

# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



## OUR SPECIAL SERVICE PROVIDERS!

### MEET OUR SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST, ALEKSANDRA MATYSEK



Hi Everyone!

I am your School Psychologist. This is my fourth year here at Place Bridge Academy and I have really enjoyed watching the students learn and grow over the past couple years. Here at PBA, I work with students, staff members, and families to help children get the best education while they're here at school. Some of my many jobs include supporting the Autism program, students in special education, attendance work, and helping students with feelings and emotions. I absolutely love the work I do here and I love the people I work with!

Working in such a diverse school is really important to me because I am an immigrant myself! When I was 7 years old, my family moved to the United States from Poland. Currently, my family lives in Florida and Chicago, so I get to split my vacations visiting them at the beach and the city! On my time off, I really enjoy hiking, snowboarding, reading, and spending time with family.

Please let me know if I can help support your student and family in any way!

**Aleksandra Matysek, Ed.S, NCSP**  
School Psychologist  
aleksandra\_matysek@dpsk12

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## 2ND - 5TH GRADE RETURN TO SCHOOL REMINDER!

Hello Place Bridge Community:

All Students and families who selected "IN-PERSON LEARNING," we are so excited to welcome back these students. **Please be reminded that 2nd - 5th grade students who opted in will start on Wednesday October 21st at 8:45 am.**

As a reminder,

- Students will line up at their designated door on the red dots to physically distance our students.
- All students entering Place Bridge MUST wear a mask.
- If your student is not feeling well, has a temperature, or is exhibiting any COVID-like symptoms please keep them home, they will not be allowed into their classrooms.
- 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 am Please do not drop off your student any earlier than 8:45).
- Instruction will begin at 9:00 am.
- Student pick-up will be from 3:30 to 3:45 pm.

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

**Please be informed that NO VISITORS** will be allowed inside any DPS school this year. You can say goodbye to your student on the parent drop off location.

Feel free to reach out with any question or concern. Please keep yourself safe by remembering to wear your mask and remain 6 feet from other families.

Thank you,

**Linwood Washington**  
Dean of Students  
linwood\_washington@dpsk12.org  
720-988-3462

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## STUDENT/PARENT 2020/2021 HANDBOOK!

Dear Parents,

Thank you to those of you who have downloaded our 2020/2021 Student/Parent Handbook and completed the acknowledgement form. **If you are yet to do so, kindly click the link below to DOWNLOAD the STUDENT HANDBOOK, FILL OUT the ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM and SUBMIT.** Please note that you have until the end of the month to do so.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/105rSp7Szh5\\_BC2eOLMbHsLWWW9DQJwSgFjQQS4-eFdw/edit](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/105rSp7Szh5_BC2eOLMbHsLWWW9DQJwSgFjQQS4-eFdw/edit)

Please reach out to me with any questions.

**Linwood Washington**  
Dean of Students  
linwood\_washington@dpsk12.org  
720-988-3462

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## GENERAL INTENT TO TEST - LETTERS AND DEFINATIONS!

Dear Parents/Guardians:

This letter is to inform you that your child will soon be given an assessment to help us determine the best educational programming for him/her. A description of the assessment is included with this letter. This tool is one of the many measures that can be used as a part of a larger body of evidence to identify students who may need accommodations for their learning.

How your student can prepare for test taking and what you can do to help  
You can help your student do his or her best by considering these tips:

- Make sure your student is in school and on time on test days. Reschedule dentist appointments and other out-of-school time on non-testing days.
- Make sure your student gets a good night's sleep and eats a healthy breakfast before each day of testing.
- Remind your student that these tests are only one part of the school day. Emphasize that you have confidence in his or her ability to do the best job possible.
- Remind your student to listen carefully to the directions and to each question as it is read aloud during testing, and to ask the teacher for help if he or she does not understand the directions.

This assessment will be administered at your child's school between October 19th, 2020 - January 31st, 2021. The school will receive test scores within a month of testing. These scores will indicate how your student performed on the test compared with students across the nation in the same grade and/or age group. You will be notified of your child's performance.

If you have any questions concerning this assessment, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Coy Rice, D.M.  
Gifted and Talented Education Teacher  
coy\_rice@dpsk12.org



## TO A TRUNK OR TREAT STREET HALLOWEEN EVENT AT TJHS!

The Denver Public Schools and Thomas Jefferson High School BSA Club are teaming up to sponsor a ***TRUNK or TREAT STREET HALLOWEEN EVENT***. The event will take place on Friday, October 30, 2020, from 4:00 - 6:00 pm, at THOMAS JEFFERSON HIGH SCHOOL (TJHS) Student Parking lot Area (By the Ball Park), 3950 South Holly Street, Denver, Colorado.

Click [HERE](#) to download flyers details and/or get details on how the event will work .

For questions, reach out to Ms. **DANYELLE CHARLES**, Phone: 720-423-7050, or **Ms. CARLA ALLEN**  
Phone: 720-423-7060,



# GET HELP PAYING YOUR BILLS!

Up to \$4,000 for qualifying Denver residents



Dear families,

Please be informed that Denver Human Services is now offering up to \$4,000 (depending on need) of emergency/disaster assistance to those who qualify to support Denver residents in need who are negatively impacted by COVID-19.

These payments can be used for a variety of reasons — to cover rent or pay the mortgage, to pay for mental or medical care, home or auto repairs, food or school supplies, and more. To qualify, you must be:

- A lawfully present Denver resident
- Have at least one dependent minor living at home
- Make less than \$75,000
- Have a COVID-19-related emergency

To apply, go to [Colorado.gov/PEAK](https://colorado.gov/PEAK) and apply for Colorado Works/TANF. This program is open until funds are exhausted. If you have questions, please call 720-944-4347 to speak with a customer services representative.

Akudo Nwokeukwu  
Outreach Coordinator

## IN-PERSON LEARNING START DATES!

**In-Person Learning for ECE - 1st Grader Students have started  
2nd - 5th Grade start date is - OCTOBER 21, 2020  
6th - 8th Grade will continue remotely until November 6th.**

## 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)**

## UPCOMING EVENTS!

**October 16** - Day off for all - **Offices closed**

**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 RETUNE FOR 2 - 5 GRADE STUDENTS**

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

**November 6** - **FIRST DAY OF IN PERSON LEARNING RETURN FOR 6 - 8 GRADE STUDENTS**

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

**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 Virtual Meeting

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

## RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES!

### **DENVER HOUSING AUTHORITY SUBSIDIZED WAITLIST IS NOW OPEN!**

The waitlist lottery for Denver Housing Authority Subsidized Housing is currently open for Families with Children, Disabled Individuals, or Elderly (62+). Please use the link below to apply as soon as possible as these are only open for a short time.

<http://www.denverhousing.org/LWU/AffordableHousing/CurrentStatus/Pages/default.aspx>

Call 720-932-3020 if you have any question.

### **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 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)!**

## **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



**PBA WEBSITE CLICK [HERE](#)**

**2020/2021 STUDENT/PARENT HANDBOOK  
CLICK [HERE](#)**

**2020/2021 DPS SCHOOL CALENDAR CLICK  
[HERE](#)**

**COLLABORATIVE SCHOOL COMMITTEE (CSC)**  
**CLICK [HERE](#)**

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**1ST QUARTER PARENT MEETING**  
**PRESENTATION SLIDES CLICK [HERE](#)**

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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)**