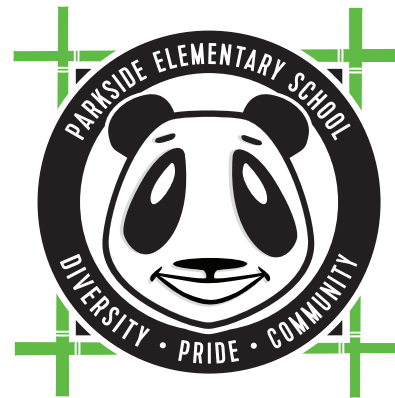


# WELCOME - TO - PARKSIDE!



## NEW FAMILY GUIDE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

PRESENTED BY THE  
PARKSIDE ELEMENTARY PTA



## HELLO, NEW PANDAS!

We're so excited to start the school year and to welcome new family and friends to Parkside. We've put together a few helpful tips so your first week can go as smoothly as possible.

## HERE WE GO!

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### SCHOOL DAY

The school day begins at 7:45 a.m. and ends at 2:45 p.m.

### DROP-OFF/ARRIVAL PROCEDURES

- Students can be dropped off any time between 7:15 and 7:45 a.m.
- Bus riders typically arrive at school between 7:15 and 7:35 a.m.
- Breakfast is usually served in the cafeteria from 7:15-7:35 but may be served in the classroom this school year due to Covid policies.
- **AFTER 7:45 a.m. – YOU'RE LATE!** Any student who is not in the classroom by 7:45 a.m. is considered tardy and **must sign in at the front office.**
- Pre-K students should always be walked to the classroom via the Pre-K entrance unless they take the bus; **all other students may be dropped off in the carpool line (in the lane in front of the school entrance), at the front doors, or at their classrooms.**

### SCHOOL BUS

All students living more than one mile from the school are eligible to take the bus. Information on bus routes will be distributed at the Open House just before the school year begins, and route information can be found on the APS website ( [www.atlantapublicschools.us](http://www.atlantapublicschools.us) ).

## PICK-UP PROCEDURES

- Bus riders are dismissed at 2:45 p.m. and buses typically leave the school by 2:50 p.m.
- Car riders are picked up from 2:50 to 3:00 p.m. at the gym doors. Parents are not permitted to walk up to the gym doors. Please follow the carpool plan at the end of this guide.
- Walkers should be picked up in front of the school at the door near the art room.
- If you would like to park your car and walk up to the school to pick up your student, please do not block the pickup line - park on Mercer St. and meet your student in the “walkers” area.
- **ALL STUDENTS WHO ARE NOT PARTICIPATING IN AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS SHOULD BE PICKED UP NO LATER THAN 3:00 p.m.**

## TRANSPORTATION CHANGES

At Open House or on the first day of school, you'll be asked to notify the school of your student's typical after-school transportation method or after-school program. On any day that you will not be following the plan you provided, you must let your child's teacher or the main office know in writing before 2 p.m.

## DRESS CODE

- All Parkside students (including pre-K students) should wear the Parkside uniform Monday through Thursday. The uniform is a collared shirt (polo or button-down), in dark blue/navy, dark green/forest, or white, along with shorts, pants, skirts, or jumpers in khaki or dark blue/navy. Dark blue/navy or dark green/forest polo dresses may also be worn.
- Students have PE two days per week and recess outside every day, so we recommend shoes that are comfortable and safe for play. Please no sandals or flip-flops – or they'll be asked to sit out during PE.
- Friday is a uniform-free day! But students should adhere to the APS dress code (found in the APS policy handbook that will go home in the coming days). Examples: no short shorts, midriff shirts, etc.

## MEALS

- Parkside provides breakfast and lunch. More information on whether meals will be free for all students or whether families will need to apply for the free or reduced meals for 2021-2022 will be forthcoming.
- Menus and nutrition information are posted at <https://atlantapublicschoolsnutrition.us/?page=menus>
- If your student wants to bring lunch, you may send a packed lunch from home. Keep in mind, Parkside is a nut-free school, so please don't send peanut butter, nuts, or any items containing tree nuts.

## SCHOOL SUPPLIES

We're excited to announce that our students will have **ALL** of their required school supplies made available on Day One. The PTA consulted with our teachers at each grade level and pre-purchased supplies for every one of our Parkside students. We ask that parents donate to the PTA to replenish the funds spent on supplies, at the amount of \$35 per student (over \$55 value in supplies).

For more information and to purchase a supply bundle, go to: <https://linktr.ee/parkside>. **Backpacks are not included in the school supply bundles.** Supplies are for Kindergarten - 5th grade students. Pre-K supplies are provided, though teachers may have wish list items if you'd like to contribute.

Donations of cleaning wipes and tissues are still appreciated; they can be dropped off in your classroom or the front office.

## AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM

- The on-site after school program is administered by Preferred School Care ( <https://pscafterschool.ce.eleyo.com/> ). You can register your student in the program now or at Open House. Care is provided from 2:45 to 6:00 p.m. The cost is \$60/week or \$20/day, with a \$30 registration fee.
- Afterschool enrichment classes/clubs (dance, soccer, martial arts, etc.) are also offered for an additional fee. They usually start about a month into the semester; details will be sent home with the students after the school year begins.

## COMMUNICATION

The school communicates important information to parents via the Remind system, phone calls, text messages, daily homework folders, and the Green Folder, which goes home with students every Thursday. Talk to your student's teacher to find out the best way to communicate directly with him/her when needed.

Join Remind for updates from Principal Foster - [rmd.at/d7gdc2](https://rm.d7gdc2)

On Facebook? You can join the PTA-moderated private parents group by searching Parkside Elementary Parents. You can also "Like" the Parkside Elementary PTA & Friends page.

On Instagram? Follow [@parksideatlanta](https://www.instagram.com/parksideatlanta) for updates.

## PARENT VOLUNTEERS

Our teachers love parent volunteers! Given that this is the return to school following Covid, information will be shared by Counselor Brown on whether parent volunteers will be allowed this year and if so, what the volunteer training process will look like. All volunteers will be asked to complete a background check. Please remember that Atlanta Public Schools does this to protect all our students and staff!

## PRE-K

Pre-K students follow the same schedule and general policies as the rest of the school. They do not go to PE or other special classes, but they do have lunch and recess every day. Pre-K students have a rest period and an afternoon snack each day. Your teacher may ask you to send in a change of clothing for emergencies and a blanket for naps.

## KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten students do not have a nap or rest time. They do have a snack in the afternoon. Some teachers ask parents to send a snack for their students each day, and others ask parents to take turns bringing snacks for the whole class. Kindergarten students have homework most days starting in the first week or two of school.

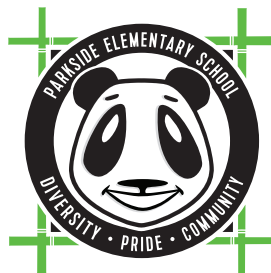
## FIELD TRIPS

There will be no field trips during the first two quarters of the 2021/2022 school year. Information will be shared about field trips for the third and fourth quarters as we receive direction from APS.

## LOST AND FOUND

As we return to in person learning, lost and found is located inside of the gym doors, to the left. Please remind students to be mindful and remember to bring home what was brought to school on a daily basis.

# WELCOME TO PARKSIDE, AND HAVE A GREAT FIRST WEEK!



## MEET YOUR PTA

### 2021-2022 BOARD MEMBERS



Darcy Millard  
**President**



Brittany Anderson  
**Vice President**



Dione Martin  
**Secretary**



Eddie Wilcox  
**Treasurer**



Joy Hinkle  
**Parent Liaison**

Parkside is lucky to have an active Parent Teacher Association. Our main role is to build strong working relationships between parents and teachers in support of our students.

We need you! Watch out for the dates of our PTA meetings, which will be announced through school newsletters and on our Facebook parent group. **The first meeting will be held on Thursday, August 26.** We hope to have an in-person and zoom option to join the meeting. Find out how you can get involved, including joining one of our committees or becoming a grade level support parent.

## COMMITTEES

Fundraising | Communications | Garden & Wellness

Teacher Appreciation | Events | School Supplies

## GO TEAM

### APS SCHOOL GOVERNANCE TEAM

**Did you know?** In 2016, APS became a Charter System, giving schools more freedom and flexibility to find innovative ways to boost student achievement. Our GO Team, which is separate from PTA, is comprised of teachers, parents, and community members who work with school leadership to help determine the long-term strategy and budget of the school. GO Team meetings are open to the school public, so watch out for the announcement of this school year's first meeting and feel free to attend.





# UNIFORMS & DRESS CODE

2021-2022

**“Encouraged and EXPECTED”  
(Monday-Thursday)**



**GREEN  
(DARK/FORREST)**

**BLUE  
(DARK/NAVY)**

**WHITE**



**PANTS**

**SHORTS**

**SKIRTS**

**JUMPERS**

**BLUE BOTTOMS**

**Khaki BOTTOMS**

We are proud to be a **DRESS CODE** and **UNIFORM** school. We “encourage and EXPECT” our wonderful Parkside Panda to observe and comply with our dress code by wearing school uniforms. Wearing uniforms enhances **school pride**, **unity**, and **community spirit**. They also save time and money.

Note 1.0 Uniforms are expected **Monday – Thursday**.  
Note 2.0 Uniforms are **OPTIONAL** on **Fridays**.

