



BRENT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Dear Brent Families,

This week we confirmed that we must follow the DCPS volunteer clearance policy. Though it stands for any parent who would like to volunteer during the school day, this policy is most relevant to field trips: all chaperones must have a DCPS volunteer clearance on file at Brent.

We know that this policy feels burdensome or difficult to some but it is unlikely to change. The policy is a federal one, and the District – including Brent – are required to comply. Although your feedback is always welcome, we must move forward with the volunteer clearance process so that we can continue to provide our students with engaging field experiences.

We want to do everything we can to support our parents through the clearance process, which includes a one-time TB test and a background check (fingerprinting) every two years:

- Fill out the brief application via this link:
<https://octo.quickbase.com/db/bg37a864v>.
- Heidi Johnson, a nurse practitioner on the Hill, will conduct TB tests at Brent on Tuesday, March 6th from 8:30-9:30am and 5:30-6:30pm (to conduct the skin test) and on Friday, March 9th from 8:30-9:30am and 5:30-6:30pm (to read the tests). The cost will be \$30. Please RSVP to Denise Diggs (denise.diggs@dc.gov) by Friday, March 2nd.
- If you are unable to come to Brent, pharmacy minute clinics and travel clinics can be an expedient alternative.
- We will also have mobile fingerprinting available at Brent during the week of March 19th; the exact date will be provided in next week's TuesNews. A recent and negative TB test must be provided on that day. A state-issued photo ID is required.
- If you are unable to come to Brent for fingerprinting, you can report to the DCPS Fingerprinting Office located on the 10th floor at 1200 First Street NE and operates Mondays through Thursdays from 8am-5pm and Fridays from 8am-3pm. No appointment is required. A state-issued photo ID is required.
- Potential volunteers with an active secret or top secret federal security clearance should complete the federal security clearance verification letter in lieu of being fingerprinted with DCPS.

Once you have cleared the volunteer process, please deliver your clearance letter to the main office so that we can maintain a list of those who can chaperone field trips.

Thank you for taking these steps to address this newly-enforced policy and to contribute to the safety of our students.

Sincerely,

Norah Lycknell
Principal