Welcome! Bienvenue!

School Year 2021-2022

Student Orientation

Dora Kennedy French Immersion School

This presentation will be available on our website:
https://schools.pgcps.org/dorakennedy/

09-03-2021
Principal’s Greetings

Bonjour !  Comment ça va ?  Bonjour !  Salut !
Welcome Back
National PTA School of Excellence
Classroom Parent/Grade Parent
MemberHub
1st PTA Meeting - Oct 6th
Contact: dkfipta@gmail.com
Objectives

- Introduction

- Health protocols

- All instruction-related matters will be addressed at our virtual Back to school night:
  
  Elementary (Sep. 21 6:30-8:30 pm)
  
  Middle School (Sep. 22 6:30-8:30 pm)

- Fill out this google form so that we can capture any questions you may have so that we can address them, or you may contact your child’s teacher with any specific concerns.
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Schedule for K and 1st Grade Orientation

9:30 – 10:30 – Kindergarten Orientation:
- 9:30 to 10:00 – General Presentation in the cafeteria by Mr Spence and Mme Lahlou
- 10:00 to 10:30 – Group Rotations: building tour (15’) and initial introduction (15’) by the homeroom teacher

11:00 – 12:00 – 1st Grade Orientation:
- 11:00 to 11:30 – General Presentation in the cafeteria by Mr Spence and Mme Lahlou
- 11:30 to noon – Group Rotations: building tour (15’) and initial introduction (15’) by the homeroom teacher
Our Staff

Leadership

Mr James Spence - Principal  james.spence@pgcps.org
Ms Cristina Kallon - Principal’s Secretary Cristina.Kallon@pgcps.org
Mme Sandrine Boukabara - Assistant Principal sandrine.boukabara@pgcps.org
Mme Aby Koundoul - Academic Dean aby.koundoul@pgcps.org
Mr Mahjoub Darrehmane - Testing Coordinator mahj.darrehmane@pgcps.org
Mme Amy Lahlou - Reading Intervention Lead Teacher amy.lahlou@pgcps.org
Our Staff

**Homeroom Kindergarten Teachers**

- Dr Idayatou Anjorin - Grade-Team Leader [idayatou.anjorin@pgcps.org](mailto:idayatou.anjorin@pgcps.org)
- Mme Jeanne Bissala [jeanne.bissala@pgcps.org](mailto:jeanne.bissala@pgcps.org)
- Mme Frédérique Mortiniera [frederique.mortiniera@pgcps.org](mailto:frederique.mortiniera@pgcps.org)
- Mme Kristina Rexford [kristina.rexford@pgcps.org](mailto:kristina.rexford@pgcps.org)

**Homeroom 1st Grade Teachers**

- Mme Yawa Kwakou - Grade-Team Leader [yawa.kwakou@pgcps.org](mailto:yawa.kwakou@pgcps.org)
- Mme Lamia El Koussa [lamia.elkoussa@pgcps.org](mailto:lamia.elkoussa@pgcps.org)
- Mme Mawamba Sipa [mawamba.mezap@pgcps.org](mailto:mawamba.mezap@pgcps.org)
- Mme Thérèse Temdenou [therese.temdenou@pgcps.org](mailto:therese.temdenou@pgcps.org)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Teachers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kindergarten</td>
<td>Dr. Idayatou Anjorin, <strong>Jeanne Bissala</strong>, Frédérique Mortiniera, Kristina Rexford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Grade</td>
<td>Yawa Kwakou, <strong>Lamia Elkoussa</strong>, Mawamba Sipa, Thérèse Temdenou</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Grade</td>
<td>Marie Kameni, Rose Nkouaze, Mariame Sylla</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Grade</td>
<td><strong>Urbain Adjallah</strong>, Bernard Feujio, Dr. Neirouz Mills, Roger Nguena</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th Grade</td>
<td><strong>Josiane Tchongouang</strong>, <strong>John Enoh</strong>, <strong>Gisèle Njamen</strong>, Peace Segbor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th Grade</td>
<td><strong>Dr. Marie Leka</strong>, Elvis Kometa, Jacques Moukouri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELA &amp; ESOL</td>
<td>Leslie Hall, Shellae Blackwell, Carletha Cole, Kathleen Winslow, <strong>Dr. Sonia O’Connell</strong></td>
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## Greet & Meet DKFI Teams (c’ed)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Middle-School</th>
<th>Clovis Djeutcha (Math &amp; Science), Amandji Goito (Reading/ELA), Kwami Kwakou (Social Studies), Martha Leighty (Reading/ELA), Peter Mills (Math &amp; Science), <strong>Zachary Nicholas</strong> (French), Jillian Petrenko (Russian), Marc Youngia (Math)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Creative Arts</td>
<td><strong>Molly Cheng</strong> (Band), Saheter Cook (Physical Education), <strong>Davani Cooper</strong> (General Music), <strong>Andrea Garcia</strong> (Art), Philip Held (Technology), <strong>Andrea Jones</strong> (Physical Education), <strong>Brandon Lewis</strong> (Orchestra), Tyrone McNeal (Media Specialist),</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Education &amp;</td>
<td><strong>Rachael Cahoon</strong>, Gustave Biaka, Sarah Chung, Rachele Donohue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Counselors</td>
<td></td>
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The Immersion Program

**We are a full immersion program** (see link)

French will be used as the main language in Mathematics, Science, Health, Social Studies and Reading/Language Arts. Specials (Art, Music, PE, Tech) are taught in the language where possible as the program grows.

**What is immersion?** (see link)

French immersion began in Canada in 1965 in St. Lambert, a suburb of Montréal, Québec, with a small group of Anglophone parents.
Challenges & Benefits

**Challenges**

- First couple of months
- It is a cultural shock at first
- Child may encounter frustration at first
- No English instruction until 2nd grade in school
- Learning takes time; it is *not* an overnight process
Challenges & Benefits

Benefits

- Bilingual or multilingual (see link)
- DELF (see link)
- More academically advanced (see link)
- Travel to foreign countries in 5th and 8th
- Experienced teachers
- Child will want to teach you
- Children adapt and are resilient
- Be excited to know a language others don’t
- Career opportunities
You can support your child by doing the following...

- Support the program and the teachers!
- Celebrate every success your child shares
- Encourage your child to do their assignments every day
- Read to and with your child in your native language
- Do not use Google Translate; it is detrimental to language acquisition and will delay acquisition of the language
- Do not do assignments for your child!
Guidance (Ms Cheng & Ms. Donohue)
Parent-Teacher Team

- Teacher is first line of communication
- Teacher has 48 hours to respond
- Communicate and ask questions
- Be open and know the teacher has your child’s best interest at heart
- *Teachers need your support*
- Administration as the last resort
Health Protocols

● 3 feet social distancing must be respected everywhere possible.
● Wearing a mask is mandatory for everyone on the school site and on the bus.
● The use of lockers and cubbies is not allowed throughout PGCPS.
● Students and staff will practice regular hand-washing / use of hand sanitizer.
● PGCPS staff (not students) are required to be vaccinated or submit to weekly testing.
● COVID protocols are handled by Mr. Spence and Nurse Love. Communication with parents concerning positive cases affecting your child will be from them.

CDC Guidelines
Every morning, students who eat school breakfast will pick up their breakfast to eat in their classrooms.

For lunch, classes will eat lunch in the cafeteria and in the classroom every other day.

Elementary students will have outdoor recess every other day, alternating with indoor recess.

COVID-19 protocols must be observed during outdoor recess as well.
Every kindergarten student will receive an iPad soon (date to be announced). More details will be communicated to you.

All other DKFI students are entitled to receive a PGCPS device. If you have not received one, please contact Ms. Kallon at cristina.kallon@pgcps.org.

1st grade students’ families only - Additional swap day (ipad/Chromebook) on September 7, from 2 to 4 pm. Students are expected to bring their PGCPS devices to school every day, **fully charged**. Students will be using their devices to complete some assignments throughout the day.
New Online Platform - Canvas

Teachers are requested to use a new instructional platform called Canvas. This will constitute a new learning experience for both teachers and students.

Thank you in advance for your understanding and patience as we all adjust to this new platform!
Who are my child’s teachers?

Teacher assignments are available through the School Max Family portal. Click on the “schedule” tab and then on “all” to see a list of your child’s teachers. Information on accessing and navigating SchoolMax can be found here.
Transportation

For any transportation-related matter, please contact the transportation office (preferably by email since this is currently a very busy time).

For contact-tracing reasons, students must stick to the same routine throughout the week (no flip-flopping between car-riders and bus riders). This does not preclude a student from being a bus-rider in the morning and a car-rider in the afternoon or vice versa. Morning and afternoon routines cannot change.
We have a Before and After Care program that is hosted in our building. However, Dora Kennedy French Immersion does not manage the program.

The Before and After Care program is currently managed by Sanbridge Early Learning Center (pending approval by PGCPS).

If you have any questions about the Before and After Care program, please click here.
Virtual Learning

Virtual Kindergarten, 2nd Grade, and 5th Grade students will be taught by Maya Angelou’s teachers. Those students will follow Maya Angelou’s schedules.

Virtual 1st, 3rd and 4th Grade students will be taught by Dora Kennedy’s teachers. In 1st Grade, there is one virtual class and three on-site classes. In 3rd and 4th Grade, teachers will have one virtual class and three on-site classes.

Virtual 6th Grade students will be taught by Dora Kennedy’s teachers. Math Regular and Math Accelerated will be Hybrid classes.
Virtual learners’ families have been invited to a meeting tonight at 6:30 pm to provide details and answer questions about Virtual learning.

Families are not able to change their decisions. Virtual learners will remain virtual until further direction from PGCPS. In-person students will remain in-person as well.

Please be on the lookout for further updates or changes regarding Virtual learners. We appreciate your understanding and flexibility.
The following link will provide you with suggested supply lists for your child.
Additional needs will be communicated to you by your child’s teacher.
Parents will not be able to come in the building to deliver supplies. As a result, we suggest sending in just a few items per day so that your child’s backpack is not too heavy.
Arrival Procedure

Arrival times are between 8:45 to 9:15. **No student** may be dropped off before 8:45.
- Grades K-4 students will enter through the main entrance.
- Grades 5-8 students will enter through the nurse office’s entrance.

**1st day of school:**
- Grades K-2 students will go to the gym upon arrival.
- Grades 3-5 students will go to the cafeteria.
- MS students will go to their homeroom classrooms.
- Parents will not be allowed in the building. There will be staff members throughout the building to assist students.

**After 1st day of school:**
- Grades K-1 students will go to the gym upon arrival.
- All other students will go to their classrooms.
Dismissal Procedure

Dismissal time is from 3:45 to 4:15. (However, the first week of school we may expect late buses.)

All the students will be dismissed from the front of the building as car riders or bus riders.

Buses and cars will enter through the second entrance from Greenbelt Road.
Middle School Schedule

Schedule for MS is different on “A days” and “B days”. Click on Calendar
An important change this year is that Creative Arts classes will be at the end of the day, not at the beginning.