Hello Jacksonville Students and Families!

Welcome to the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year. I know that each of you have been anxiously awaiting information about the new school year.

Our summer staff has the building clean and shining! We are so excited and can't wait to share new school year information with you.

As we continue to finalize the schedule and details, I want you to mark your calendars for the following upcoming events:

**Jacksonville Elementary Back to School Events**

**Kindergarten Picnic**

August 24, 2023 from 4:15-6:15 PM

Primary Playground

**Take a Peek at Your Seat**

August 24, 2023 from 2:30-4:00 PM

**Back to School Night: Parent only event, please!**

September 12, 2023

6:00-6:30 “Mingle with Mrs. Miller” (cafeteria)

Learn about School Safety Protocols, Important School Information and Attendance Policies

Introduction to the Jacksonville School Staff

6:30-7:00 PTA Meeting

7:05-7:25: Teacher Information Session 1

7:30-7:50 Teacher Information Session 2

Information will be forthcoming on specific room numbers!
**Student Class Information**

Classroom assignments will be available in the FOCUS program beginning Monday, August 14th. Please check the system to find out your child’s schedule and placement. Please do not call the school for information, as we will not provide student information details over the phone. If you have difficulty with your account, please contact the BCPS tech office at 443 809 4672.

The directions for creating a parent account if you have not already done so can be found here:

https://www.bcps.org/tech_support/creating_a_parent_account_for_focus__school

Please note if your child is in FIRST grade and the teacher listed is TBA, the system has not yet updated. Your child’s teacher is Mr. Ferrar in room 7.

If your child is in 5th grade advanced math, the system has not yet updated. Your child’s math teacher is Mrs. M Patton.

**Classroom Supply Lists**

Attached to this message is the supply list for children K-5. If you ordered a supply kit for your child through the PTA, they will be delivered directly to your home.

**Transportation**

Bus lists will be sent to the office the week before school begins. We will send the lists and post them on the school website for your reference as soon as they arrive.

**Kindergarten Information**

Welcome to Jacksonville Elementary School! Please see below for our kindergarten schedule:

- A parent or guardian will bring you to school on **Monday, August 28th** from 9:45 to 11:45 A.M. or from 1:00 to 3:00 P.M. Your designated time will be based on the first letter of your last name. Students with A to L will be the morning session. Students with M-Z will be the afternoon session.

- On **Tuesday, August 29th**, your parent or guardian will bring you to school at 9:45 until 1:30. There will be no transportation provided by BCPS, so your parent or guardian must arrange for your dismissal. Students will pack a lunch on this day or purchase a lunch from the cafeteria menu.
• You will have your first “full day” at school on **Wednesday, August 30th** and ride the bus to and from school.

During your visits we will read books, sing songs, and check your bus information. Please bring your school supplies so we can help you get organized for learning!

Classroom lists will be available for your K child on the FOCUS program. See above.

**VOLUNTEERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

All potential volunteers, whether they be family, community members, or staff, must complete the volunteer application and participate in an orientation/training session annually beginning on **July 1st**. **All volunteer training expires on June 30th**. Please see the link below to complete your training.

**All adults that send their completed application and certificate to the school office by September 15th will be placed in a drawing for a special prize for their child/children!!**

**Volunteering and Visiting Information (including Field Trip Volunteers)**

**THIS INCLUDES CLASS PARTIES AND HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES!**

To assure protection under Maryland State Law for comprehensive liability insurance and worker's compensation, **all visitors are required to sign in at the office upon entering** the school and to wear a volunteer pass.

In addition, adults who plan to visit the classroom are required to complete the Safe Schools training:

[https://cos.bcps.org/departments/communications/family_and_community_engagement/b_c_p_s_volunteers](https://cos.bcps.org/departments/communications/family_and_community_engagement/b_c_p_s_volunteers)

A copy of the application and certificate must be submitted to the school **two weeks prior** to volunteering or visiting, either in the school or on field trips. According to BCPS policy, volunteers/visitors who do not follow the guidelines can be excused at the discretion of the administration.

**Breakfast and Lunch 23-24**

This school year we are pleased to announce that students at Jacksonville are eligible for **FREE breakfast and lunch each day**! Please discuss with your child your family policy on enjoying the breakfast and lunch selections.

One suggestion is to print the menu each month and have your child decide which days they will pack or “buy” each day! This helps your child know which they are doing and helps plan for grocery shopping.
each week! (I did this with my girls when they were in school) See link below for menu options and info!

https://businessservices.bcps.org/departments/business_services_operations/food_and_nutrition_services/breakfast_and_lunch_menus

**School Hours, Drop-off and Pick-up Times**

Our school hours will be 9:20 to 4:05 each day. The building will open for students at 9:05 each morning, and the expectation is that students will be in homeroom by 9:20 am. Dismissal will begin at 4:00, with walkers and car riders, followed by bus dismissal.

**School Parent Handbook**

Please check out our parent handbook, which can be found on the Jacksonville Elementary website. This book contains a large amount of information for all families, and it is updated yearly for your information! Make sure you check it out!!

![Attendance Matters](image)
**Student Attendance**

- Students are expected to maintain satisfactory attendance at the state standard of 94%.
- In order to foster continuity of the instructional program, students should not exceed an absence rate of 10% in a given quarter.
- A student absent from school shall present a note immediately upon return to school. The note, signed by the parent/guardian, shall include the name of the student, the date of, and the reason for the absence no later than five days after the student’s return to school.
- Upon receipt of the absence note, the school will certify the absence as excused or unexcused. If a student is absent for an extended period of time due to illness, a written statement of explanation may be required from the physician on the day of the student’s return to class.
- Any absence or tardiness not supported by a parent/guardian note will be marked as an unlawful absence.