

MEMORANDUM

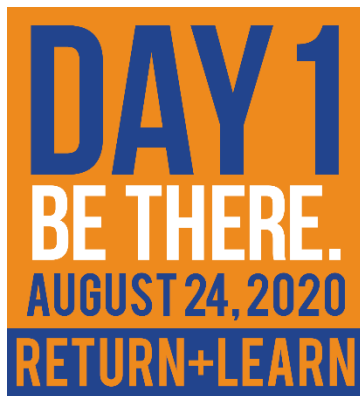
To: All APS Families

From: Dr. Lisa Herring, Superintendent

Date: August 19, 2020

Subject: Fireside Chats, Runway Week, Digital Bash and Food Distribution

Dear Atlanta Public Schools Parents and Families:



Fireside Chats - August 19 and 20

We always look forward to your input and engagement during our fireside chats. I am so pleased with the level of participation we've seen from parents on these chats in the past couple of weeks.

Please join me and other District leaders this week for our chats on International Baccalaureate (IB) on Wednesday, August 19 at 6 p.m. via Zoom at <https://zoom.us/j/93386974228>; English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) on Thursday, August 20 at 5 p.m. via Zoom at <https://zoom.us/j/92365069359>; and Technology on Thursday, August 20 at 6 p.m. via Zoom at

<https://zoom.us/j/98139258509>.

Spanish interpretation will be available in the zoom room for these events and they all will be broadcast live on the District's [Facebook page](#) (@AtlantaPublicSchools).

It's Runway Week

This week is our Runway for Learning week, and we are focused on preparing students, families, teachers, and staff for a successful Day One. Activities will be mostly virtual with some in-person activities needed in small or limited groups for parents to pick up needed supplies and materials for the first nine weeks of school. We are paying close attention to student wellness and preparation and are identifying multiple ways to connect with students to build relationships and ensure good mental health. Please contact your school for more details.

Technology Support & Virtual Learning Tools

Here's what you need to know for technology distribution day! Each school will host technology distribution events that will provide students with the tools they need to have a successful *virtual* Day 1. Specific information is required to receive a device. Please contact your school for more details.

As a reminder, all APS families are encouraged to take the Technology Readiness Survey before August 24 to ensure you have the tech resources you need. [Click here](#).

We have ample virtual learning resources that are designed to make the virtual learning environment interactive and user friendly. For tips on how to access and navigate the virtual classroom, please be sure to visit our [Virtual Parent Resource Center](#), where you will find a virtual learning tools quick guide, a virtual learning handbook, and more.

#Pop Up Bash + Digital Experience

Don't miss our #Pop Up Bash + Digital Experience happening throughout the week at schools and on our [Facebook page](#) (@AtlantaPublicSchools). Check with your school for specific details about the #Pop Up Bash. Through these activities, we are bringing you the fun and excitement of the Back to School Bash — just in a virtual model! APS has planned special digital experiences to get students and families excited about the 2020-2021 school year, starting with planning your “trip” through “takeoff” for school.

Visit our Bash page for the full schedule at <https://www.atlantapublicschools.us/Page/63407>, and stay on top of our daily themes to help guide your preparations for Day One. Backpacks are being distributed this week for students who registered for them. If you are still in need of a backpack, please notify your school and they will keep your name for future distribution.

Food Distribution

I know you've heard this message many times, but I must remind you that beginning on Day One, Monday, August 24, we will feed only APS students. Families must preorder student meals each week through [MySchoolBucks](#) this school year. Five-day meal bags with five breakfast meals and five lunch meals will be distributed at the 14 schools listed below and along with some bus routes.

Your orders must be placed by 11:59 p.m. at least one week before distribution. For example, for a five-day meal bag distributed on Monday, August 31, your order must be placed in the system by 11:59 p.m. on Monday, August 24. Once in the pre-order system, families can select whether they will pick up the meals at one of the school sites or if their meals should be delivered via a school bus route.

There is no charge for placing meal orders. However, reduced-pay and full-pay students will need to submit payment through the MySchoolBucks online payment system. Schools will not be collecting money for school meals. There will be no charges to students approved for free meals and to students enrolled in Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) schools.

Food Distribution Sites

BEST Academy/CSKYWLA 1190 Northwest Dr., NW Atlanta, GA 30318	Garden Hills Elementary 285 Sheridan Dr., NE Atlanta, GA 30305	Maynard H. Jackson High School 801 Glenwood Ave., SE Atlanta, GA 30316	South Atlanta High School 800 Hutchens Rd., SE Atlanta, GA 30354
Bunche Middle School 1925 Niskey Lake Rd., SW Atlanta, GA 30331	Hope-Hill Elementary 112 Boulevard NE Atlanta, GA 30312	Mays High School 3450 Benjamin E. Mays Dr., SW Atlanta, GA 30331	Washington High School 45 Whitehouse Dr., SW Atlanta, GA 30314
Carver High School 55 McDonough Blvd. Atlanta, GA 30315	John Lewis Middle School 1890 Donald Lee Hollowell Pkwy., NE Atlanta, GA 30312	Phoenix Academy (formerly Alonzo Crim High School) 256 Clifton St., SE Atlanta, GA 30317	
Douglass High School 225 Hamilton E. Holmes Dr., NW Atlanta, GA 30318	King Middle School 545 Hill St. SE Atlanta, GA 30312	Tuskegee Airmen Global Academy 1626 Westhaven Dr., SW Atlanta, GA 30311	

Also, these [21 APS schools](#) will participate in the Federal Eligibility Application (FEA) program this school year, which offers free and reduced meals to qualifying students. All students at FEA schools must apply to qualify for free or reduced meals by completing the [online FEA form](#). Free meals will continue for all students for the first 30 days of school. After the first 30 days of school, students at those 21 FEA schools will pay full price for meals until their FEA application is approved, and their eligibility status is sent to the school.

Have a successful Runway Week, stay engaged with us, and let’s all continue to work together to make Day One exciting and successful for all our students. As always, stay healthy and be well.

Yours in service,

Dr. Lisa Herring