



W.B. Patterson Elementary School

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



August 16, 2022

Welcome Back, Patterson Elementary School Community! We are getting ready for the first day of school. Please note the start date for your child based on their grade level listed below.

Preschool and Pre-Kindergarten: September 1, 2022
Kindergarten – 5th Grade: August 29, 2022

Instructional Day (Hours of Operation)

Students in Preschool – 5th Grade

Hours of Operation: 8:45 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.



If you wish to do so, you can register your child for the afterschool program which will extend the school day until 6:00 p.m. Please note that your child must be registered in the regular school day program before you can register them to take part in the afterschool program. **Seats are limited.** If you have questions, please call the school, and speak with the Program Coordinator Allie Thompson.

If you choose not to have your child remain in the Afterschool Program, then he/she **MUST** be picked up from school promptly at 3:15 p.m.

Student Expectations



This year the wearing of mask is optional for students while in school. *If you elect to send your child to school with a mask, please note that neck gaiters and full head masks **ARE NOT** permitted.*



Please see the last page of the letter for school uniform expectations.

Arrival and Dismissal Protocols/Procedures

Our doors will open promptly at 8:40 a.m. daily, except for inclement weather days (e.g., School Opening Delay, etc....) to receive your child. **We ask that you NOT send your child to school before then. We want to ensure their safety by having staff present to monitor them when they arrive at 8:40 a.m.**


Preschool: Will enter and dismiss through the small playground doors of the school located on South Capitol Terrace.

medication on file for the School Nurse to administer the medication. If we DO NOT have the necessary documents and medication on file and it has been determined that your child requires IMMEDIATE medical attention outside of the local school, we will call 911 and have your child transported to the nearest medical facility. Please contact the school nurse to secure the forms that your child's doctor will need to complete, as well as, if you have questions or concerns.

Visitor Protocols and Procedures

As the district continues to follow the guidelines set forth by the Center of Disease Control (CDC), ONLY visitors that have a scheduled appointment will be permitted to enter the school building during the instructional day. All appointments MUST BE scheduled a minimum of one-day in advance. We will however continue to receive and assist all parents/guardians outside the main doors of the school upon arrival. **The wearing of mask is optional for visitors.**

We want to continue to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our students and staff. Our adherence to the protocols and procedures will help to reduce the transmission of the virus. **We THANK YOU immensely for your understanding and support as we continue to work collectively to do what is in the best interest of our students!!!**

NO CELL PHONE, WATCHES, ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY	
	<p>Again, this year, Patterson will be instituting a "No Cell Phone, Air Pods, Watches or Electronic Device Policy" while students are in school. Students will be required to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Utilize the phone in the main office should they need to contact their parent. <p>If a student is found to have a cell phone, watch, electronic devices in their possession during the school day, it will be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Confiscated by an adult and turned in to a school administrator. 2. Cell phones, watches, electronic devices will not be returned to the student. 3. Cell phones, watches and electronic devices can ONLY be picked up by the parent. Family members (e.g., Older Siblings, Aunts, Uncles, Cousins, etc....) WILL NOT be permitted to pick up a students' phone on behalf of the parent. 4. Students caught videotaping fights, etc...., in accordance with Chapter 25 Discipline Policy, will be suspended from school for their actions.

Patterson School nor staff are responsible for lost, broken, or stolen cellphones, air pods, watches or electronic devices.

Parents, your child's attendance **TRULY** does matter, and as a result, we need your **HELP!!!** Your help is needed to ensure the academic success of your child, and for us to do so, we need your child in school every day and on time. **REMEMBER** instruction begins at 8:45 a.m., and if your child is late arriving to school, they have missed **CRITICAL** information. Also, when you pick your child up early from school that too weighs in on the loss of instruction that your child has access to. SO, parents, we need your **HELP!** Please work with us to ensure that your child is in school every day and **ON TIME.** We ask that you not interfere with their instructional learning by picking them up from school early. Early dismissal ends at 2:45 p.m. and we will ask that parents wait until 3:15 p.m.



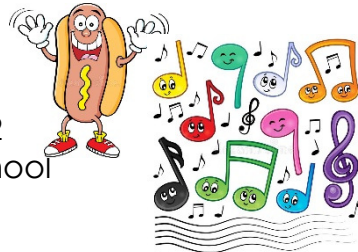
With that said, I want to bring to your attention the Attendance Protocols that ALL district schools are mandated to follow. They are as follows:

Type of Absence	Actions Steps
Each unexcused absence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nightly robo-call after each unexcused absence.
3 Unexcused Absences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3-Day Letter Wellness check phone call
4 Absences (Excused and Unexcused)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teacher call
5 Unexcused Absences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5-Day Letter Student Attendance Conference (SAC) call with parent.
10 Unexcused Absences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10-Day Letter CFSA Referral

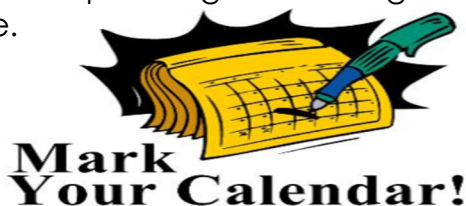


BACK TO SCHOOL Night

When: Thursday, August 25, 2022
 Where: Patterson Elementary School
 Time: 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.



Please come out, meet your child's teacher, enjoy the music, and find out information about the start of school. We are planning an evening of fun and welcome you to join us. We hope to see you here.



Dress Code for Students

W.B. Patterson has endorsed a school uniform policy to include the wearing of uniforms by boys and girls. Many of our families have found that the wearing of uniforms is both cost effective and a self-esteem builder. Because of the many environmental factors in the neighborhood surrounding our school, the wearing of school uniforms has eliminated the many "gang and group" related appearances of code of dress. We know that our students are **not** members of crews and the like, however, when individuals pass the school playground or as students walk to and from school, *assumptions* can be made. Others see certain color shirts and blue jeans, baggy and loose-fitting pants and certain designed t-shirts or any of the other similar noted codes of dress **as signs of group membership--even if what our students have on has no relationship whatsoever**. We believe that we further reduce the possible violence factors with our school uniforms.

All Patterson Elementary School students ARE TO wear school uniforms daily--Monday through Friday:

- All shirts and blouses are to always be tucked in.
- Pants must be worn at waist (with belt if necessary)
- Pants worn may not be tight-fitting, stretch pants, bicycle pants or stretch jeans.



Boys: navy pants or knee-length shorts and light-yellow shirt or Patterson T-shirt

Girls: navy blue pants or knee-length shorts, skirt or jumper and light-yellow blouse or Patterson T-shirt

Students should wear clothing that does not expose their stomachs, backs, buttocks or be split at the underarm area to the waist (This includes head start, pre-kindergarten, and kindergarten students.). No design, message, or depiction neither of a sexually explicit nature nor of a nature to initiate and illegal or violent action should be depicted on clothing such as t-shirts and sweatshirts. **Students MAY NOT wear tennis shoes with wheels or that light up with flashing lights. Open toed shoes, flip flops and sandals ARE NOT permitted as well. We wish to always ensure the safety of your child's feet.**

The wearing of excessive and expensive jewelry is discouraged as schools are not responsible if it should be loss, broken or stolen. Students **MAY NOT** wear bandannas at any time.

All students are expected to come to school on the first day in uniform.

ITEMS NOT PERMITTED IN SCHOOL



Parents, please **DO NOT** permit your child(ren) to bring toys or electronic games (e.g. Nintendo DS, Game Boys, Basketball, Footballs, iPads, iPods, MP3 Players, etc..) to school. The staff at Patterson ES **WILL NOT** be responsible for any broken, lost or stolen items. **Nor will time be expended by the staff to search for such items.**



Gum, candy, nuts and seeds (e.g., sunflower, pumpkin, etc....) are not permitted in school. Parents, please ensure that your child **DOES NOT BRING** these items to school. Items will be confiscated and disposed of. ***Students should not stop by the corner store on their way to school.***



And finally, as always, the Patterson staff wants to foster a collaborative working relationship with ALL parents throughout the school year to ensure the academic success of each child. As a result, to make sure that we do so, members of the Patterson staff (Teachers, Aides, Custodians, etc....) plan to contact you via phone this summer or early in the school year to schedule a home visit with you. So, please listen out for a phone call from your child's teacher or staff member. I'd also ask that you note that this is just our way of introducing ourselves to you and your child and letting you know how much we look forward to working with you this school year.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Assistant Principal Fatima Johnson-Avery or me at (202) 939-5280.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Victorie L. Thomas'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial 'V'.

Victorie L. Thomas, Ed.D.
Principal