



W.B. Patterson Elementary School

4399 South Capitol Terrace, Southwest
Washington, DC 20032
(202) 939-5280



August 31, 2020

Dear Patterson Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

Welcome Back, Patterson Elementary School Community! We are extremely excited to welcome back all students, staff and families. This past year, we experienced a global pandemic that forced us all into shelter to mitigate the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19).



Consequently, history was made as our world, country and the district scrambled to shift how normal operations were conducted for the safety and well-being of everyone in our community. COVID-19 has truly transformed the way in which we interact socially, emotionally and psychologically. However, we are resilient, and we will continue to get through this moment in time TOGETHER!!!

Our teachers and staff have been working very hard to get ready for the new school year, and we can't wait to welcome students back on the **first day of school, which is Monday, August 31, 2020 in a virtual setting**. Please note that the District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) will participate in 100% virtual learning with all students at home through Friday, November 6, 2020. It is during this time that the Patterson staff will continue to work together as a team to lead all efforts to develop and implement a meaningful digital instructional and social-emotional program for our students.

We also recognize the importance of ensuring that we stay connected with you throughout the school year. As a result, we will keep you updated through a variety of communication methods, these include:

- ConnectED:** This is the school's automated calling system.
Patterson School Website: <https://pattersonelementary.online/>
Class Dojo: www.classdojo.com or download the app on your phone
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/PattersonDCPS>
Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/pattersondcps/>

This letter is to provide you with information to assist you in understanding how we will meet the virtual needs of our students, in hopes of having a successful and smooth start for the 2020-2021 school year.

INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMMING

- First Day of School: August 31, 2020
- Instructional Time for Students: 8:30 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.
- Instructional Schedule: Online and Independent
Student schedules will be provided to you by the teacher.



Every student. Every day.

ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS

DAILY ATTENDANCE FOR DISTANCE LEARNING IS CRITICAL AND MANDATORY FOR ALL STUDENTS

- **Students (or parents on behalf of younger students) are expected to sign into Canvas daily, and daily attendance will be recorded through this action. Please note that if the student does not sign into Canvas daily, their attendance will be recorded as an absence.** We appreciate your support in making sure students are ready for school by signing on to their virtual class on time, dressed for school, and sitting in a location that would be best for their learning.
- During virtual learning, **excuse notes for absences** may be submitted electronically to Attendance Clerk Richard Ware at Richard.ware@k12.dc.gov.
- Parents will continue to receive calls based on your child's absence, followed up by attendance letters if the child is absent 5 or more days from school. **Please note that attendance protocols remain the same.**

TECHNOLOGY DEVICE & INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS DISTRIBUTION

Student devices will be distributed the week of August 25th. Please refer to the Technology Distribution schedule to see your assigned pick up day and time. The district devices are programmed to support district apps and online programs that teachers will be using. **Please note that this past school year, students in grades 3-5 were loaned a device to engage in virtual learning. Students in 3rd – 5th that already have a loaned device, are to keep them for their continued use this school year. However, there are instances in which students that are in the same household had to share, in those cases we will provide a device for the child(ren) that are in need, so that no one will have to share.**



Schedule for device pickup is below. To ensure your and the staff's safety and well-being, we ask that when reporting to the school to pick up devices and instructional materials that you wear a mask and maintain social distancing. **(Note, there will be NO ACCESS to the inside of the school for this event.)**

Tuesday August 25, 2020	Wednesday August 26, 2020	Friday August 28, 2020
Preschool – Kindergarten	1 st and 2 nd Grade	3 rd , 4 th and 5 th Grade
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Parents are asked to pick up the devices for their child. You will be asked to sign a Technology Agreement form before devices are issued.

Additionally, Patterson will be distributing start-up school supplies for **ALL** our students on the same day that we will be handing out technology devices. Students will be given paper, pencils, crayons, scissors, glue, etc. As the year progresses, we ask that you replenish your child's school supplies when they are in need.



SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL SUPPORT



Your child and family's health, physical and emotional well-being is of utmost importance. Our outstanding school social workers and school psychologist are available to talk with you and your child throughout this experience, and always throughout the year. You are welcome to contact them directly, or please feel free to contact school administration who can connect you with them at any time. They are:

Dara Drummond, School Psychologist: dara.drummond@k12.dc.gov

Ta-Tanisha Hawkins, Catholic Charities Social Worker: ta-tanisha.hawkins@cc-dc.org

Maureen Saint-Cyr, School Social Worker: maureen.saint-cyr@k12.dc.gov

HAVE YOU REGISTERED YOUR CHILD TO ATTEND SCHOOL? IF NOT, IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO DO SO!!

If you have yet to register your child for school, please drop by the school on Tuesday or Thursday to see Ms. Wright between 9:00 a.m. and noon. You may also go online and register your child at enrolldcps.dc.gov. We still have slots available to register preschool 3 and 4-year old students. Please hurry to register them before the slots are filled up.



VIRTUAL BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHTS

Patterson will host two Virtual Back to School Nights on the dates listed below. More information is forthcoming.

Preschool – 2nd Grade	3rd – 5th Grade
September 15, 2020	September 16, 2020
5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Finally, know that we are here for you and we will do all that we can to ensure that you and your children have a successful school year.

Educationally,

Victorie L. Thomas, Ed.D.

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Fatima Johnson-Avery

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