

# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



## Principal's Corner

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



DENVER  
PUBLIC  
SCHOOLS

## Choice & Enrollment

### 1ST ROUND OF SCHOOL CHOICE APPLICATION OPENS TOMORROW, FRIDAY, JANUARY 15!

Families of 8th grade students,

Please be informed that tomorrow, Friday, January 15, the 1st round of School Choice applications opens. This is important for all 8th grade students who are applying to high schools outside of their attendance boundary. If you are planning to use School Choice for your High School, you must fill out this application. The 1st round window is January 15 - February 16. Students can ask their advisement teacher for more details. More information on School Choice can be found at <https://schoolchoice.dpsk12.org/>.

### KEEPING OUR COMMUNITY SAFE & HEALTHY!

The most important thing each of us can do to make our return to in-person learning safe and healthy is to carefully follow health and safety guidelines. Wear a mask over your nose and mouth. Wash your hands frequently. Keep physical distance. Stay home if you are sick. These simple steps remain crucial, and we all must do our part.

# FREE COVID-19 TESTING FOR STUDENTS!

DPS is pleased to announce we are expanding our partnership with COVIDCheck Colorado to offer our free COVID-19 testing for students to support a safe return to school. Our full community of students and staff will now have the opportunity to take an initial COVID-19 test before coming back to school as well as ongoing screening tests every other week... For more information click [HERE](#). You can see an updated list of testing sites [HERE](#) including a link to register and schedule testing appointment for your students. The test will be completed via nasal PCR test or SalivaDirect™, and results will be returned within 36-72 hours.

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Dear Family,

Beginning on January 11<sup>th</sup>, Multilingual Learners (MLLs) in grades K-12 will participate in the ACCESS for ELLs state assessment. This assessment measures a student's English language skills in the areas of speaking, listening, reading, and writing. ACCESS is used by classroom teachers to determine the level of language support that a student may need during instruction. With this information, we are able to monitor student progress on an annual basis and determine when a student is ready to be placed in mainstream instruction.

Place Bridge Academy will be administering the assessment on the following day(s)

**We will be having 4 Asynchronous days to test.**

- **January 29, 2021**
- **February 5, 2021**
- **February 12, 2021**
- **February 26, 2021 (Possibly)**

Those days only students who are taking the ACCESS test should be coming to school. Students who are 100% virtual and are scheduled to take the ACCESS test have the option to come to school. There will only be transportation available for students who are in person. No transportation for students who are 100% virtual. A list of the students who will be testing will be communicated. Please make sure you pay attention if your student needs to test.

If you have any questions about the testing schedule, please contact Marisol Chavez at [marisol\\_chavez@dpsk12.org](mailto:marisol_chavez@dpsk12.org) or call the main office.

Please be sure that your student arrives on time for their scheduled day(s) so that they do not miss sections of the test, as this would require a make-up session. We will continue to follow all health protocols during testing. Students need to be sure to bring their device to school each day and charge it at home each night.

If you have general questions regarding the assessment, please contact your student's teacher.

**PLEASE REACH OUT TO ME IF YOU NEED ANY SUPPORT!**

[andrew\\_schutz@dpsk12.org](mailto:andrew_schutz@dpsk12.org)

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**All Middle School Students will return on  
Monday Jan. 25 through Friday, Jan. 29th  
Parents, please watch out for specific date!**

## **INPERSON RETURN TO SCHOOL UPDATE FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS!**

PBA families of middle school students,

We are anxious and excited to finally be welcoming those students who have chosen in-person learning for middle school. Thank you for your patience as we have worked for a successful and safe in-person return and for a smooth transition for our students who remain 100% virtual. We will continue to share updates as we prepare for middle school students to return to the school.

In preparation, students will have an asynchronous learning day (assignments given, but not live classes) on Tuesday January 19 and Wednesday January 20. This is to allow for teachers to prepare their classrooms for return. Students will have assignments to complete on January 19 and January 20 and will have their normal 9:00-9:30 advisement class on Wednesday January 20. Please remind your child that they must be completing all assigned work on these two asynchronous days.

Middle school in-person return will begin Monday, January 25. Only 8th grade students will return on Monday, January 25th. Tuesday, January 26th will begin in-person return for 6th grade, while Wednesday, January 27th will begin in-person return on for our 7th grade students. All students who have chosen in-person return will attend school 4 days a week (Monday-Thursday) while our asynchronous day will move to Friday. All 100% virtual students will have their live classes Monday-Thursday with an asynchronous Friday. Please note that middle school students who have chosen an in-person return will attend classes in-person Monday-Thursday every week. Buses will be provided for middle school students who have younger siblings that attend elementary school at Place Bridge. Transportation is not provided otherwise.

In the next two weeks, you will receive reminders for in-person return as well as updates on safety protocols for in-person students and expectations and schedule updates for all students. Please continue to check your messages if you have a student who attends middle school at Place Bridge Academy.

We are very excited for our in-person return and will continue to support our 100% virtual students who we welcome daily in our virtual classrooms.

**Ryan Adams  
Assistant Principal  
Place Bridge Academy**

## **RETURN TO SCHOOL COVID-19 UPDATE!**

Dear PBA Community,

As many of our Elementary students are now back in school and we are preparing to have our Middle School students return as well, we are dedicated to keeping everyone safe and healthy.

Please keep your students home if they have ANY of the following:

- Fever (100.4F) or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

If any one living in your home has ANY of the above symptoms or if someone in the home tests positive for Covid, EVERYONE in the home needs to quarantine (stay home and stay put, do not come to school) for 10 days from onset of symptoms, or from positive test date. Student may return after the 10 day quarantine IF they are improving from all symptoms and have not had a fever for 24 hours without having taken medication to treat symptoms, (Tylenol, Advil, Ibuprofen, are the most common.)

Please feel comfortable to contact me for questions and clarifications at 720-424-0976 or at [terri\\_woodward@dpsk12.org](mailto:terri_woodward@dpsk12.org).

**Terez woodward RN CNS**  
**School Nurse**  
**Place Bridge Academy**



**ROADRUNNERS  
OF THE  
MONTH!**

**These are students who had excellent  
B.R.I.D.G.E values (belonging, respect, integrity,  
diversity, generosity, and effort) especially the  
values of: diversity, integrity, belonging.**

**KINDERGARTEN:**

**Amado Pazos  
Ha Bid**

**SIXTH GRADE:**

**Mirwais Massoud  
Leneah Wright**

Henos Mame

**FIRST GRADE AND NEWCOMER:**

Madiha Khaliqie  
Vladimir Nelson  
Yousof Rahmazada

**SECOND GRADE:**

Jaqueline Guevara-Galdamez

**THIRD GRADE AND NEWCOMER:**

Rehaset Tewelde  
Luna Diaz-Camunez  
Nathalie Munoz-Jimenez  
Bilal Abdelkadr

**FOURTH GRADE:**

Ericka Santana-Zaragoza  
Saifulbin Annuar  
Samiullah Rahmazada

**Fifth Grade:**

Muaz Sultan  
Sayi Harikumar  
Alex Santos-Dominguez  
Jenedy Anavisca-Donis

Jesus Mendoza  
Adonis Bryan  
Nasia Simon  
Mary Sue

**SEVENTH GRADE:**

Mohammedelfaith Khalifa  
Soaad Zaror  
Ramadan Hamu  
Dahilin Del Aguila Solares

**EIGHTH GRADE:**

Diana Rubio  
Ali Alfaris  
Maab Elhamrouni  
Nong Soe  
Fasara Sissoko

**STEM:**

Freda Yehkeh

Rhonda Robbins  
Dean of Culture  
720-424-0960 (general)  
720-424-0973 (direct)

## FREE FACE CENTER VIRTUAL CLASSES!



### Updates on Citizenship Testing & Classes

Did you know that in December, 2020, the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) updated the US Citizenship test. The test now has 128 questions and applicants will need to answer more questions correctly. The geography section was removed and the history and civics test expanded, resulting in a longer test requiring more complete answers. If you or someone you know is interested in participating in the class, please contact Julio Trujillo 720-424-2972 [Julio\\_Trujillo@dpsk12.net](mailto:Julio_Trujillo@dpsk12.net) or Tristan Benitez at 720-424-2961 [tristan\\_benitez@dpsk12.net](mailto:tristan_benitez@dpsk12.net). The class will start on January 19th, virtually during the day and in the evening.



ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

The new semester will begin on January 19. Placement tests will be held January 11 to January 14. To register for testing please call the FACE Center.





Participants can prepare for their GED by attending FREE GED tutoring sessions starting on January 19. Classes are held Monday through Thursday from 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON CLASS SCHEDULE AND TO REGISTER FOR ANY OF THE CLASSES, 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

Or by email at [FaceCenters@dpsk12.org](mailto:FaceCenters@dpsk12.org)

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1mw-iKu4Vcj1uQkKXsi14oMSa6IDzx\\_QX/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1mw-iKu4Vcj1uQkKXsi14oMSa6IDzx_QX/view)



## BE WARNED!

Dear Families,

Please be informed that scams involving unemployment benefits are currently impacting thousands of Coloradans, as well as people all throughout the country. The District Attorney's Office is distributing the attached safety bulletins, in English and Spanish. This safety bulletin includes practical tips to avoid being victimized and how to report these offenses.

Click [HERE](#) to download the safety bulletin.

## UPCOMING EVENTS!

**January 18 - Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day - No School for All - Offices closed**

**January 19 - CSC Meeting - 4:15 - 5:15 pm - Meeting Location - Virtual - Join with Google Meet**  
[meet.google.com/gsy-jhtr-mmq](https://meet.google.com/gsy-jhtr-mmq) Join by phone (US) +1 931-683-2558 PIN: 851 090 881#

**January 29 - Access Testing**

**February 5 - Access Testing**

**February 9 - CSC Meeting - 4:15 - 5:15 pm - Meeting Location - Virtual - Join with Google Meet**  
[meet.google.com/gsy-jhtr-mmq](https://meet.google.com/gsy-jhtr-mmq) Join by phone (US) +1 931-683-2558 PIN: 851 090 881#

**February 12 - Access Testing**

**February 15 - President's Day - No School for all, Offices closed**

**February 16 - Teacher Professional Development Day - No School for all students**

**February 26 - Access Testing**

**March 9 - CSC Meeting - 4:15 - 5:15 pm - Meeting Location - Virtual - Join with Google Meet**  
[meet.google.com/gsy-jhtr-mmq](https://meet.google.com/gsy-jhtr-mmq) Join by phone (US) +1 931-683-2558 PIN: 851 090 881#

**March 29 - April 2 - Spring Breaks - No School - Offices closed**

**March 31 - Cesar Chavez Day**

**April 5 - Teacher Professional Development Day - No School for all students**

**April 6 - First Day of Return for all students**

**April 13 - CSC Meeting - 4:15 - 5:15 pm - Meeting Location - Virtual - Join with Google Meet**  
[meet.google.com/gsy-jhtr-mmq](https://meet.google.com/gsy-jhtr-mmq) Join by phone (US) +1 931-683-2558 PIN: 851 090 881#

**May 11 - CSC Meeting - 4:15 - 5:15 pm - Meeting Location - Virtual - Join with Google Meet**  
[meet.google.com/gsy-jhtr-mmq](https://meet.google.com/gsy-jhtr-mmq) Join by phone (US) +1 931-683-2558 PIN: 851 090 881#

**May 28 - Last Day of School - HALF DAY FOR ALL STUDENTS**

# RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES!

## **DO YOU NEED HELP WITH PAYMENTS FOR ESSENTIAL BILLS?**

If you are having issues with payments for essential bills, FACE CENTER is supporting families with utility bills - rent, energy etc. They will also help walk families through completing your application. There is also support for undocumented families available and they will connect families to those who are processing the apps. If you are interested, please reach out to: FACE Center - Johnson Elementary School - Phone: 720-424-2970 FACE Center – Phone: 720-424-2961

## **FREE COVID TESTING!**

Denver Human Services (DHS) is offering free COVID testing for the general public if they live in high incidence neighborhoods and have symptoms of COVID-19. To see if you qualify for testing and to get registered and scheduled, click [HERE](#) or copy and paste the link below <https://dhharedcap.ucdenver.edu/surveys/?s=43JP9P3PHT>. **Please be patient, the link takes a few minutes to load.**

Free testing will be offered for individuals from the following zip codes –

**80219** - Valverde, Sun valley, Barnum, Westwood, Ruby Hill, Mar Lee, Athmar Park, Barnum West  
**80239** - Montbello

**80204** - West Colfax, Villa Park, Sun Valley, Lincoln Park, Aurora

**80249** - Gateway, Green Valley Ranch, DIA

**80211** - Berkley, Sunnyside, Highland, West Highland, Sloan Lake

**80205** - Five Points, Union Station

**80210** - Platt Park, Rosedale, University

This process does require preregistering. Clients will be scheduled for same day or next day and have results within 36 hours. Mid-turbinate swabs are collected.

## **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

## **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 INTERVENTION SERVICES - CONTENTS SCHOOL AND DISTRICT RESOURCES!**

For general Denver Public Schools questions or concerns, contact the Family & Community Helpline at [720-423-3054](tel:720-423-3054) 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](#)**

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

**2ND QUARTER PARENT MEETING  
PRESENTATION SLIDES CLICK [HERE](#)**

**CYBERBULLING HANDOUT CLICK [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)