

Dragon Tales

August 23rd - August 27th

Spoiler Alert: Welcome Back, Meet and Greet Recording, Community Care Day, Jumpstart and Reopening Information...

Hello da Vinci Families!

Can you believe summer break is officially coming to a close? A bittersweet moment - but, we get to see our students in person, which is absolutely exciting. On behalf of our da Vinci School team, we would like to welcome our students to the 2021-2022 academic school year. We have been planning a safe, engaging and fun school experience for our students and looking forward to sharing the details with you.

Last Thursday, our administration and PTSA team, hosted our first Meet & Greet of the school year. We had a solid turnout. We also recognize some of our families were unable to make it. You are welcome to check out the recording [here](#). Please know there were some unknowns and unanswered questions about our reopening plan. As we get answers to your questions, we will include the answers in our weekly newsletter.

Please continue to read on, as this letter includes important information about the start of school.

With much appreciation,
Ms. Davis



A message from Margarita Wilson, Vice Principal

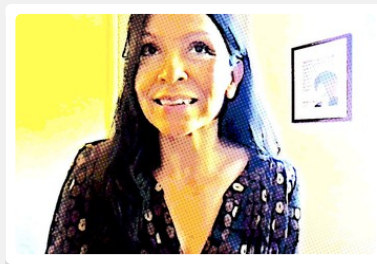
Welcome back families and students! I am super excited to meet you all. 🎉

My first agenda item is to start a dV Latinx Student Union in partnership with Latino Network, where we can learn about our cultures, connect and lead a community project, and of course, have fun hanging out. More to come on this and if you are interested, text me. 📩

On a more technical note, please use the video tutorials below to help with Parent Vue/Student Vue/Password reset and Parent/Student Canvas login and observing courses.

I am here if you have any questions. Texting me is the best way so we can schedule a chat if you need. 971 754 5047.

Be safe and love lots. 💕



Back to School Information

Jumpstart Day for 6th and 7th graders

School starts on **September 1st** for all students; however, **8th graders will join us 2 hours later at 10:45a**. Incoming **6th and 7th grade students will join us at 8:45a** for an opportunity to begin to learn the lay of the land, connect with peers and meet their teachers, while engaging in community building activities.

Bell Schedule

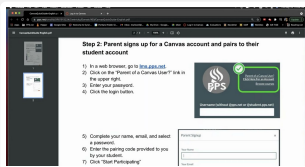
Da Vinci Arts Middle School

Main Bell Schedule 2021-22

Period 1 <i>*Extra time for announcements</i>	8:45-9:45
Period 2	9:49-10:44
Period 3	10:48-11:43
Period 4A Lunch	11:47-12:42 12:46-1:16
Lunch Period 4B	11:47-12:17 12:21-1:16
Period 5	1:21-2:16
Period 6	2:20-3:15

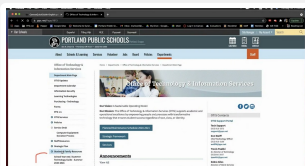
Accessing Students' Schedules & Canvas Observer

All student schedules will soon be viewable in Parent/StudentVue. Students will also have access to hard copies of their schedules on the first day of school. Please check out our short Canvas and Parent/Student tutorials from our Assistant Principal, Ms. Wilson (review them below).



[ParentStudent Canvas...](#)

drive.google.com



[ParentStudent Vue.mp4](#)

drive.google.com

Need a Device?

Many of our students have laptops or chromebooks from last school year; however, if your student is in need of a device or they need a replacement, please complete our [device survey](#) and we will work to support their request for a device.

We are asking that students bring their chromebooks to school each day. Please be sure to send your student to school with a **fully charged device each day**.

Free Lunch for ALL Students

PPS has announced that **all students will have access to one breakfast and one lunch, per day, free of charge**. This is huge in making sure every student has access to healthy breakfast and lunch options during an already tricky pandemic. Please note, you do not need to complete a free/reduce lunch application; however, if your family would like to determine other services you might qualify for such as reduced athletic fees, etc., you will need to complete the free/reduced lunch process.

Additional Updates

School Supply List [Here](#) is the recommended list of supplies.

Carpool List and Family Directory If you want to be added to the directory, fill out [this form](#). The sheet is only shared with those families that opt-in.

Safety Measures

COVID Rapid Test Permission

We are asking parents to complete the [rapid covid test consent form](#). Once completed please have your student either bring in their signed copy or you are welcome to forward your signed consent pdf to Sheli at sbryan@pps.net. By signing this form, you are consenting to allow your student to self-administer a rapid covid test in the event that your student has COVID - like symptoms while at school. Families will be communicated with, notified of results, and will be asked to pick up their student regardless of the results.

da Vinci's Tentative Lunch Plan

This year we are introducing our students to two different lunch periods. Each lunch will have students split into two different cohorts (4 in total). Students will be expected to stick with their class cohort while in the cafeteria and will not be allowed to bounce between the groups. We will ask that students wear their masks until ready to eat and remain seated. Once they are no longer eating or drinking, they will need to have their masks back on, covering both their nose and mouth.

Tentative Locker Plan

At the moment, we are finalizing our locker plans for students. In the past, the expectation at da Vinci has been that all students utilize their lockers, by keeping all backpacks and other personal items stowed away in lockers. During the uptick in COVID cases via the Delta Variant, we are strongly leaning towards pausing the use of lockers until things with the pandemic are on the decline and more stable. There are a few factors to consider before we officially call it. Teachers are back on August 26th, thus, I will have an opportunity to discuss the impact of this plan with them.

Tentative Entry/Exit Plan

Students will enter through grade-level-specific doors. At the end of the day, students will be expected to exit nearest to their 6th-period class (the last class of the day). Official entry points will be included in next week's newsletter.

Feeling Sick?

Families, if you have a child who is feeling ill or reports that they feel sick, we need you to please keep them at home. By keeping your sick child home, you are helping to keep our students as safe as possible and reduce the unfortunate spread of the COVID virus. In the event somehow your student makes it to school and they are displaying COVID-like symptoms, they will be asked to transition to our Symptoms Space, where (if there is a signed permission form) they will be provided with a self-administered rapid covid test. Students who take a rapid covid test will need to go home, even if the results are negative.

COVID- 19 Updates

While we will be back to school 5 days a week, PPS has introduced some guidelines for the upcoming school year. Please note, as the state of our county's health changes, the guidance and expectations may change as well. At current, students and staff are expected to wear face masks (unless there is a medical reason that prohibits them from doing so) and remain a physical distance of 3 ft. apart. You can find answers to many of your questions about the reopening of school on the [PPS Back-to-School Portal](#).

Opportunities to Connect

Community Care Day

Come one, come all!

Please join us in beautifying the grounds at da Vinci. We are excited to be able to bring this community building activity back this school year and we have lots of work to do! Community Care Day is a great opportunity to volunteer your time, while connecting and meeting other students and families. This year, Community Care Day is on: **Saturday, August 28th, 9 am to 12 noon**. We have *some* gardening tools, but if possible, please bring your own garden tools (if you can), gloves and plenty water to keep yourself hydrated.



PTSA Corner

A Note from Elena, our PTSA President

Thank you to all who attended the Meet and Greet with Ms. Davis and supporting staff yesterday evening. It was exciting to see so many parents.

The role of the da Vinci PTSA is specifically to support teachers and students by raising funds and building up our volunteer power. This organization can not be successful without the direct support of the da Vinci community. By coming together we will aid in the enrichment of our students, keep our families connected and support our teachers.

The da Vinci students and teachers would be so grateful if each of you could take a moment to become a part of the da Vinci PTSA by following [this link](#) and joining TODAY!

Throughout the school year the PTSA will be sharing out ways to support the da Vinci community along with a detailed schedule of PTSA meetings, community and fundraising events.

First up is a chance to serve lunch to the teachers next Friday, 8/27. If you are interested and available from 12pm - 1:30pm please email davincip TSA@gmail.com by Tuesday, 8/24 and someone will follow up details and logistics.

Let's Go Dragons!

Elena Rotondi
Pronouns: she/her/hers
da Vinci PTSA President

Meet our da Vinci PTSA Board Members

Elena Rotondi, PTSA President



Parent of a 7th Grader

I am really looking forward to community building and fundraising for the incredible studios and staff at da Vinci.



**Joelle Alexander,
Vice President**

Parent of an 8th grader

I am looking forward to getting more people involved in all the great things that are da Vinci, bringing the art fair back and getting kids back in the classroom!



**Tracy Johnson,
Secretary**

Parent of a 7th grader

I am looking forward to increasing parent and student involvement in the PTSA, and creating a robust, organized program to support da Vinci Arts Middle School.



**Andrea Canning,
Treasurer**

Parent of an 8th Grader

I am most looking forward to engaging with other parents, teachers and school leaders to make this a meaningful and fulfilling school year for our students