

August 26, 2022

Dear Universal Bluford Charter School Families and Students,

During a special meeting this morning, the School District of Philadelphia's Board of Education approved a Settlement Agreement with the Combined Board of Trustees of Universal Bluford and Universal Daroff Charter Schools. Under the Agreement, **Bluford will NOT open for students on August 29, 2022 as previously planned. The first day of school for students is postponed until *no sooner than* September 6, 2022** to allow Bluford to work on building conditions and filling staff vacancies before welcoming students back to school. Upon opening, Bluford will operate for the remainder of the 2022-23 school year and then close permanently as of June 30, 2023.

**While Bluford leadership will provide you with updates regarding the official start date in the coming days, the first day for District-operated schools is Monday, August 29.** The School District invites families with children who are currently enrolled in Bluford to consider enrolling in a District school that has seats available for this school year. We are ready to welcome your child into a caring, stable and inclusive school environment that will support their educational needs.

Here's what you can do to explore your options and enroll your child in a District school:

- Visit [philasd.org/cso/bluford](https://philasd.org/cso/bluford) to learn about enrollment options, how to enroll your child, find information about upcoming town halls and more.
- **Enroll Your Child In Person** - District staff will be onsite to help you enroll your child.
  - **Location:** Haverford Library, located at 5543 Haverford Avenue, will serve as a temporary District enrollment site on Saturday, August 27th from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., on Sunday, August 28th from 1 to 5 p.m. and Monday through Friday next week during their normal business hours. Visit [philasd.org/cso/bluford](https://philasd.org/cso/bluford) for the library's hours of operation.
  - **What to Bring:** Please bring proof of your child's age, your child's immunization record, and two proofs of address. More information on required documentation can be found [here](#).
- **Enroll Your Child Online** - visit [philasd.org/studentplacement](https://philasd.org/studentplacement).
- **Contact the School District of Philadelphia** - email your questions to [ASK@philasd.org](mailto:ASK@philasd.org) or call the School District's Call Center at 215-400-4000, Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

- **Contact Bluford** - if you have specific questions for Bluford, contact them directly by calling 610-840-4422 or emailing [blufordcharter@gmail.com](mailto:blufordcharter@gmail.com).

In addition, the District has partnered with the city of Philadelphia to make grab-n-go meals available for Bluford students until the school opens or until they are fully enrolled in another District or charter school. Starting on Monday, August 29, students and families can visit Shepard Recreation Center (5700 Haverford Ave.) to pick up enough meals to last the week. Should the start date be postponed past September 6, we will provide additional updates.

We know this news causes an inconvenience to many families. The District is committed to supporting you through this transition, and we hope you will consider the School District of Philadelphia for your child's educational needs.

Sincerely,

*The School District of Philadelphia  
Charter School Office*