



Miner Elementary School

August 25, 2021

Dear Miner Families,

We are eagerly looking forward to seeing all our students back in the school building for SY21-22! We have missed you all tremendously and can't wait to have all our students return, filling our school building with joy, laughter, and lots of learning.

As we encounter this school year with excitement, encouragement, and the power of endless possibilities, we hope that you are as ready as we are for an amazing school year.

We know that the coronavirus pandemic continues to impact us all and we may have some time to go before we get back to the pre-COVID normal. Nevertheless, we will continue to persevere. The safety of our students, staff, and families remains paramount and we are working hard to prepare our school building to safely open on August 30th. We also remain committed to maintaining strong instructional programming that supports both academic and socio-emotional learning and provides rich, meaningful experiences for our students.

Please review the instructional and operational information provided below:

[SY21-22 Instructional Programming](#)

In-Person Learning

All students in grades Kindergarten through 5th Grade will be returning for in-person learning on Monday, August 30th. Our Pre-K students will return for in-person learning on Thursday, September 2nd.

Our school hours for all students are 8:30am – 3:15pm, Monday through Friday.

[Students who are not registered for our afterschool programming must be picked up by 3:30pm.](#)

Virtual Learning



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DC Public Schools will offer a virtual instruction option through a centralized virtual academy for students with a documented medical condition and who meet medical eligibility requirements. In order to access remote learning, you must submit a completed medical eligibility form signed by your child's doctor. You can review the form and a FAQ for families at <https://dcpsreopenstrong.com/sy21-22/virtual>.

After School Programming

We will resume in-person afterschool programming Tuesday, **September 7th**. Afterschool programming includes tutoring, academic support, as well as social activities. The afterschool program hours are **3:30-5:45pm**.

The DCPS **Out of School Time** program application is open. Students must be registered to attend. There is currently a waitlist at Miner; however, you may sign up to be added to our waitlist and you will be notified if a seat becomes available. Applications must be completed online at: <https://dcps.dc.gov/asp>

As an additional afterschool resource, we will partner with Apollo After School to support afterschool enrichment for students in Grades PK-5. Apollo After school will be attending our Community Day this coming Saturday, August 28th from 11-2pm to provide further information, pricing, and registration. You may also see the attached flyer. You may also find information at:

Website: www.apolloafterschool.com

Email: info@apolloafterschool.com

Telephone: 855-543-7277

Given the stricter cleaning protocols, our building closes to students promptly at 6:00pm so that our custodial team can have ample time to clean and sanitize classrooms for the next school day. **All students registered for afterschool must be picked up by 6:00pm.**

Before School Programming

We will be partnering with Apollo for before school care for students in Grades PK-5. Spaces are limited and will be on a first come, first served basis. Please refer to the Apollo information mention above for details.

SY21-22 School Operations

Immunizations

Immunizations are required for all students who will be attending school. All families are required to submit [health forms](#), including updated immunization records and Universal Health Certificates for each student. For SY21-22, all students must have updated immunization records on file with the school. Students who are not up to date on their [immunization requirements](#) by the 20th day of school, will not be allowed to attend school until we are in receipt of the appropriate immunization documentation. You may view OSSE's Immunization Attendance [policy here](#).



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To support families with meeting these requirements, immunization pop-up clinics will be open at schools throughout August and September. DCPS school locations and hours of operation are listed below. To learn more, please visit:

<https://dcpsreopenstrong.com/vaccines/#school-immunization-clinics>

Building Entry and Access

Entry into our building has been designed to support social distancing including physical signage, verbal reminders, and additional staff support to keep individuals socially distant.

Drop Off Procedures:

- All students who enter the building will be complete the "ASK, ASK, LOOK" checklist verbally.
- All students, staff and visitors will be required to always wear a face mask on school grounds.
- If anyone does not have a mask, one will be provided upon entry to the school.
- All students will sanitize their hands after entering the building
- Families are not allowed to enter the building for student drop-off and pick up, except for students with a parent/guardian escort as a component of a written safety plan.

PK3 and PK4:

ECE students will have to be dropped off at the ECE playground door. Prior to coming into the building parents/guardians will confirm that they have completed the "Ask, Ask, Look" checklist. Students will be monitored by ECE staff until breakfast in their classrooms at 8:45 am. Drop off begins at 8:20 am unless the student is enrolled in before care.

K-5th grade students:

Students can enter the building beginning at 8:20am through K-5 playground. Prior to coming into the building parents/guardians will confirm that they have completed the "Ask, Ask, Look" checklist.

Kindergarten: Students will enter the building through the doors by the outdoor classrooms and will be escorted to their classrooms for breakfast.

1st-5th grade: Students will enter the building from the cafeteria to receive breakfast.

To adhere to social distancing protocols, we will be utilizing the outdoor classroom as a breakfast location for 5th grade students (weather permitting), as well as a staggered breakfast where students will be allowed to participate in SEL activities on the playground/gym (in case of inclement weather) after they have completed breakfast.



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Pick Up Procedures:

PK3 and PK4: Students will be picked up daily at 3:15 pm (unless they are enrolled in aftercare) from the ECE Playground. Students will only be signed out and released to those individuals on their approved list of adults. Those doing pick up must have a photo ID. In the event of inclement weather, pick up will be done from the doorways near the ECE playground.

Kindergarten-5th Grade Students: Students will be picked up daily at 3:15 pm (unless they are enrolled in aftercare) from K-5 playground. Parents/Guardians will provide the name of the student(s) they are picking up to the adult on duty, then student(s) will be escorted to the gate for dismissal. Students will only be signed out and released to those individuals on the approved list of adults.

Walkers: Students in grades 3-5 who walk home must have signed permission on file with the school.

Health & Safety Procedures:

Each day, students will be required to go through a hand sanitizer station, mask station, and a health verification or screening prior to gaining access to the school building.

Face coverings are required and will be worn all day. Students may elect to wear a face covering from home of their choice; however, we will have ample masks on hand to distribute daily for students who need them.

We are asking all families to conduct a daily symptom screening using OSSE's "Ask, Ask, Look" protocol prior to students arriving to school. Please see attached "Ask, Ask, Look" questions. Our healthcare professional will verify with students each morning that this has been completed by a parent or guardian at home. Any student who cannot verify that this screening has been conducted at home will receive an onsite screening upon arrival to school by a healthcare professional.

Please note that if there is a concern about a student related to a symptom the student will be sent home. If the student is not with a parent/guardian, the medical professionals will escort the student to the Health Isolation Room and their parent/guardian will be contacted for immediate pickup. The Health Isolation room will be staffed by healthcare professionals.

To limit the amount of contact and exposure for our students and staff, **parents/guardians will not be allowed beyond our building entrance.** This will be strictly enforced.

Health Isolation Room

If a student is displaying symptoms related to COVID-19, a medical professional will escort the student to the Health Isolation Room and their parent/guardian will be



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contacted for immediate pickup. **Parents/guardians are required to promptly pick their students up to prevent risk of infection to other students and staff.**

The Health Isolation room will be staffed by healthcare professionals.

Student Meals

All students are provided with breakfast and lunch at no cost every school day.

ECE and Kindergarten students will eat breakfast and lunch in their classrooms.

Students in grades 1st-5th will have staggered breakfast and lunch in the cafeteria.

Breakfast for grades K-5th grade will be from 8:20 am-8:40 am. Breakfast for ECE students will be from 8:45 am-9:00 am. Late students will be able to eat breakfast until 9:15 am.

Food Restrictions/Allergies

Miner Elementary School is a nut-free school. If your child has any allergies or dietary restrictions, a Special Dietary Needs Form must be turned in to the nurse and cafeteria staff. These forms need to be completed and submitted annually.

We strongly support parents sending their child with a lunch from home if the meal being served is not something their child eats, but we request the meal be comprised of healthy options to support student learning; candy, sugary snacks, and soda are not supported. Gum is not allowed in school.

Recess

Weather-permitting, students will be taken outside for recess. On inclement weather days, students will have indoor recess in the gym.

Special Subjects (Art, PE (2x), Music, Spanish)

Specials classes will return to in-person. Students in Grades K-5 will transition to Specials classrooms throughout the day. Students in Pre-K will remain in their Pre-K classrooms for Specials.

Seating Assignments

Depending on our ability to maintain 3 feet distancing between all students in the classroom, students will be assigned to seats in their classrooms. The same seat assignments will be applicable when students transition to Special subject classrooms. All students eating in the cafeteria will also be assigned to a seat in that space that they will maintain each day.

Student Transitions through The Building

We will schedule student movement and transitions throughout the building to minimize crowding. In addition, decals will be placed on the floor throughout our building to



remind students and staff to maintain social distancing as they pass through the hallways.

Technology/Student Devices

In the event of an emergency school closure, students will be sent home with their devices or families will need to retrieve a device from the school the next day, as necessary.

Uniform Policy

All students should arrive to school in their school uniforms. Our school uniform is as follows:

**Dark blue bottoms (pants, skirts, jumpers, or shorts)-
White, light blue, or navy-blue polos (everyone)
Navy-blue polos (suggested for ECE)
Any Miner school gear
Shoes must have heel straps; no flip flops are permitted.
Blue jeans are not a part of the school uniform**

- *If a student is dropped off without appropriate uniform clothes, Miner will require the student to contact their parents to bring them a proper uniform.*
- Uniforms can be purchased from Target, Walmart, Old Navy, etc.
- For uniforms assistance, reach out to the Ms. Woodard and Ms. Kraemer at
- We do ask that students in Pre-K and K bring an extra set of clothes.

Please feel free to contact mineres@k12.dc.gov if you have any questions or need any support. Please also refer to the [DCPS Re-Open Strong Website](#) for on-going updates for SY21-22.

In partnership,

Katrel Angry, Interim Principal
Miner Elementary



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