review the questions on the screener. If you would like to review the questions on the social and emotional screener, please contact: Joanna Olson (Joanna\_olson@dpsk12.org).

**You also have the option to EXEMPT your child from participating. If you DO NOT want your child to participate in social and emotional screening, please indicate so by:**

- Use this link [Click here to complete the form](#). OR
- Fill out the second page of this letter below, and send it to [Joanna\\_Olson@dpsk12.org](mailto:Joanna_Olson@dpsk12.org)

**If we do not receive an OPT-OUT form from you, we will assume you are choosing to have your child participate in the social and emotional screening.**

Thank you for your assistance as we work together to educate and support your student!

Click [HERE](#) for a video-message about the BESS.

Sincerely,

**Joanna Olson, School Health Professional  
Jessica Aragon, School Social Worker  
Aleksandra Matysek, School Psychologist**

## SPORTS!

Welcome Back student-athletes! The Athletic Department is still waiting to hear if and when middle school sports will begin for the new school year!

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

Good Luck, Roadrunners!

**Kathleen Nickless  
Athletic Director  
Phone: 720-424-1042  
Email: [kathleen\\_nickless@dpsk12.org](mailto:kathleen_nickless@dpsk12.org)**

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## UPCOMING EVENTS!

**October 1** - Denver Metro Area Parent Listening Session Part 2 - To register, please click this link: <http://bit.ly/ProtectKids-Oct 1>

**October 5 - FIRST DAY OF IN PERSON LEARNING FOR 1 GRADE STUDENTS**

**October 13** - Collaborative School Committee Meeting - Virtual

**October 16** - Family Conference Day - **NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS**

**October 19** - Planning Day for Teachers - **NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS**

**October 20** - Planning Day for Teachers - **NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS**

**October 21 - FIRST DAY OF IN PERSON LEARNING FOR 2ND - 8TH GRADE STUDENTS**

**November 1** - Daylight Savings Time Ends - Remember to Set your Clock 1 Hour Back on Saturday, October 31 before bedtime

**November 10** - Collaborative School Committee Meeting - Virtual

**November 19** - 2nd Quarter Parent Meeting - Virtual - 6:00 - 7:00 pm

**November 23 - 27 - Thanksgiving Break - No school for all - Offices closed**

**November 26 - THANKSGIVING DAY**

**December 8** - Collaborative School Committee Meeting - Virtual

**December 21 - January 4 - Christmas Break**

## RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES!

### **FREE FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES OFFERED AT THE FACE CENTER!**

The FACE Centers offer free wraparound services to community members 16 or older in order to obtain critical life skills to increase their economic self-sufficiency and the academic achievement of their students. The FACE Centers offer a variety of multi-generation services at one location, making it convenient for families to benefit from multiple services offered in their school community. Participants do not have to be DPS parents, all services are open to all community members.

#### **LIST OF SERVICES OFFERED:**

1. **GED Classes**
2. **Workforce development - job placement, resume building, workforce training, interview preparation**
3. **DPS Hiring Pipeline - for jobs available in Food Services Department, Facilities, Paraprofessional and more!**
4. **English Classes**
5. **Financial Literacy**
6. **Citizenship classes**
7. **Computer classes**
8. **Early Literacy classes**
9. **Legal Clinics and Workshops**
10. **Basic needs assistance**
11. **Social Emotional Support**
12. **Free Childcare during all classes**

#### **FOR MORE INFORMATION ON CLASS SCHEDULE AND TO REGISTER FOR ANY OF THE CLASSES AND SERVICES, PLEASE CONTACT:**

- FACE Center - Johnson Elementary School 1850 South Irving St, Denver, CO 80219  
Phone: 720-424-2970
- FACE Center – John H. Amesse Elementary School 5440 Scranton St, Denver, CO 80239  
Phone: 720-424-2961

### **ONLINE CITIZENSHIP CLASSES!**

#### **THE ASSIAN PACIFIC DEVELOPMENT CENTER - OCT. 19 - DEC. 23:**

The Asian Pacific Development Center Adult Education Program is offering free online classes from October 19 - December 23, 2020. Classes include ESL, ABE/ASE/GED, Culinary Pathways, Small Business, Career Exploration, Citizenship and Computer classes.

To register, students must complete the following steps:

- Complete the registration form found [HERE](#) or copy and past this website <https://tinyurl.com/y3f2wr6r>
- Go to APDC and take two tests. Click [HERE](#) to download schedule/flyer. Individuals may also contact us at 303-923-2940 to schedule a virtual test.
- After the test, speak to a teacher on the phone to choose a class.
- Start class online on Monday, October 19.

### **THE CENTER FOR ADULT EDUCATION AT THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF AURORA - OCT. 6 - DEC. 10:**

The Center for Adult Education at the Community College of Aurora is offering citizenship classes this fall.

Their registration has already begun and classes will begin in October 6 and ends December 10. Classes cost \$30. Click [HERE](#) to complete registration. For questions, please contact Keenan Sweigart at 719-626-1391, Rebecca Pickett at 719-257-3842, or Jackie Zvejnieks at 720-314-8213. Click [HERE](#) to download flyer.

## **THE DENVER PUBLIC LIBRARY - FREE VIRTUAL CITIZENSHIP STUDY GROUP AND/OR ONE-ON-ONE:**

The Denver Public Library has free virtual citizenship study groups, as well as one-on-one appointments for people to prepare for the citizenship exam. Citizenship Study Groups meet weekly on Thursdays 5:30-7:00 (you can attend the whole time, or just come for any portion you're available) via Google Meet or via phone. You can find the info [HERE](#) or copy and paste this website [denverlibrary.org/plaza](https://denverlibrary.org/plaza) (scroll down the page a bit, then you'll see 'Plaza Online Citizenship Study Group' you can choose to join on Google Meet or just calling in from a phone). Or click [HERE](#) or use this link (<https://meet.google.com/gxr-jjiz-tbw>) to join directly on Thursdays, 5:30-7:00 pm  
The Study groups are free and open to all!

## **FAMILY CONSTITUENCY SERVICES - CONTENTS SCHOOL AND DISTRICT RESOURCES!**

Family Constituency Services provides high quality services using culturally competent practices. We provide services to families, schools, and community members who need assistance accessing school and district resources, addressing concerns, and building skills to be strong partners in their students' education. We have Spanish-speaking staff and have access to multilingual interpretation services. Please state the language you speak when calling in and we will connect with an interpreter.  
**For assistance, call 720-423-3054 to access the Family and Community Helpline or email [FACEHelpline@dpsk12.org](mailto:FACEHelpline@dpsk12.org)!**

## **PARENT-TO-PARA PIPELINE TRAINING CLASS OFFERED BY DPS!**

**Are you interested in making a difference?** Denver Public Schools is seeking bilingual/multilingual paraprofessionals and has created a program to support interested DPS parents in becoming paraprofessionals.

A Parent-to-Para class is being offered virtually by the Family and Community Engagement (FACE) Centers this fall. After successful completion of this program offers participants a pipeline to employment to Denver Public Schools. The class is taught in English only using the Google Classroom platform. Please reach out to FACE Center directly if you have any question.

**This program include: A 12-week course designed to prepare participants to pass the TABE test, get job placement assistance, and resume and interview support. Registration is required! Classes will run from September 14—December 11, Monday — Thursdays 6:00 — 7:00 pm.**

To register and for more information please call the FACE Center Southwest Location - Johnson Elementary 720 424 2970, or Far Northeast Location -John H. Amesse Elementary 720 424 2961 Or by email at [FaceCenters@dpsk12.org](mailto:FaceCenters@dpsk12.org).

## **FREE AND LOW COST TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES:**

Some Denver Libraries are offering [outdoor computer use](#). Click [HERE](#) to download all free and available low-cost Technology Resources in Denver.

## **PLACE BRIDGE ACADEMY/DENVER HUMAN SERVICES PARTNERSHIP - HELP WITH APPLYING FOR BENEFITS:**

Our Partnership with Denver Human Services is ongoing! Please reach out to Juanita Chavez @ 720-483-6606 if you need assistance with any of the following:

- Rental Assist
- Motel Vouchers
- Family Reunification
- State ID/Birth Certificate Waivers
- MEDICAID, SNAP, TANF ASSISTANCE

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**Our Remote instruction will continue through Oct. 16.**  
**View the K-12 Family Guide, and enroll in your preferred learning option through Annual Family Update.**  
**New food sites and schedules have been added this school year.**

**2020/2021 DPS SCHOOL 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](http://place.dpsk12.org)**