



L'École d'immersion française
Dora Kennedy
French Immersion School

8950 Edmonston Rd, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Phone: 301-918-8660 Fax: 301-760-3904



James A. Spence II, M.Ed

Directeur/Principal

Sandrine Boukabara

Directrice Adjointe/Vice Principal

Aby Koundoul

Doyenne académique/Academic Dean

August 13, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The start of the 2021-2022 new school year is quickly approaching, and I am ecstatic to serve in my second year as the principal of this amazing school and community.

Dora Kennedy French Immersion has a proven history of bilingual academia and cultural excellence that is the result of a collegial partnership between the school administration, staff, students and parents. This partnership provides a diversity of experiences that contribute to our students becoming principled, reflective and open-minded leaders of tomorrow. It is the shared belief that student academic success and social emotional wellness is the highest priority of every staff member. We have committed much time and planning to the development of resources to support these foundations of education.

Relative to returning to in-person learning, I imagine that there are still many wonderings, concerns, and possibly some anxieties. Please rest assured that the Dora Kennedy French Immersion administration and staff are diligently working on the plans for our "in-person" reopening. We are following all guidelines provided by the CDC and PGCPS to advocate for a safe and smooth transition back into our building.

I am truly looking forward to continuing our strong sense of parental and community partnerships in order to increase student achievement. DKFI's goal of growing students into highly proficient multilingual inquirers, critical thinkers and communicators, does not happen without you. I ask for your support and active participation in this effort by joining our PTA, and supporting the vision and mission of Dora Kennedy French Immersion school.

We know this year will have many successes and we look forward to celebrating the many milestones with you.

Sincerely,
James A. Spence II
Principal

Listed below are some dates and procedures for the opening of school. PGCPSS is a one device to each student school system. As such, the following grade levels will receive devices:

- Incoming Kindergarten students will receive an iPad
- Rising 1st grade students will exchange their iPads for a Chromebook on August 25, 2021
- New incoming students of other grade levels will receive a Chromebook

UPCOMING EVENTS:

EVENT	VENUE	DATE	TIME
Rising 1st Grade iPad Exchange	DKFI Drive Up	Wednesday Aug. 25, 2021	10:00 - 2:00
Kindergarten Orientation	In Person	Friday Sept. 3, 2021	9:15-10:30
1stGrade/Test-In's Orientation	In Person	Friday Sept. 3, 2021	11:00-12:00
2nd-8th Virtual Open House	Virtual	Friday Sept. 3, 2021	11:00-12:00
First Day of School	In Person	Wednesday Sept. 8, 2021	9:15 – 3:55 p.m.
Back-to-School Nights		K-5 on Tuesday Sept. 21, 2021 6-8 on Wednesday Sept. 22, 2021	6:30 – 8:30 p.m. 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

WELCOME NEW STAFF: DKFI will welcome some new staff members for the upcoming school year. Please join the school in giving a warm welcome to:

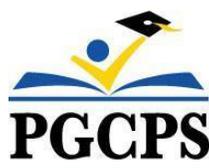
Ms. Andrea Worthington-Garcia	Art
Ms. Andrea Jones	PE
Ms. Lamia El Koussa	1st Grade
Ms. Davani Cooper	Vocal Music
Mr. Darnell Settles	Custodian

NEW ASSIGNMENTS: We would also like to wish the following teachers good luck in their new assignments:

Mme. Aby Koundoul	Academic Dean
Mme. Amy Lahlou	Reading Intervention Specialist
Mr. Zachary Nicholas	Middle School French
Mme. Marie Leka	3 rd Grade
Mr. John Enoh	5th Grade

SCHOOL HOURS:

Our school hours continue to be 9:15 a.m. - 3:55 p.m. for students. Doors open at 8:45 a.m. Students not in their classroom seats by 9:15 a.m. will be marked tardy. Students who leave prior to dismissal at 3:55 p.m. will also be marked with a p.m. tardy in the SchoolMax system.



UPDATE ON MEAL SERVICES:

Meals will be free for all students regardless of meal benefit status for school year 21-22. Students will receive breakfast and lunch in school and a pre-packaged evening meal to take home. Virtual students will be assigned a location to pick up a weekly meal box. By extension, eligibility for school meals is used to determine eligibility for Pandemic-Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) and other district sponsored programs. Parents are encouraged to complete the meal benefit application online. Eligibility information may be used to qualify newly eligible children for SY21-22 and summer 2022 P-EBT benefits.

BEFORE AND AFTER CARE:

DKFI will have Before and After Care on site. Parents will have the option to enroll their children up to age 12 for the program. Please [click here](#) to view the flyer.

PGCPS BUS TRANSPORTATION:

Parents can use the following website to receive information relative to PGCPS bus routes, pick ups, etc.

<https://www.infofinderi.com/ifi/?cid=PGCPS5UR2GLJ6U>

DKFI CAR RIDER INFORMATION:

Car rider information will be shared in the near future. Please take time to fill out the survey to assist the school with determining the number of student bus and car riders.

Link: [Parent Survey](#)

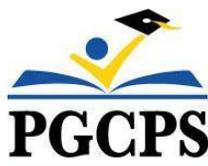
2021 - 2022 PGCPS CALENDAR:

Link: [PGCPS 2021-2022 Calendar](#)

BUILDING VISITS:

Visitors to the building continue to be required to make an appointment prior to visiting the building. Appointments must be made by calling the school (301) 918-8660, or through direct correspondence with the teacher. At the time of visit, please adhere to the following guidelines:

- Only visitors with a scheduled appointment may enter the building
- All visitors (except children under 5) must wear a mask
- Visitors must bring a government-issued photo ID
- Visitors be prepared to have your temperature checked



ATTENDANCE:

School attendance plays a major part in student academic success. Too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school and makes it harder to learn how to read and master foundational math skills. Building good habits helps children learn that going to school on time every day is important. Daily attendance will be closely monitored. The County attendance procedure will be fully implemented. Students who miss more than one day per month are at risk of not meeting the State attendance requirement. To ensure students arrive everyday on time, set a regular bedtime and morning routine. Be sure to lay out clothing and backpacks the night before. Try not to schedule dental and medical appointments or extended trips during school days. Remember to make back-up plans for getting your child to school if something comes up.

COMPUTER LOGINS:

Student user names remain the same. In most cases the user name is the student's first name, hyphen, then last name. All passwords will be reset to dkfi followed by the student's two digit birth month and two digit birth date by September 1, 2021. For example, Kevin Jones' birthday is June 25th. In most cases the log in would be **kevin-jones**; his password is **dkfi0625**. Be sure to practice logging on prior to the student orientation on September 3, 2021. If this basic formula does not work, please contact your child's teacher for assistance. Students will continue using Chromebooks or iPads and digital tools for instructions.

All students will be required to bring their school device daily.

