

# Miner Elementary School

## "Bears Bulletin"

First Edition – August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017



## Principal's Corner

Hello Miner Family,

Over the last few weeks, the new leadership team and I have been working to ensure we are ready for our scholars to return on August 21st! We have spent time listening to various stakeholders within the community and we plan to continue our listening tour as the school year gets started.

This week we welcome back the hard working and dedicated teaching staff to Miner as we continue professional development and preparation for our scholar's return. I have been blessed with the opportunity to join this family this year and the more parents, families, staff, and students I have met have just increased my hope and excitement for this school year.

This year, the leadership team is working to ensure that our communication is proactive and useful. Much of the communication will be shared electronically through email and the internet but we will work to accommodate for families that need a different method. During the first week of the school year, we will send home a communication style survey to ensure we are meeting the needs of all families.

With a new leadership team inherently brings some level of change so we wanted to communicate some of those changes to you in advance of students returning.

I hope this communication addresses some of the questions that you have. If you have questions or concerns please feel free to reach out to me at [bruce.jackson@dc.gov](mailto:bruce.jackson@dc.gov) or call the main office at 202-397-3960.

Respectfully,

Bruce W. Jackson  
Interim Principal

## Upcoming Events

**Wednesday, August 16th - 4:30 pm - 7:00 pm Principal Meet and Greet @ Miner Elementary School Cafeteria.** Come and meet Principal Jackson and share anything that is on your mind for this upcoming school year.

**Monday, August 21st - 8:45 am First Day of School K-5 @ Miner Elementary School.** We are excited to welcome our K-5 Scholars for their first day of the school year.

**Thursday, August 24th - 8:45 am First Day of School (ECE) @ Miner Elementary School.** We welcome back our youngest Mighty Bears for the new school year.

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## Before Care and After Care

**Before Care:** Unfortunately, Bridges informed Miner ES that they would no longer be able to continue to support before care at Miner. The school is currently finalizing a new partnership with Springboard Kids to provide for-cost before care for those families in need of that service. More details, including final pricing and registration details, will be shared as soon as Springboard is able to finalize them for us. Before care will not be in place by August 21st. We apologize for any inconvenience but we will ensure it is up and running as soon as possible.

**After Care:** We are excited to announce that People. Animals. Love (PAL) is returning as the aftercare provider at Miner ES this year. Spots are going extremely quickly - only a few seats remain - so if you have not done so please ensure you complete the Out of School Time application with DCPS. More details can be found at <https://dcps.dc.gov/afterschool>

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## Class Roster

Class rosters have been finalized for all students who are currently registered. Teachers will receive their rosters on Monday and begin to reach out to families and introduce themselves.

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## Extended Day

Miner Elementary School is an extended day school for grades 3-5. Our students in 3rd-5th grades receive an extra hour of instruction Monday - Thursday each week meaning they are dismissed at 4:15 pm instead of 3:15 like our ECE-2nd graders. This extra hour is a continuation of the instructional day and will help prepare and push our scholars to new academic levels. Extended Day will begin the week of August 28th and will happen Monday - Thursdays (except when monthly staff meetings are scheduled).

## **School Policies**

**Attendance** - Students should be in school, on time, each and every day. School begins daily at 8:45 am and concludes at 3:15 for students in ECE-2nd Grade and 4:15 pm for students in grades 3-5. Picking students up early is not only disruptive for your child but also for peers and will be limited. Unless the student has a scheduled doctor's appointment we ask that they not be picked up during the last hour of their day unless a true emergency arises.

**Drop Off** - Students will be dropped in two different ways based on grade level.

*Grades 1-5* - Students will enter the building each day at 8:20am directly into the cafeteria through the side doors. These students will sit by grade level and have breakfast in the cafeteria. Teachers will then pick students up from the cafeteria and escort them to class between 8:40 am and 8:45 am.

*PK3-Kindergarten* - Parents and students will enter the building through the main doors. Students can be escorted to two designated rooms and left with the instructional paraprofessionals for those parents that want/need to leave. Parents wishing to bring their student directly to the classroom can do so through the main door beginning at 8:45am. Parents can assist their child in getting settled for the day and will exit daily at 9:00am when the morning announcements begin to signal the beginning of the instructional day.

**Parking Lot** - During morning drop off and afternoon pick up parents are asked to park in the large square lot. The circular lot will be reserved for staff parking and bus drop off and pick up.

**Pick Up** - Students are only allowed to be picked up by pre-designated individuals. Please do not send anyone to pick up your child that you have not pre-authorized. In order to ensure student safety, we will not release students to unauthorized individuals. We ask that parents and guardians ensure they have their proper photo ID with them to speed up the pick-up process.

**Sign In** - All parents/guardians are required to sign in daily with security upon entering the building. While this can sometimes feel like a burden it is essential to ensuring that your child's safety and security is cared for. Security is required to implement a 100% ID check. We ask that parents and guardians ensure they have their proper photo ID with them to speed up the sign-in process.

**Uniforms** - Miner Elementary School is a uniform school and we expect all of our scholars in proper uniform each day. The proper uniform consists of a white or light blue top and navy blue bottoms. Acceptable tops include a collared shirt, blouse, or approved school spirit apparel. Acceptable navy bottoms include pants, skirts, or shorts of appropriate length. Navy blue jumpers and navy blue sweaters are also acceptable. All shoes should be comfortable and be closed-toed. If you are experiencing difficulty please contact the school and as to speak to the school social workers.