

Top News

#OnePGCPS: Welcome Back!



On Monday, Aug. 29, 131,000 students across our schools will return to classrooms together, as **one**. Following years of virtual and hybrid learning, togetherness is reason to celebrate!

Let's take on this new school year by focusing on what **each one** of us can do daily to make our classrooms or work sites the best they can be. Whether it's helping a colleague, implementing a new idea to improve your work location or simply being a shoulder to lean on, no act of kindness or innovation is too small.

Across our schools, we may be many, but we must be united in a singular sense of pride. We are the power of one!

As we approach the new school year, please share our [Back-to-School Guide](#) with families, download a [staff first day of school sign](#) and [show us](#) how you're preparing to welcome students.

Upcoming calendar reminders:

Saturday, Aug. 20: Back-to-School Drive & Dash

Friday, Aug. 26: Student Orientation Day

Monday, Aug. 29: First Day of School for all students

Monday, Sept. 5: Schools and offices closed for Labor Day

[Calendar](#)

Staff Back-to-School Town Hall Recap



Listen to updates and insights on the upcoming school year from CEO Dr. Monica Goldson.

[Listen](#)

Saturday: Back-to-School Drive & Dash



PGCPS will host a Back-to-School Drive & Dash this Saturday, Aug. 20 for our annual backpack and school supplies giveaway! Events will be held at High Point, Charles Herbert Flowers and Oxon Hill high schools beginning at 9 a.m.

New Teachers Gear Up for the Classroom



Hundreds of new educators participated in the Professional Educator Induction Program (PEIP) and New Teacher Bootcamp to network and learn classroom management, content/grade level curriculum, special education, technology platforms and more! [View photos.](#)



2022-23 COVID-19 Safety Protocols



Top things to know:

- Masks are [required](#) until further notice.
- There is no longer a quarantine requirement for individuals who may have been exposed to COVID-19. Individuals who may have been exposed can remain in schools unless they become symptomatic. (It is recommended that anyone exposed get tested on the 5th day after exposure.)
- PGCPS will provide rapid antigen COVID tests only for symptomatic individuals with signed parental consent forms on file.
- Individuals who test positive should remain home for five days and can return on day six if asymptomatic.
- PGCPS has updated guidance for social distancing to mirror that of CDC. Individuals are encouraged to keep distance from others when feasible.

[More Info](#)

2022-23 Technology Highlights



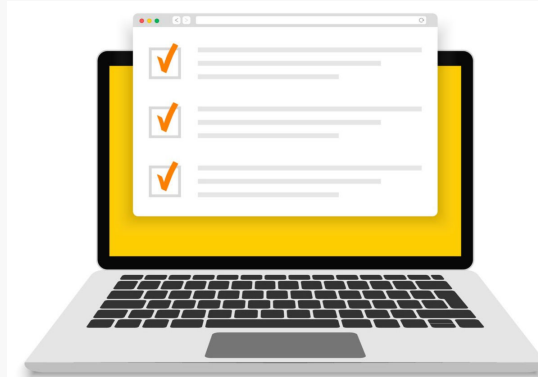
Start the school year strong with tips from the Technology Training Team (T3):

- Canvas is now the primary learning management system used in PGCPS.
- More than 3,000 PGCPS classrooms have new SMART MX interactive panels.
- SchoolMessenger is the official district-approved tool for communicating with families. Training is required to gain an account.

- All students have devices for learning and various digital tools are accessible for everyone. Be sure to balance instruction with online and offline tasks to maintain digital wellness for students.

[Learn More](#)

SafeSchools Mandatory Training



SafeSchools training modules are mandatory for all staff and designed to ensure every employee has the necessary information to maintain a positive, respectful, safe, healthy and lawful culture for safe and supportive school environments. **Round 1 sessions are due by August 26.** [Start trainings now!](#)

Spotlights

Math & Science in Focus at STAMP Camp!





Drones and robots were highlights for more than 300 rising fifth graders from 56 schools who attended the four-week **ESSA & Title I Department STAMP Camp** (Science Technology Aerospace and Math Program) at Dodge Park, Judge Sylvania Woods, Mary Harris Mother Jones and Panorama elementary schools! Campers explored the engineering and design process using NASA's BEST curriculum, coding and creative arts.

WTOP Feature

#PGCPSSummer Excellence



More than 100 schools and offices welcomed over 300 interns for the 2022 **Summer Youth Enrichment Program**. Interns provided administrative, school beautification and technical support.

Media Arts Instructional Specialist Barbara Liedahl, led a professional development session on coding for computers, robots and circuits in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Chief Human Resources Officer Dr. Kristi Murphy Baldwin and **Supervisor of College Readiness Olivia Pearson** were appointed to the Blueprint for Maryland's Future Accountability and Implementation Board.

Benjamin Tasker Middle School Talented and Gifted Coordinator JanetViana Clarke-Green participated in the American Battlefield Trust Teacher Institute in Mobile, Alabama.

PGCPS received the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting for the 15th consecutive year, from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA).

Show Us Your #PGCPS1stDay Prep

Show your PGCPS pride with a staff first day sign, Zoom background or by sharing photos of your [back-to-school preparations!](#)



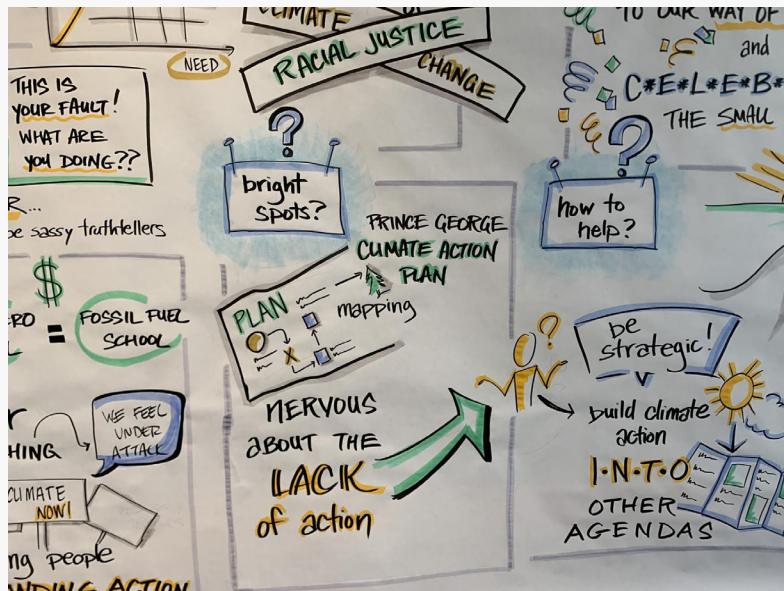
Staff First Day Sign



Zoom Background

In the News

Leading in Green: Climate Change Action Plan Earns Praise



Former U.S. Secretary of Education Dr. John B. King Jr. highlighted the PGCPS Climate Change Action Plan at the recent Mid-Atlantic Climate Change Education Forum. Dr. King was presenting on how K-12 systems can lead in both climate change education and setting the stage for a carbon-free future.

More Info

#OnePGCPS: What You Need to Know for Back-to-School!



CEO Dr. Monica Goldson has encouraged the PGCPS community to believe in the “power of one” — each individual working collectively to build a thriving system of teaching, learning, equity and excellence.

[Read More](#)

#TeamPGCPS Paparazzi





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