



Ernest Sessoms, Jr., Principal

Fantara Houston, Assistant Principal

PAUL LAURENCE DUNBAR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

PAUL LAURENCE DUNBAR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

July 18, 2022

Dear Parent & Partner in Education,

Bonjour! Konnichiwa! Hola! Nín hǎo! "Hello" in many languages. It is a pleasure to officially welcome all of you back to a brand new and innovative school year at Paul Laurence Dunbar Elementary School. As you can tell from my greeting, we are getting closer to achieving our goal of becoming IB (International Baccalaureate) authorized. We are preparing our students to take on the World with a global and international mind-set. IB authorization will ensure that your child has a first-class education and opportunity to earn an IB Diploma when graduating from Maynard Jackson High School. We want Dunbar students to enter King Middle School, an IB authorized school, with other feeder elementary school students equally prepared to be successful using IB learning concepts and beliefs. Please support Dunbar in achieving this huge milestone for your child.

Now is the time to focus on the present and future providing quality instruction and intervention for each child along with social emotional supports. I assure you that the entire Dunbar staff is prepared and equipped with the love and compassion to walk side by side with you as we navigate the new learning approaches for this school year for you and your child.

This school year will be the better than ever in that we will continue to provide *quality* and *rigorous* learning experiences that meet the personalized needs of every child. In addition to grade level content, your child will receive personalized learning based on their academic needs. **We will be implementing a 30-minute Intervention Block again this year. Remember that school times have changed to 7:45 am-2:45 pm. Avoid your child coming to school tardy and missing important instruction needed to pass to the next grade level.**

I am so glad you have entrusted your child to us here at Paul Laurence Dunbar Elementary School. We have high expectations not only for our staff and students, but for you as well. This year all parents are required to complete a minimum of 6 hours of Volunteer Hours and register for the Dunbar Parent University courses. I promise they will be fun!! Please expect to hear more during Open House on Friday, July 29, 2022, 9:00 am.

"Teaching with Love and a Laser Focus for Excellence."

Yours faithfully,

Ernest Sessoms, Jr.

Dunbar Elementary Principal

Dunbar Elementary School & Principal Twitter



Principal Sessoms Dunbar Instagram

Instagram

Q search



principal sessoms

44 posts

100 posts

120 followers

49 following



Vision

Paul Laurence Dunbar is a school where excellence is expected and all students are developed academically, socially, and emotionally in order to become globally competitive.

Mission

Paul Laurence Dunbar Elementary is a school that nurtures and develops life-long learners who are problem solvers and internationally minded citizens.

Motto

"Focused on Excellence"

Dunbar School Pledge

I am unique and special and

I will use my abilities

to become a citizen of my school.

Therefor this day and every day,

I will come to school on time.

I will bring my tools for learning.

I will perform my jobs

I will share my ideas and

Respect the rights of others.

I will ask thoughtful questions and

Look for positive solutions.

I will work hard and smart to achieve my goals.

Because today is special and it will never come again.



Dunbar Elementary is a Uniform School



Girls

- ❖ Uniforms: Monday-Thursday
- ❖ Fridays-Spirit Wear and Jeans (No Rips or Holes)

Boys



- White/Yellow/Lt. Blue polo shirt/blouses
- Navy, Lt. Blue & Yellow Jumpers & Cross ties
- Solid Navy or Khaki Jumpers/Skirts/Shorts



Tie

Tuesdays!!



- White/Yellow/Lt. Blue polo shirts
- White Oxford Button Down shirts & Plaid Neckties
- Solid Navy or Khaki Pants/Shorts



Tie

Tuesdays!!





7:20 AM-Building Opens

7:20-7:45 AM-BREAKFAST

**7:45 AM-INSTRUCTION
STARTS**

7:46 AM-Tardy

If Tardy, please sign your child in.

Early Dismissals Before 2:00 PM

STUDENT ATTENDANCE POLICY

ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

ATTENDANCE

According to research, chronic absenteeism can have a negative effect on student academic performance and can be a predictor of whether or not students will drop-out of school. Students who are absent or tardy miss valuable instructional time, and are less likely to master those skills, concepts, and principles needed for success. Make-up work can never replace the learning process that takes place in the classroom. Regular school attendance also establishes a pattern of positive habits that can be carried over throughout life.

Please note that absences are coded as excused in accordance with the Official Code of Georgia and Georgia State Board of Education guidelines.

COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE LAW

In accordance with the Official Code of Georgia, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-690.1, mandatory attendance in a public school, private school, or home school program shall be required for children between their sixth and sixteenth birthdays. Any parent, guardian, or other person residing in this state who has control or charge of a child or children and who violates this Code section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be subject to:

- Fine – not less than \$25.00 and not greater than \$100.00
- Imprisonment – not to exceed 30 days
- Community Service – or any combination of such penalties at the discretion of the court having jurisdiction

All children enrolled in public school for 20 school days or more are subject to compulsory school attendance, even if they are under 6 years of age (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-150).

Please see the chart below for a quick view of Atlanta Public Schools attendance protocol:

By September 1 of each school year	Parent/guardian signs Acknowledgement Signature Page indicating receipt of notification of penalties/consequences for failing to comply with compulsory attendance law.
Three (3) Unexcused Absences	A letter is mailed to parent(s)/guardian(s) notifying them that their child has at least three unexcused absences and explains attendance expectations.
Five (5) Unexcused Absences	A letter is mailed to parent(s)/guardian(s) notifying them that their child has at least five unexcused absences, reminding them of possible penalties/consequences of misdemeanor violation, and requesting parent/guardian participation in a Student Attendance Committee (SAC) meeting.
Eight (8) Unexcused Absences	The student may be referred to the school social worker. Once referred, the intensity of strategies and interventions is increased, including a referral to community agencies, home visit, and parent workshops/trainings.
Ten (10) Unexcused Absences (Truancy)	The social worker may refer the student to Juvenile Court if parent(s)/guardian(s) are noncompliant with attendance interventions or attendance does not improve after the student has accumulated ten unexcused absences.



News from the Principal

- Please use the **SHELTERING ARMS** Entrance & Exit on Fulton Street.
- **For Security Purposes Early Dismissals** will not be accomodated after 2:00 pm and entry will not be granted. You may greet your child in the designated dismissal locations.

We want to ensure school Safety & Security.



Walkers

*All students walking, along with their siblings, will exit from the front entrance of the school.

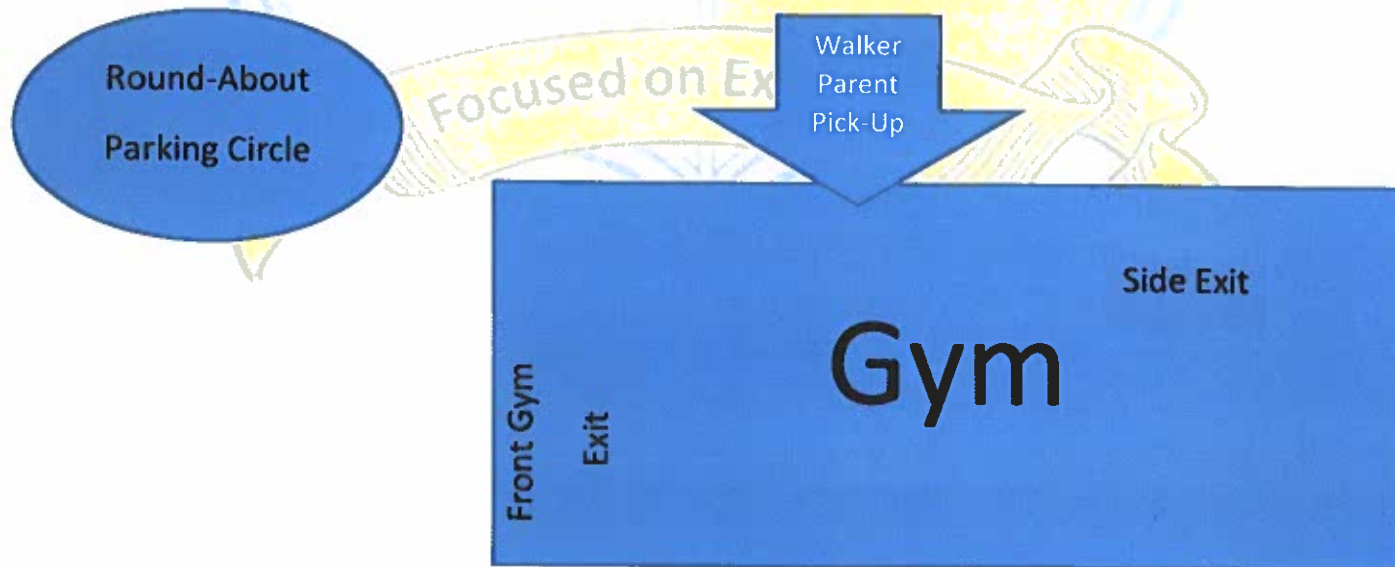
Parent Walker Pick-Up Location

-Parent Pick-Up for Walkers should wait by the gym entrance near the Paul Dunbar mural.

Car Rider Parent Pick-Up Location

-Students will be escorted to your vehicle by a Dunbar Staff Member to expedite traffic and ensure student safety. (If you choose to park on Whitehall, you may stand outside of the Gym Entrance at the Front of the Building.

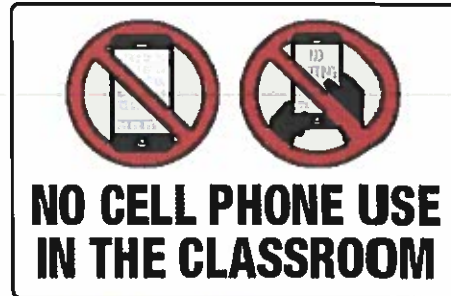
PLEASE STAY IN YOUR VEHICLES. DO NOT PARK IN THE ROUND-ABOUT AS THIS CAUSES DANGEROUS TRAFFIC CONGESTION!!!



Cell Phone Policy



August 1, 2022



Dear Dunbar Elementary Parents and/or Guardians,

It is necessary to bring to your attention the importance of adhering to the Cell Phone Policy for Atlanta Public Schools. Adhering to this policy is critical and is a matter of safety for your child's well-being. Recently students have been engaging in Group Chats with other students inappropriately. Additionally students have established Instagram accounts without the permission or supervision of the parent. These abuses have caused a disruption in learning in Dunbar classrooms.

Please assist us in supporting a positive learning environment as well as protecting your child both at and away from school. Please thoroughly review the Atlanta Public Schools Cellular Telephone/Personal Electronic Device policy on the back of this letter. **Cell phones are NOT allowed to be Out or Visible at anytime during the school day or on the school bus.** Be aware that teachers will collect cell phones upon arrival to school. Phones will then be given back to students at dismissal.

Additionally, I want to encourage you to be diligent in monitoring your child's use of their cellular and personal electronic devices such as iPads outside of school hours.

- ♥ **Text Messages/Cyberbullying**-Please speak with your child about appropriate etiquette when sending text messages.
- ♥ **Social Media**- Many students have accounts for social media apps such as *Instagram, Tic Toc, Snapchat, and Twitter.* **The age requirement for these Social Media platforms are 13 and older.** Please be aware of your child's use on these platforms if you decide to allow your child to create an account. Monitor your child's postings of pictures, videos, comments, and direct messaging on social media.
- ♥ **Parent Monitoring Tips**
 1. Collect Cell Phones each evening around 7:00 pm.
 2. Have Cell Phone Passwords
 3. Follow/Add your child's social media pages to your own. **(The age limit for Social Media is 13.)**
 4. Invest in Cell Phone monitoring apps or services.

Yours faithfully,

Ernest Sessoms, Jr.

Paul L. Dunbar Elementary Principal

	Classroom	Hallway	Cafeteria	Dismissal	Technology
P ositive	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Always give 100% effort and try your best. 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walk in a straight line along the 3rd square. Remain silent 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Always use please and thank you in your daily conversation. Be courteous saying "yes/no", Sir, and Ma'am! 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walk quickly and quietly to dismissal areas 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Text, type, and share only positive messages
A ct Respectful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep hands and feet to yourself at all times. Respect staff with your words and actions at all times. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respect students' and staff's personal space Remain silent Say "Excuse Me" to students or staff in the event of an accident 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Zone 1-Whisper Voices Respect all students and staff using dining etiquette at all times. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow the directions of the adults in charge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Choose your words wisely when sending information (Mute your parent approve of what you are writing?)
W ork Together	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support one another using collaborative talk. Support and encourage one another. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow hallway rules individually so that the entire class shines and looks scholarly. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Always clean up after yourself and help others. Be a helper in the café based on your assigned job. 		
S afety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report any accidents or injuries to faculty staff Report any unsafe conditions immediately. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avoid accidents and injuries by walking appropriately at Zone 0 along the 3rd square. Report any unsafe conditions immediately. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay in a straight line at Zone 1 and remain seated until dismissed. Report any unsafe conditions immediately. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report directly to your final destination. Report any unsafe conditions immediately. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report any unsafe conditions immediately.

PAUL LAURENCE DUNBAR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



2022-23 Paul L. Dunbar Elementary School Calendar



August 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

September 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

October 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

November 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

December 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

January 2023						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

February 2023						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

March 2023						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

April 2023						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

May 2023						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

June 2023						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

July 2023						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Special Events & Programs

Aug 30, 2022	Bring Your Parents to School Day
Oct 24-28, 2022	Red Ribbon Drug Awareness Week
Oct 25, 2022	Fall Festival
Nov 4, 2022	School Science Fair
Dec 9, 2022	Winter Wonderland Dance
Dec 15, 2022	Winter Holiday Program
Feb. 13-17, 2023	College & Career Week
April 21, 2023	Spring Dance
May 19, 2023	Field Day
May 22, 2023	Pre-K & Kindergarten Awards Day
May 23, 2023	First-Fourth Grades Awards Day
May 24, 2023	Fifth Grade Awards Day

Parent Meetings

Go Team Meetings

4:30 Via Zoom, 3rd Thursdays

9/15/22	10/20/22	11/17/22	12/15/22
1/19/23	2/16/23	3/16/23	4/20/23

PTA Meetings

5:30pm Thursdays

9/15/22 at 12:00 pm
11/17/22 at 12:00 pm
1/19/23 at 5:00 pm
3/30/23 at 5:00 pm

Dunbar
Elementary

PARENT ENGAGEMENT CALENDAR

August
2022



Dunbar GO TEAM Zoom

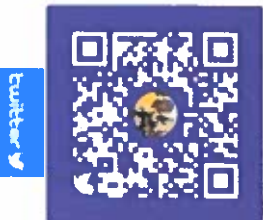
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30 Bring Your Parent to School Day/Title I Meeting *12:00 PM	31			

GO TEAM Zoom Meeting
Meeting ID: 891 7960 7104
Passcode: Dunbar

Dunbar
Elementary

PARENT ENGAGEMENT CALENDAR

September
2022



School Website

Dunbar GO TEAM Zoom

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5 Labor Day	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 Grandparents Day Breakfast *9:30 am GO Team, 4:30	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 Walk Run Bike Day *8:00 am-12:00 pm
25	26	27	28	29	30	

GO TEAM Zoom Meeting
Meeting ID: 891 7960 7104
Passcode: Dunbar

Dunbar
Elementary

PARENT ENGAGEMENT CALENDAR

October
2022



School Website

Dunbar GO TEAM Zoom

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7 Jackson Cluster Night, 7:00 pm	8
9	10 Columbus Day	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 Santa for a Day	20 Go Team, 4:30 pm	21 "I Just Wanna Be Me" Brunch, 11:00	22 Red Ribbon Week Fun Day 5K, 8:00 am
23	24	25 Fall BOO-Fest *4:00 pm	26	27	28	29
30	31 Halloween & Character Book Day					

GO TEAM Zoom Meeting
Meeting ID: 891 7960 7104
Passcode: Dunbar

Dunbar
Elementary

PARENT ENGAGEMENT CALENDAR

November
2022



School Website



Dunbar GO TEAM Zoom

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
					11 Mother/Daughter Brunch 10:30 AM	12
6	7	8	9	10		
				17	18	19
13	14	15	16 Thanksgiving Parent Day Luncheon/PTA *12:00 pm GO Team, 4:30 pm			
27	28	29	30			

GO TEAM Zoom Meeting
Meeting ID: 891 7960 7104
Passcode: Dunbar

PARENT ENGAGEMENT CALENDAR



School website



Durbar GO TEAM Zoom

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 Go Team, 4:30 pm	16 1 st Semester Parent Awards, 9:00 am & Holiday Program	17

GO TEAM Zoom Meeting
Meeting ID: 891 7960 7104
Passcode: Dunbar

Dunbar Elementary		PARENT ENGAGEMENT CALENDAR					
January 2023		<div></div> <div>School Website</div> <div>Dunbar GO TEAM Zoom</div>					
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
1 New Year's Day	2 New Year's Day Holiday	3	4	5	6	7	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
15	16 M L King Day	17	18	19 Dr. King Expo/PTA Meeting *5:30 PM GO Team, 4:30 pm	20	21	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
29	30	31					

GO TEAM Zoom Meeting
Meeting ID: 891 7960 7104
Passcode: Dunbar

Dunbar
Elementary

PARENT ENGAGEMENT CALENDAR

February
2023







School Website






Dunbar GO TEAM Zoom

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 Valentine's Day	15 Black History Month, Fatherhood Breakfast, 10:00 am	16 Go Team, 4:30 pm	17	18
19	20 Presidents' Day	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

GO TEAM Zoom Meeting
Meeting ID: 891 7960 7104
Passcode: Dunbar

Dunbar Elementary		PARENT ENGAGEMENT CALENDAR				
March 2023		<div></div> <div>School Website</div> <div>Dunbar GO TEAM Zoom</div>				
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Women's History Month Kick-off for Moms, 12:00 pm	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 Go Team, 4:30 pm	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30 PTA Meeting *5:00 PM	31	

GO TEAM Zoom Meeting
Meeting ID: 891 7960 7104
Passcode: Dunbar

Dunbar Elementary		PARENT ENGAGEMENT CALENDAR					
April 2023		<div></div> <div>School Website</div> <div>Dunbar GO TEAM Zoom</div>					
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
						1	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9	10	11	12	13	14 Good Friday	15	
Easter Sunday							
16	17	18	19	20 Go Team, 4:30 pm	21	22	
23/30	24	25	26	27	28	29	

GO TEAM Zoom Meeting
Meeting ID: 891 7960 7104
Passcode: Dunbar

Dunbar Elementary

PARENT ENGAGEMENT CALENDAR

May 2023



Dunbar GO TEAM Zoom

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Mother's Day 21	22	23	24	25	26	27

GO TEAM Zoom Meeting
Meeting ID: 891 7960 7104
Passcode: Dunbar

DUNBAR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Attendance Celebration CALENDAR

#VOUMATTER

2 ABSENCES OR LESS PER EVENT

2022-2023 • February

- November/December**
 - Color Party!!**
Each grade level will dress in an assigned color and have correlating treats.
- January**
 - Surprise Field Trip**
All students PreK-5 will go on a surprise field trip.
- February**
 - GLOW Party**
Get your party on with glow sticks and glow rings!!
- March**
 - Attendance Field Day**
Enjoy fun with a bouncy house, games, and carnival snacks.
- April**
 - Game Truck & Snow Cones**
Show your gaming skills with and enjoy a sweet treat.

LESS THAN 2 ABSENCES

#ATTENDANCEMATTERS



PBIS INCENTIVE IDEAS

Monthly Celebrations

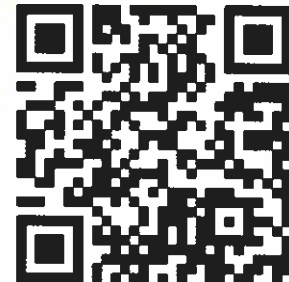
Bi-Weekly Events

- * Bulldog Bashes
- * Sweet Treats
- * Slushy Treats
- * Dining Duos
- * Class Dojo Parties

PAUL LAURENCE DUNBAR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Dunbar Elementary School Website



Dunbar Elementary School & Principal Twitter



Principal Sessoms Dunbar Instagram

Instagram



principalsessoms

Edit Profile

149 posts

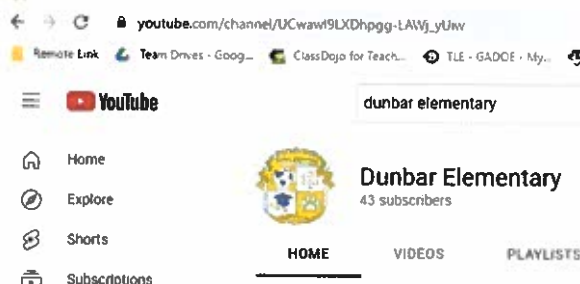
126 followers

43 following

Principal Sessoms Town Hall
apsk12.schoolcashonline.com



Dunbar YouTube



Updated Dunbar Elementary Student Information

Student Information

Student's Name: _____

Address: _____

Grade Level: _____

Transportation Home: ☐ Walk ☐ Bus ☐ After School Van _____

Allergies: _____

Primary & Emergency Contacts: It is critical to be able to contact parents or family members in the event your child is injured or in other cases of emergency. Additionally, your phone number must be current in order to receive critical Phone Robo-Calls. Provide your current primary contact number as well as at least 2 Emergency Contacts on file for your child.

Primary Contact Name for Infinite Campus _____

Cell Phone _____ Address _____

Emergency Contact #1 _____ Relationship _____

Cell Phone _____ Address _____

Emergency Contact #2 _____ Relationship _____

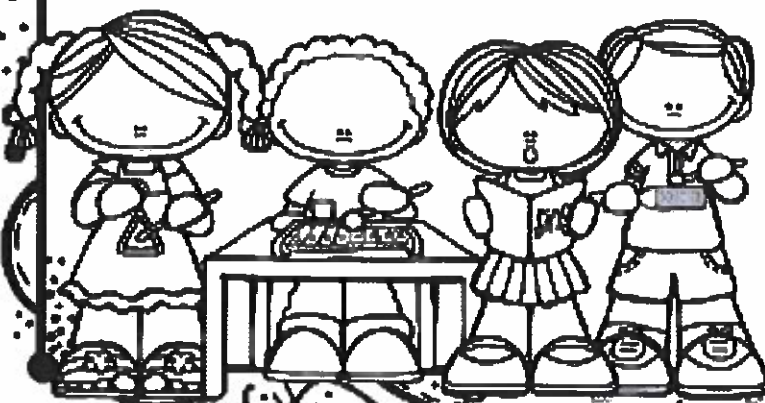
Cell Phone _____ Address _____

*Signing below authorizes Dunbar staff to update Infinite Campus with the current primary and emergency contact information.

Parent(Guardian)Signature _____

Date _____

*"We are the
music makers,
and we are the
dreamers of
dreams."*



Dunbar Parent Handbook Receipt Form

2022-2023

August 1, 2022

I, _____,

(Please print)

acknowledge I received the Dunbar Elementary
School Parent Handbook for 2022-2023.

Student's Name- _____

Grade Level- _____

Teacher Name- _____

Parent Name (Please Print)- _____

Parent Signature- _____

Date: _____