

W.B. Patterson Elementary School

Weekly Parent Update



January 12-19, 2026

Volume 13, Bulletin 19

Monday, January 12, 2026

- Children's Museum (PS & PK)

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

- Regular School Day

Wednesday, January 14, 2026

- Regular School Day

Thursday, January 15, 2026

- Regular School Day

Friday, January 16, 2026

- Regular School Day

Sunday, January 18, 2026

- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Tribute
Vaughn Byrd and the Patterson Elementary School Choir Performing
Wakefield High School Auditorium @ 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
1325 S Dinwiddie Street
Arlington, VA 22206

Monday, January 19, 2026

- **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - School Closed for Students and Staff**

Breakfast will be served in the class for all students beginning promptly at 8:40am and ends at 9:00am! Please make sure that you are on time to receive breakfast.

Instructional Start Time:

9:00 a.m.

Please ensure your child is here on time to receive valuable instruction!

School Dismissal Time:

3:15 p.m.

The staff at Patterson wants to ensure the safety of your child(ren), so we ask that you not send your child(ren) to school prior to the

8:40 a.m. door opening time. No staff will be available to provide supervision until then. Thank you!!!

Attention

Afterschool Programming is for registered students ONLY!

3:15 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Please ensure your child is picked up on or before 6:00 p.m. Your child will be dismissed from the program after 3 late pick-ups.



Principal and Assistant Principal Office Hours Monday - Friday

7:30 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. or 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Please schedule an appointment with Ms. Angela Wright
Ms. Melissa Winters in the main office either in person
by phone at 202-939-5280 to conference with
Dr. Thomas-Gerald and/or Mrs. Johnson-Avery.

(Abbreviated Version) **Notice of Non-Discrimination.** In accordance with state and federal laws, the District of Columbia Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, personal appearance, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, family status, family responsibilities, matriculation, political affiliation, genetic information, disability, source of income, status as a victim of an interfamily offense, or place of residence or business. For the full text and additional information, visit <http://dcps.dc.gov/DCPS/About+DCPS/Human+Resources/Notice+of+Non-Discrimination>. If you need assistance with any non-discrimination complaint, please contact DCPS at:

"NO CELLPHONE OR ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY"



This year, DC Public Schools will be instituting a "No Cellphone, Electronic Device Policy" while students are in school. Students will be required to:

1. Turn in their cellphones when they arrive to school. Phones will be signed in by the student, stored and locked up in a cellphone locker maintained in their classrooms.
2. Phones will be returned to students prior to their leaving at the end of the school day.
3. Should a student need to contact their parent, they may utilize the phone in the main office.

If a student is found to have a cell phone in their possession during the school day, it will be:

1. Confiscated by an adult and turned in to a school administrator.
2. Cellphones will not be returned to the student.
3. Cellphones 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.

Please note that DCPS nor the Patterson Staff are responsible for lost, stolen or broken/damage cellphones or electronic devices (e.g. watches, iPads, etc...

It is HIGHLY suggested that students NOT bring cellphones or electronic devices to school.

Please remember not to send balls, toys, games, cellphones or personal items with students. Staff WILL NOT be responsible for any loss, stolen or broken items!!!



Breakfast N' Go from 8:40 am-9:00 am!

- Grades Kindergarten-5 will pick up a breakfast bag when they enter the building and eat in their classrooms.
- Preschool, Pre-Kindergarten will be served breakfast in the classrooms.

Please do not send students prior to 8:40 a.m.

Breakfast will end promptly at 9:00 a.m., so that instruction can begin.



Attendance Matters at Patterson!!

DC Public Schools has a new ATTENDANCE POLICY (60/40 Rule)

For the 2025-2026 school year, DC Public School (DCPS) elementary school will implement the "60/40" attendance policy as required by the DC Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE). This means if your child attends school for less than 60% of the day, it will be tracked as 60/40 absence. This applies to both excused and unexcused absences.

Student Safety Matters at Patterson!!

Please note that no student will be released to an adult for pick-up who is not listed on the SY 2025-2026 Annual Enrollment Form. Please update your child's annual enrollment form if there are any changes pertaining to phone numbers, parental contacts, and emergency contacts. Parents **MUST** come into the school to add names of persons approved to pick up child to emergency form.

Questions? Please see the main office.

MEDICATION AND MEDICAL NEEDS!



- Many of our students for various reasons (e.g. asthma, allergies, etc...) may require the School Nurse to administer medication during the school day; as a result, it is **VERY IMPORTANT** that we not only have the necessary completed Doctor's Order on file, but also the medication that can be administered to your child.
- If your child requires an inhaler for asthma, has food allergies and requires an EpiPen, etc.... please make sure that the School Nurse is made aware of this.
- **Please note that students CAN NOT self-medicate while they are in school.**
- **We want to ensure their medical wellbeing and MUST have the necessary documents and medication on file in order for the School Nurse to administer the medication.**
- **Please note that 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.
- **ALL medication MUST be brought in by the parent and given DIRECTLY to the School Nurse.**

Please note that students CAN NOT self-medicate while they are in school.

The Change in Seasons and Student Arrival to School



Patterson Parents

The weather is beginning to change and as a result, we do not want our students standing out in the cold, rain, sleet or snow. With that said, we ask that you not send your child to school until the school doors open daily at 8:40 a.m. Thank you!



Did you know that the SY 25-26 Kids Ride Free Pass expires on September 30, 2025? Do not get left behind! Starting on August 25, 2025, come and sign-up for your SY 25-26 KRF Pass. Please note that the receipt of the new SY 25-26 PASS deactivates the SY 24-25 pass. The KRF Pass allows students from grades K – 12 to ride for free on Metro buses and the subway.



NEWS

Did you hear?

W. B. Patterson has a website. Go to the link below for your Parent Weekly Bulletin and all the latest information about Patterson:

PattersonElementary.online



ATTENTION FIELD TRIP CHAPERONE PROCESS



Patterson Parents, did you know that DCPS has a policy as it relates to anyone wanting to volunteer in the school, as well as, accompanying their child on a trip? All persons that wish to volunteer in the school or go on field trips with students, MUST complete and clear the volunteer application process. Please know that we want you to join in and support ALL of our school-wide efforts, so we ask that you take the time to complete the Volunteer Application Process. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Ms. Melissa Winters at 202-939-5280. Thank you!

Please go to this link to complete your chaperone application:

<https://octo.quickbase.com/db/bg37a864v?a=dbpage&pageID=26>

or dcps.dc.gov (About DCPS > Human Resources > Fingerprinting & ID Badges).



Parents and guardians, we are asking your assistance with minimizing the disruption of instruction during the school day. As a result, students will not be dismissed from school during the instructional block after 2:30 p.m. but will be available for pick-up during the normal dismissal time of 3:15 pm. Thanking everyone in advance for your cooperation with this matter.

