



Friday News Flash

September 3, 2021

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Govans Families,

Thank you for a great first week of school. We appreciate your patience as we work through the hurdles of being in our brand new 21st Century building. We are taking the following precautions to keep our students and staff safe in the building:

Signs are posted to remind students to:

- wash their hands
- cover their cough with the inside of the elbow
- wear a mask

The following areas have a checklist that is initialed by cleaning staff to ensure cleaning is happening frequently:

- classrooms
- water fountains
- bathrooms
- elevators

In the cafeteria and classrooms, students are spaced as much as space will allow.

- in the classroom students are spaced as far apart as possible
- in the cafeteria students are seated 2-3 to a table

A Health and Safety Coordinator (HSC), Ms. Ritch, has been hired. Ms. Ritch works with us each day. Her duties include, but are not limited to:

- the collection and tracking of COVID testing consent forms
- administration of the weekly COVID testing, the first of which begins Sept. 13th
- support in assessing any possible COVID cases
- support in the health suite

Limited Visitors

There are limited adults allowed in the building to minimize the risk of infection. Thank you, parents, for your patience with this.

*Educationally yours,
Bernarda Kwaw
Principal*

NEW POLO UNIFORM SHIRTS

Hello, Govans Families! We are fortunate to be able to provide each student with a new Govans navy-blue polo shirt, and many of our students received their shirt during our Open House last Friday. Please know that we are going through the lists of students to identify students who have not yet received their shirts, and we are working to get those shirts out to those students as soon as possible. We ran out of some sizes and are placing orders for those sizes. We will keep you posted on their arrival. We are so grateful to be able to provide these items, and we appreciate your patience around their distribution.



COVID-19 TESTING PARENT CONSENT FORM

We sent home Covid-19 Testing Consent Forms with each student. Parents, please fill out the form and return to your child's teacher. Students cannot participate in any activities outside of the school day if they do not have a submitted Consent Form., i.e. After Care, Dragons After Dismissal (DAD).

Important Dates To Remember SEPTEMBER

6th - Schools Closed
Happy Labor Day!

23rd - *Back to School Night*
5:00-7:00 pm
Virtual Link will be provided

24th - *Schools Closed for Students Professional Development for Staff Teacher/Parent Meet and Greet!*
(more details to follow)

28th - Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) Meeting 5:00-6:00 pm

29th - New School
Open House Tours
Details coming soon!

OCTOBER

6th - *Early Release Day*
11:25 am dismissal
Parent/Teacher Conferences
Schedules TBD

7th - New School
Open House Tours
Details coming soon!

15th - *Schools Closed for Students Professional Development for Staff*

NOVEMBER

4th - New School
Open House Tours
Details coming soon!

5th - *Schools Closed for Students Professional Development for Staff*

25th-26th - *Schools Closed*
Happy Thanksgiving!

**NO UNIFORMS
ON FRIDAYS!**

GOVANS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL RIBBON CUTTING!



Ribbon Cutting with Principal Bernarda Kwaw and outstanding student presenter Ellis Dandridge, Grade 5. City Councilman Mark Conway looks on with Dr. Santelises, CEO Baltimore City Schools



Dr. Santelises-CEO BCPS, City Councilman-Mark Conway, Govans 5th grader-Ellis Dandridge, President of City Council-Nick Mosby, and Principal Kwaw



Mayor Scott and Principal Kwaw



VIRTUAL BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT

In an effort to keep everyone safe, this year's Back to School Night on Thursday, September 23rd from 5:00 pm-7:00 pm will be virtual. More details to come.

GRATEFUL FOR DONATIONS!

Govans partner, Church of Redeemer, brought an abundance of school supplies, not only for our students, but also for our teachers. We are so grateful to Lynda Marie Allan for coordinating this wonderful supply drive for Govans by the generous members of Redeemer. We thank you again and again...



MEET AND GREET

Friday, September 24th is a professional development day for staff and school will be closed for students. Part of this day will be used for families to get another opportunity to meet their child's teachers. More details to come.

GIRLS ON THE RUN FALL REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

INTERACTIVE.

INTENTIONAL.

INCLUSIVE.

Join **Girls on the Run.**
Register Today!



Fall registration is open:
Sept 1st - Sept 13th



At Girls on the Run, girls have a safe place to connect with supportive coaches and teammates and develop life skills that build self-worth and confidence in who they are. Our after-school program for 3rd-5th grade girls creatively combines physical activity with life skills lessons designed to build character, care, confidence, contribution, and promote an active lifestyle.

Fall registration is open from **September 1st through September 13th**, and the lottery will be run on September 14th. The fall season begins the week of September 20th and runs either for 8-weeks.

We're looking forward to a season filled with joy, confidence, and health. Register your girl for the life-changing program today. No cost!

Go to <https://www.gotrchesapeake.org/> to register!

OPEN HOUSE @ GOVANS—SEPTEMBER 29, 2021

Open House is scheduled each month at 9:00 a.m. to introduce prospective families to Govans Elementary school, Pre-K to 5th grade. Each month we provide new families an opportunity to meet the Principal, the community school coordinator, teachers and staff, visit classrooms and tour our new 21st Century school. You'll learn about our charter school's academic focus, our afterschool and aftercare programs. If you are interested in signing up for an Open House, please call the school office at 410-396-6396 and say you'd like to attend. Light refreshments are served. Dates: September 29, October 7, November 4. Please join us!!



ARRIVAL PROCEDURES

During our first week of school, we have been practicing our arrival procedures. We thank everyone for their cooperation as the children learn this routine. Please know that next week, we will be making every effort to tighten up our movement to ensure instruction begins on time. The playground entry doors that lead to breakfast will be closing at 7:45 am. After that time, students are expected to enter through the main entrance.

DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

On September 1st we modified dismissal to accommodate pending inclement weather. As a result, dismissal appeared to be much smoother. Going forward the following process will be used for dismissal *on a daily basis*.

Bus Zone

The Bus Zone has been moved from the front of the building to the rear of the building on Clearspring Road. No buses are expected to come down Campbell Lane.

Pre-K/K

Pre-K & K will continue to dismiss from the playground.

1st/2nd/3rd/Alcuizar & Gabutan

1st/2nd/3rd grades and Ms. Alcuizar and Ms. Gabutan's class will dismiss from the gym. Parents will use the exterior gym doors to access the gym. Parents will enter through one door and exit through the other. Doors to the gym will not open until 2:25.

4th & 5th

4th and 5th grade students will continue to use the exit beyond the playground and begin to walk home or pick up younger siblings, unless directed otherwise by a parent.

Reminders:

Please wear a mask if going indoors. DO NOT double park. Pack your PATIENCE!

Note: Parents and Guardians who are only picking up a 4th or 5th grader may want to consider using Clearspring Road on the east side of the building. That road is located directly behind the school and is the road closest to the 4th & 5th grade exit. Using this option would also give vehicles the opportunity to avoid the traffic on Campbell Lane (directly in front of the school).

INCELEMENT WEATHER DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

Pre-K/K

Pre-K/K will dismiss from the cafeteria. Parents will use the playground door entrance to access the cafeteria and exit the building.

1st/2nd/3rd/Alcuizar & Gabutan

1st/2nd/3rd/Alcuizar & Gabutan will dismiss from the gym. Parents will use the exterior gym doors to access the gym. Parents will enter through one door and exit through the other.

4th and 5th

4th and 5th grade students will continue to use the exit beyond the playground and begin to walk home or pick up younger siblings, unless directed otherwise by a parent.

Teachers will be equipped with clipboards, a list of students, and the names of persons responsible for picking up each student.

