

# THE TUES. NEWS

8-4-2020



BRENT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## Coming Up

### Key Contact Information

Main Office

202-698-3363

[brentelementary@k12.dc.gov](mailto:brentelementary@k12.dc.gov)

### Facebook

[facebook.com/BrentElementarySchool](https://facebook.com/BrentElementarySchool)

### Twitter

[twitter.com/brentelementary](https://twitter.com/brentelementary)

### Instagram

[instagram.com/BrentBears](https://instagram.com/BrentBears)

### Monday, August 10

Summer Mailing posted on website, mailed via USPS

Summer Bridge for 3rd Graders (Virtual) begins and runs through August 20.

### Wednesday, August 12

Back to School Community Meeting

8 - 9 p.m.

Log information:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89532644899>

Meeting ID: 895 3264 4899

Passcode: 0CLgNB

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### Monday, August 17

New Parent Orientation

8 - 9 a.m. OR

6-7 p.m.

**COUNTDOWN TO THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL**

VISIT  
[BRETELEMENTARY.ORG](https://BRETELEMENTARY.ORG)  
FOR KEY UPDATES

202-698-3363  
[BRETELEMENTARY@K12.DC.GOV](mailto:BRETELEMENTARY@K12.DC.GOV)

### Mark your Calendars - Brent Virtual Community Meeting – August 12 from 8 - 9 p.m.

Norah Lycknell, Brent's principal, along with staff and parent leadership, will lead a community meeting on Wednesday, August 12 to update the school community on school opening for SY20-21.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89532644899>

Meeting ID: 895 3264 4899

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Passcode: 0CLgNB

### What is Tues News?

Welcome to the summer edition of Tues News for SY20-21. Tues News is Brent's weekly newsletter that is sent home to all families. Tues News covers upcoming events, learning activities, student and staff accomplishments and news from DCPS. Tues News is also the central communication hub for calls for volunteers. Every Tuesday, check your email inbox or Brent's website to get the latest news about our school community. If you have news or announce-

ments or are not receiving the email version, please email Denise Diggs at [denise.diggs@k.12dc.gov](mailto:denise.diggs@k.12dc.gov).

### **Did your child(ren) leave a jacket, coat or materials in their desks or cubbies last year?**

Some students still have belongings at Brent. DCPS has finally given Brent clearance to provide families with access to the building. Brent will be open from 3 – 5 p.m. from August 10 – 14 for student belongings pick-up.

Please note: Items not picked-up will remain at Brent through August 31. Families are limited to entrance of ten per hour. Please use sign-up genius to make an appointment. The sign-up genius link is here - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050444A8AF22A5FE3-brent5>

Parents/guardians only are currently permitted access to the building. Please do not bring children to Brent or access the playground during this time.

Masks must be worn in the building.

If folks have traveled to any of the DC Department of Health high risk states within the past 14 days, they should not access the Brent building at this time.

### **Join the Brent Directory**

Make Contacting Other Parents (and having them contact you) a Snap! AtoZ Connect is a free school directory service that allows parents to search for families by phone, address, or name. It is a great way for our Brent families to connect and maintain community. Please sign up at [login.https://atoz-](https://atoz-connect.com/cls/login.php)

A blue rectangular graphic with a white outline of a clipboard on the left. Inside the clipboard is a laptop icon. A pencil is positioned diagonally across the bottom right of the clipboard. To the right of the clipboard, the text reads: "DC Public Schools Technology Access Survey" in white, bold font. Below that, in a smaller white font: "Does your student need a device for learning at home? Complete this short survey." At the bottom right, the URL "bit.ly/DCPSTechAccess" is displayed in white.

**DC Public Schools  
Technology Access Survey**

Does your student need a device for learning at home? Complete this short survey.

[bit.ly/DCPSTechAccess](https://bit.ly/DCPSTechAccess)



[connect.com/cls/login.php](https://connect.com/cls/login.php). The Brent Operations team verifies that everyone who applies to join the Brent A-Z Directory is a Brent family so families can be assured their contact information is used appropriately.

### **Student Supplies for Term 1**

Students will need grade specific supplies for term 1 for at home use. Brent is currently working to bulk order supplies and create home supply kits for parents to pick up the week of August 23. Families who are out of town should complete this short form <https://tinyurl.com/y6qwsqpy> so their at home supply kits can be shipped to them. Families who are under quarantine or who are unable to pick up at home supply kits, but are in DC can arrange to have the supply kits delivered by also completing the supply kit form or calling the main office at 202-698-3363.

The PTA is continuing its optional bulk purchase supply program. This program saves time and money by purchasing supplies in bulk through DCPS pricing. Fur-

ther, teachers will create a collective supply kit for students to better connect with the learning experience. The supply fee will be \$50 for terms one and two. This fee is optional and families who participate in the Free and Reduced Lunch program have their fee covered. As always, Brent families are welcome to contribute to the supply fund by paying for additional supply kits. Information on how to pay that fee online will be provided in next week's communications.

### **Free and Reduced Breakfast and Lunch Service Update**

DCPS will be sending out information on how families can access breakfast and lunches during the virtual learning period. In the meantime, please review the application process for Free and Reduced lunches below.

Brent's food services program offers nutritious breakfast and lunch each school day through National School Breakfast and Lunch Programs; most schools also offer a snack or supper to students attending afterschool programming.

The DCPS Free and Reduced-meal (FARM) application supports DCPS Food and Nutrition Services providing students with high-quality meals through federal meal reimbursement.

Please complete a FARM application. You can complete an application either online or through a paper application. For fastest processing, please complete online application accessed here - <https://www.myschoolapps.com/Application>.

To access the paper application [PDF], please reference below documents. To submit your paper application, please deliver to Brent, email to [food.dcps@k12.dc.gov](mailto:food.dcps@k12.dc.gov), or print and mail or fax to:

Food & Nutrition Services  
Attn: Nadine James  
1200 First Street, NE 9th Floor  
Washington, DC 20002  
Fax: (202) 727-2512

Please complete one application for all students that attend DCPS in your household every school year, even if they attend different DCPS schools. Families with students only enrolled in Charter Schools do not need to complete a FARM application

For questions about the FARM application, please reach out to DCPS's Food & Nutrition Services as [food.dcps@k12.dc.gov](mailto:food.dcps@k12.dc.gov), or by phone at (202) 299-2159. Or, you can reach out to Brent's main office!

### **Brush up on Skills, Get a Terrific Book Recommendation or Review Distance Learning Videos – Access Brent's Summer Learning Resources!**

There are still four weeks left until Brent's first day of school. There is still time to access Brent's summer

## New Mayor's Order: Masks

IT'S SIMPLE: WHEN YOU LEAVE HOME, YOU MUST  
**WEAR A MASK.** 

### Common allowable exceptions:



You are under the age of 3



You are actively eating or drinking



You are vigorously exercising outdoors and not close to anyone else



You are in an enclosed office and alone

**Wear a mask. Save lives. Stop the spread.**

[CORONAVIRUS.DC.GOV](http://CORONAVIRUS.DC.GOV)

July 22, 2020



DC HEALTH  
GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

learning resources. Visit <http://www.brentelementary.org/brent-summer-learning.html>

The resources were created and curated by teaching teams and are available for use throughout the summer in order to allow learning to continue. Resources include sample schedules for the home setting, as well as recommended activities, sites, videos, routines, and tasks. Additionally, under the specials tab there are resources and links specific to PE, Music, Art, Science, Library, Spanish, and Game Time. There is also a tab for social-emotional resources that may be helpful for the home setting. Questions or requests for guidance can be directed to Sara Ewbank at [sara.ewbank@k12.dc.gov](mailto:sara.ewbank@k12.dc.gov).

### **Health and Dental Form Update: Expired Forms Accepted until November 2, 2020**

For the 2020-21 school year, students who have a health form on file from the prior school year (i.e., those who are re-enrolling at the same school as the 2019-20 school year, and those who were enrolled in any District public or public charter school that participated in School Health Services Program in School Year 2019-20) will be

granted an extension to submit their Universal Health Certificate (UHC), Oral Health Assessment (OHA), and Medication and Treatment Authorization Forms, by November 2, 2020 to meet this annual requirement.

Students who do not have a health form on file (i.e., those were not enrolled in any District public or public charter school in the 2019-20 school year, and those who are newly enrolling in a District public charter school that does not participate in the School Health Services Program) must submit health forms by the first day of school. Expired health forms will be accepted for start of school, but unexpired health forms must be submitted by November 2, 2020 to meet this annual requirement. Both the old and new versions of the health forms shall be accepted. Partial UHCs completed via telehealth visits shall be accepted.

Families should submit health forms via email to [brentelementary@k12.dc.gov](mailto:brentelementary@k12.dc.gov).

### **Brent Staff Available for Childcare**

Good News! The DC Board of Ethics has allowed Brent to commu-



nicate to families staff availability to provide childcare services for families. Families should reach out to the staff listed below to inquire about scheduling and payment options. Agreements between families and staff are independent of Brent administration.

The minimum hourly rate is recommended to be \$30.

Teresa Adams  
mommabear51@comcast.net  
301-437-0382

Brittney Gerald  
brittney.gerald89@gmail.com  
703-868-6162

Nina Smith  
ninasmith701@yahoo.com  
240-330-5042

La'Quontinesha Atchison  
laquontinesha.atchison@k12.  
dc.gov  
202-717-4442

Dayon Hairston  
dayon.hairston@k12.dc.gov  
240-855-7729

### **Student Support Team**

If you are in need of support in various categories related to social emotional learning, coping, behavior, management, and motivation please feel free to reach out to our Behavior Tech Dayon Hairston at [dayon.hairston@k12.dc.gov](mailto:dayon.hairston@k12.dc.gov) for some added support.

### **Summer Bridge**

We are looking forward to the beginning of the Summer Bridge program for rising third graders next week! Ms. Wilsher, Ms. LeBon, and Ms. Arbuckle are the three Brent teachers who will be teaching the program, with some additional support from other Brent staff, and they are looking forward to serving about 40 Brent students. The all-virtual program will emphasize social-emotional learning, technology initiation and instruction,

math and reading content, and opportunities for connection and friendship-building. It will also provide opportunities to test out a more standardized daily schedule, live sessions with a variety of group sizes, and new Teams features. Finally, it will give Brent and rising third grade families a chance dry-run device and materials distribution in a safe, distanced way. Although registration for the program has closed, families with questions can reach out to Sara Ewbank ([sara.ewbank@k12.dc.gov](mailto:sara.ewbank@k12.dc.gov)), the Summer Bridge POC.

### **Principal's Corner**

Dear Brent Families,

Since we last "talked" on Thursday, the Brent team has been busy!

We've heard from some families about the depth of their grief, not necessarily a critique of the Mayor's decision to go virtual for the first term but rather a recognition of the loss and unique stresses it reflects. Even as we focus on planning a year worthy of our responsibility to students, we share that grief.

We've heard from some of our faculty that this is not the form of teaching and learning that they imagined when dedicating their lives to education. They are grappling with ways to build relationships, plan for engaging instruction, and conduct assessments to make sure we see, track and respond to individual needs. No matter their disappointment, it is evident that our faculty is committed to the innovation required to serve our students.

We've launched our Becoming an Antiracist School and Community Working Group, a faculty initia-

tive, and continued the dialogue among the Diversity Working Group, to begin the hard and sustained work of identifying the systemic and structural foundations of inequity and to reshape those systems toward equity. With virtual learning, we are rebuilding school and will do so in way that reflects our burgeoning Antiracist identity.

We've heard more and more from DCPS, primarily as part of the annual (but this year virtual) Summer Leadership Institute, clarifying expectations and supports around scheduling, learning platforms, instructional planning, trauma-informed social emotional practices. This information has allowed us to deepen our school-based planning process, contextualizing what each of these things will mean for the Brent community and updating our "progress so far" and "next steps" chart first published on Thursday found on the next page.

In most cases and functions, we are focused on Term 1. That focus will allow us to invest in the period of time that we know will be virtual and will allow us to reflect and revise in future terms.

Our next family communications will be a Community Meeting on August 12th from 8 -9 pm and the Summer Mailing, which will be postmarked and posted on our website by August 10th. As always, please feel free to reach out with any questions or ideas. Your thoughts often help to push our planning in an even more productive direction.

Sincerely,  
Norah Lycknell  
Principal

## Brent Elementary Distance Learning Updates for SY20-21 – August 5, 2020

Category	Progress So Far	Next Steps
<b>Student Schedules</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- DCPS Schedule Snapshots</li> <li>- Additional DCPS Scheduling Guidance for grade bands: ECE, K-2, 3-5</li> <li>- Brent Schedule Priorities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Draft daily and weekly schedules by grade band</li> <li>- Highlight equity by ensuring space and time for students who need more to receive more</li> </ul>
<b>Student Attendance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Compulsory as with in-person school</li> <li>- Tracked in the Canvas Platform</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Receive and convey full DCPS Attendance Policy</li> </ul>
<b>Community Connection and Relationship Building</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Grade-level (virtual) meet and greets before August 31<sup>st</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Establish structures like one-on-one conferences and/or virtual/socially distanced home visits in the first weeks of school (may mean an alternative schedule)</li> <li>- Set room parent roles and responsibilities around the goals of social connection</li> </ul>
<b>Class Composition and Teacher Assignments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Class list draft review</li> <li>- Staffing assignments</li> <li>- Near enrollment benchmarks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Publish <u>Term 1</u> class lists and teacher assignments for families on or before August 21<sup>st</sup>.</li> </ul>
<b>Instructional Systems and Planning</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Canvas, Microsoft Teams, Playposit, Microsoft OneNote</li> <li>- Instructional scope and sequences loaded in Canvas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Conduct Canvas, Teams, Playposit and OneNote trainings for families and students</li> <li>- Publish grade-level Family Syllabus to communicate structures and supports for virtual learning</li> </ul>
<b>Technology</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Received Brent data from the DCPS Survey, which is still open</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Set distribution times and protocols</li> </ul>
<b>Student Supplies and Materials</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Teacher-developed supply lists to support virtual learning</li> <li>- Ordering</li> <li>- Realign supply fee to \$50 for Term 1 and Term 2 (more in the summer mailing) for those who are able to contribute for their family and/or on the behalf of other families</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Receive and organize individual supplies</li> <li>- Set distribution times and protocols</li> </ul>
<b>Trauma-Informed Social Emotional Practices</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Trauma-informed practice non-negotiables</li> <li>- Ongoing connections with individual students</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Design both general and student-specific social emotional supports</li> </ul>