THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

**ABRAM S. JENKS ACADEMICS PLUS SCHOOL**

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**WELCOME A.S. JENKS FAMILIES TO THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR**

***Online School Through November 17***

August 24, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to A.S. Jenks School for new students, and welcome back for returning families. Please read this letter carefully for information about picking up personal items, Chromebooks and books, learning daily schedules, attending kindergarten interviews and orientation; and more, so students are prepared with confidence and enthusiasm.

**First Day of School and Daily Schedule**

The first day of school is Wednesday, September 2. School is 100% online until November 17, so there will be no classes in school. For detailed information about the School District of Philadelphia’s Reopening Plan, please click here <https://www.philasd.org/coronavirus/schoolstart2020/>. The school day begins promptly at 8:20 AM with students meeting teachers on Zoom dressed in street clothes (NOT PAJAMAS). The school day ends at 2:59 PM, but students will not meet with their teacher all day online. Students will be logged into Zoom with their teacher for no more than three hours a day and no more than one hour at a time. Students should have all their supplies with them at the start of the meeting and should eat breakfast before class begins. All students start their day with morning meeting and literacy. The whole school takes lunch at 11:15 AM to Noon. No student will meet with a teacher after 2:15 PM. On days teachers have meetings, students may end their in-person day at 1:30 PM. Fridays all teachers attend staff meetings from 11AM -2:59 PM, so students finish the day with teachers at 11 AM every Friday and complete independent work the rest of the school day.

**Sample Schedule**

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| 8:20 – 8:30 AM | Morning Meeting |
| 8:30-9 AM | Literacy whole class on Zoom |
| 9:00-9:40 AM | Asynchronous log off Zoom with teacher (independent literacy work; K and 1 can meet with an aide on Zoom for support guided by the teacher; Special education/classroom assistant or ELL teacher can support during this time on Zoom) |
| 9:40-10:00 AM | Literacy small group (log back on Zoom with homeroom teacher) |
| 10:00-10:30 AM | Computer/Gym/Music/Social Emotional Learning |
| 10:30-11:00 | Math whole class on Zoom |
| 11:00-11:15 | Student can do asynchronous work or take a break. |
| 11:15-Noon | Whole school has lunch |
| Noon-12:20 PM | Math small group |
| 12:20-1:00 PM | Asynchronous math log off Zoom with teacher (independent literacy work; K and 1 can meet with an aide on Zoom for support guided by the teacher if time slot ends by 12:30; Special education teacher/classroom assistant or ELL teacher can support during this time on Zoom) |
| 1:00-1:30 PM | SS/Science |
| 1:30-2:00 PM | Asynchronous SS/science |
| 2:00-2:59 PM | Asynchronous Projects/Specials |

**Chromebooks, Books, and Picking up Personal Items from Last Year**

All Chromebooks may be picked up daily Monday through Friday 9 AM – 2 PM at The School District of Philadelphia, 440 N. Broad Street; Fitzpatrick School Annex, 4101 Chalfont Drive; or Martin Luther King High School, 6100 Stenton Avenue. New math workbooks and other materials, as well as items left at school last year may be picked up from Jenks Monday, August 31 in the kindergarten schoolyard at the point of Porter Street and Moyamensing Avenue. Parents must wear masks. Please come only at the times listed: Grade 5: 9 AM; Grade 4: 9:30 AM; Grade 3: 10 AM; Grade 2: 10:30 AM; Grade 1: 11 AM; Kindergarten: 11:30 AM. This will be the only day for distribution.

**How to Meet Teachers**

Teachers returned today and will contact you via Class Dojo inviting you to join their class. This will be the primary form of communication from teachers. They will schedule a time to meet with the class before school starts to review with parents how to use Google Classroom and help you with Zoom. Teachers will send you their Zoom link, which will be the same every day. Most teachers will create a virtual classroom linking you to areas in Google Classroom, as well as games and information.

**Attendance Policy**

Student attendance is mandatory. Teachers must take attendance in the morning and the afternoon in Infinite Campus. If a student is absent part of the day, this will be a half-day absence. Research shows students with poor attendance through third grade are less likely to read on grade level or graduate from high school. Our goal is to ensure all students achieve, and the best way to do that is regular attendance every day, on time at 8:20 AM, and for the full day. Please schedule appointments and family vacations during school vacations/holidays. You may access the District calendar at <https://www.philasd.org/calendar/academic-calendar-sy-2020-2021/>

to plan doctor’s visits. Please note, school closings and half days are subject to change as authorized by the District. All absences require a note. Notes may not be accepted four school days after the absence. Only doctor’s notes may be accepted after nine absences and are still subject to the principal’s approval.

**School Uniform**

The school uniform is tan khaki pants, shorts or skirt and a navy golf shirt. No student is required to wear a uniform during online school. When school returns in-person, uniforms may be purchased from any retail store. Gym uniforms are a gold Jenks shirt and navy Jenks sweatpants or shorts. These can be purchased at Jenks from the Home and School Association in November.

**School Supplies**

Please go to: https://asjenks.philasd.org/supply-lists-by-grade/, our school’s web site for the supply list. The more comprehensive list of supplies will be needed in November.

**Enrichment Programs and Back to School Night**

All enrichment programs usually begin in October, but this may change due to school reopening plans. More information will be released in November. Back to School Night is a time for you to hear more about our school, the curriculum expectations, school events, and your child’s teachers. Grades K-2 will have Back to School Night September 9 at 6 PM-7:30 PM on Zoom. Grades 3-5 Back to School Night will be September 10 at 6 PM-7:30 PM on Zoom also.

**Kindergarten Orientation and Interviews**

There will be a kindergarten orientation Thursday, August 27 at 7 PM. Students and parents can meet their teachers; have popsicles with the principal (come with popsicles); and learn about expectations in kindergarten. Please meet here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7320723581?pwd=VXFKbVF5dXgyU0xISFJsSjJLQlVyZz09>. Interviews will be September 2-4 from 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM. Students begin school at 1:15 PM on September 2-4 since teachers are conducting interviews in the morning. Sign up for interviews for room 105, Mrs. Norton here: [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0A48ADAF2FA4FD0-kindergarten1](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0A48ADAF2FA4FD0-kindergarten1" \t "_blank). Sign up for interviews with Ms. Peduto, room 101 here: [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0a48adaf2fa4fd0-kindergarten](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0a48adaf2fa4fd0-kindergarten" \t "_blank).

**New A.S. Jenks Staff**

Please welcome Ms. Jessup, grade 1 from Gideon School; Ms. O’Sullivan, grade 3, from KIPP Charter School; Mr. Brodman, part-time ELL teacher, joining Ms. Bascome. Mr. Mahmoud, Arabic bilingual counselor, interpreting/translating for Arabic-speaking families, joining the Mandarin- and Indonesian-speaking BCAs.

We look forward to meeting new families and seeing returning ones.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Siouda Douglas, Principal