



# Dora Kennedy French Immersion



## *Welcome to School Year 2022-2023 Letter*

August 16th 2022

Dear Parents,

On behalf of Dora Kennedy French Immersion School, I am happy to welcome you to the 2022-2023 school year! We are excited about the upcoming year, and especially the progressive steps we are making towards our vision of an inclusive educational community that produces multi-lingual, critical thinking problem solvers. This year our academic focus will center around Mathematics, with a special concentration on abstract and quantitative reasoning within problem solving. With this focus, we anticipate continued and consistent growth as evidenced by our various modes of assessment. Dora Kennedy French Immersion is committed to the overall wellness of our students, staff, and community; consequently we will still prioritize Social Emotional Learning, Inclusion and Safety. We are looking forward to a productive partnership with you to ensure our children can achieve their highest potential. We recognize that in order to be successful in school, our children need support from both the home and school. We know that a strong partnership with you will make a great difference in your child's education. As partners, we share the responsibility for our children's success and want you to know that we will do our very best to carry out our responsibilities.

I am attaching various resources to this letter for your reference. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our school. The wonderful Dora Kennedy French Immersion staff and I feel privileged to be a part of your child development, it is a responsibility we do not take lightly. We thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

*James A. Spence II*

School Principal

## Beginning of the year Resources



- **PGCPS Calendar:** [2022-2023 PGCPS Calendar](#)
- **Transportation Information Inquiry [Bus/ Info Finder](#)**
  - **Car Riders:** [Google survey](#) to be filled out by parents ASAP in order to get your placards to display in your car window and [Student Arrival and Dismissal Procedures](#)
- **Before & Aftercare - Dora Kennedy French Immersion:**

Sanbridge Early Learning Centers

Dieneba Traore'

443-757-2938

[dtraore@Sanbridge.net](mailto:dtraore@Sanbridge.net)

[infohollywood@sanbridge.net](mailto:infohollywood@sanbridge.net)

<http://www.Sanbridgeearlylearningcenter.com>

PGCPS Vendor Managed Child Programs ([Click Here](#))

- **Mask Policy Update: Friday, August 12:**

In light of the highly contagious COVID-19 BA.5 variant, Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) will return to a mandatory mask policy in all schools and facilities until further notice, effective Monday, August 15. This decision was recommended by the Prince George's County Health Department.

When responding to public health threats such as COVID-19, Maryland school districts have flexibility in determining mask-wearing policies. In July, PGCPS transitioned from mandatory mask-wearing to a mask-optional policy for the first time since the onset of the pandemic.

Mask policy is subject to change according to local and/or state health department guidance and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations.

- **PGCPS Meal Updates:**

With PGCPS returning to paid meals, we have attached the following link to assist with your breakfast/lunch planning & preparations. ([Click Here](#))

- **DKFI School Supply Lists:** ([Click Here](#))

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

EVENT	VENUE	DATE	TIME
PGCPS Back to School Town Hall ( <b>not DKFI</b> )	Tele-Townhall	Wednesday August 16, 2022	6:00 pm
Kindergarten, New Student Orientation	DKFI-Multipurpose Room	Friday August 26, 2022	9:30- 11:30 am
First Day of School	DKFI	Monday August 29, 2022	9:15 – 3:55 pm
Back-to-School Nights	DKFI-Multipurpose Room	K-5 on Tuesday September. 13, 2022 6-8 on Wednesday September. 14, 2022	6:30 – 8:00 pm 6:30 – 8:00 pm

**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:

Mr Kurosh Jafari	5th Grade/ Middle School Math
Mr Terrell Campbell	PE/Health
Mme Diarra Dieng	1st Grade
Dr Mare Mbow	Middle School French Language Arts
Mme Mahuwena Goito	Elementary ELA

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

Mr Peter Mills	Testing Coordinator
Mr Yusufamir Fenwick	Band
Mme Mariame Sylla	3rd Grade
Dr Idayatou Anjorin	2nd Grade
Mme Yawa Kwakou	Kindergarten
Mme Nneoma Nwosu	Kindergarten
Mr John Enoch	2nd Grade
Mr Roger Nguena	4th Grade
Mr Bernard Feuijo	4th Grade

## SCHOOL HOURS:

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

## TECHNOLOGY:

PGCPS is a one device to each student school system.

- Incoming Kindergarten students will receive “touch-screen” Chromebooks
- Rising 1<sup>st</sup> grade students will exchange their iPads for a Chromebook
- New incoming students of other grade levels will receive a Chromebook

## COMPUTER LOGINS:

Student user names remain the same. In most cases the user name is the student’s first name, hyphen, then last name. For example, Kevin Jones’ birthday is June 25th. In most cases the log in would be **kevin-jones**; his password is **dkfi0625**. If this basic formula does not work, please contact your child’s teacher for assistance. **All students will be required to bring their school device daily.**

## **NURSE/HEALTH ROOM UPDATES:**

- Families should take care of any outstanding immunizations ASAP
- Parents will need to make an appointment with Nurse Love to coordinate medication/plan drop off
- Students may not self-carry/self-administer medications unless cleared by their primary physician and Nurse Love

## **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.

## **DKFI Cleaning Actions/Strategies:**

Below are some of the actions that we will continue to help keep our school disinfected, and safe as possible.

- Air Purifiers in every classroom and high traffic areas
- Electro-static misting of hallways, classrooms and all congregated areas
- Increased rotation of cleaning and disinfecting
- Outside learning experiences when appropriate and weather permitting
- Increased soap dispensers, paper towels and hand sanitizers