



# LE CARDINAL

LE BULLETIN OFFICIEL DU PTA DE  
DORA KENNEDY FRENCH IMMERSION SCHOOL

JAMES A. SPENCE II, PRINCIPAL

## DKFI PTA - CLEAN AIR CAMPAIGN: WE DID IT.. TOGETHER !!!!

### DKFI CLEAN AIR CAMPAIGN

AIR PURIFIERS IN EVERY CLASSROOM



Within one week of issuing a call to raise money for our **Clean Air for Every Classroom: Air Purifiers** campaign, our **DKFI community** was able to **raise \$10,221**. Your generosity ensures that our students are in as safe of a learning environment as possible.

We are extremely proud of the support that was received. This effort demonstrates how committed we are to meeting the needs of our children. We thank you for your dedication. We have purchased both air purifiers and the requisite replacement filters. In the next two weeks, we will share with you pictures of the arrival and set-up of our air purifiers!

**With deep appreciation**  
**DKFI PTA Executive Board**

### MERCI A TOUS NOS DONATEURS! THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR DONORS!

- |                                |                             |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • Anike Akridge                | • Lindsey E Johnson         |
| • Luline Almonacy              | • Halima Jenkins            |
| • Jason Andrew                 | • Anita Jones               |
| • Koffi Attignon               | • Amy Lahlou                |
| • Joyce Awosika                | • Cicely LaMothe            |
| • Davina Brown                 | • Milena Larios             |
| • Melinda Conrad-Brown         | • Alison Lowell             |
| • Keisha Tate-Brown            | • Chris Lyman               |
| • Nicole Garro & Wesley Butler | • Samin Malik               |
| • Teria Cason                  | • <b>Usama Malik*</b>       |
| • Joanna Denis-Cooper          | • Simone Malloy             |
| • Eleanor Cupp                 | • Susan Miller              |
| • Safiya Davy                  | • Peter & Neirouz Mills     |
| • Magaly Delva                 | • Jacques Moukouri          |
| • William M Doerner            | • Billy & Matene Okoye      |
| • John Appiah-Duffell          | • O N Team T                |
| • Elizabeth Edwards            | • Maiyana Pearson           |
| • Carolyn Lemm Espinoza        | • Kimberly Perks            |
| • Elimika Fletcher             | • Meadow Platt              |
| • Juliette Fradin              | • Savannah Renehan          |
| • Susan Fontaine               | • Kristina Rexford          |
| • Monica Fortune               | • Caitriona McEniry-Roschke |
| • Nelsy Garcia                 | • India Savage              |
| • Holly & Joe Wheeler - Gareri | • Dahlia Sesay              |
| • Linda Garnett                | • Luther & Benity Sewell    |
| • Kim Gibson                   | • Brandon & Pilar Snowden   |
| • Milton Gross                 | • Kelly Sohau               |
| • Leda Gurley                  | • Brouktawit Tamrat         |
| • Casey & Lyssa Hargrove       | • Josiane Tchongouang       |
| • Elizabeth Hays               | • Audrey Tetteh             |
| • Martazsh Henderson           | • Emily Tobias              |
| • Jeanette Henry               | • Anton Veigas              |
| • Jeanette Henry               | • Tyra Veney                |
| • <b>Nathan Hill *</b>         | • William Wesela            |
| • Aaron Hood                   | • Jamie Whitfield           |
| • Hannah Izon                  | • Paul Williams             |
|                                | • & All Anonymous Donors    |

\*\$1,000 or greater Donation

# A MESSAGE FROM LYSSA

## YOUR PTA PRESIDENT

**BONJOUR LE COMMUNITE DE DKFI!**

**LE PREMIER POINT DE  
L'AFFAIRE EST MERCI!!!**

**THE FIRST POINT OF BUSINESS IS  
THANK YOU!!!**

Bonjour, tout le monde! At the end of September through the first week in October, Jewish communities around the world celebrate the holiday of Sukkot. Sukkot is the perfect time to reflect on how lucky we are to have food, stability, and shelter, and remember those who are less fortunate. Years ago, I received an award from a Jewish organization called the "Tikkun Olam" award, which means to "repair the world". In many ways, I believe our DKFI administration, teachers and staff represent this Jewish commandment with such a large undertaking to teach, care and protect our children...



**PRINCIPAL  
SPENCE  
VIRTUAL BACK  
TO SCHOOL  
NIGHT 2021**



**PRINCIPAL SPENCE FIRST DAY  
OF SCHOOL WITH TOUSSAINT  
LE CARDINAL 2021**

**GETTING TO KNOW OUR  
HEAD OF SCHOOL:  
LE DIRECTEUR DE L'ECOLE  
PRINCIPAL SPENCE**



...and so, it is in that spirit, that I realized that it was the perfect opportunity to get to know the man who is leading the pack at DKFI. In only his second year as principal, Mr. Spence has brought a welcomed sense of leadership and stability for which we are grateful.

### Five Fun Facts About Mr. Spence

- He attended Old Dominion University (undergrad), Averett University and Virginia State University- (graduate degrees)
- He is a Veteran
- Mentoring is a big part of his life. He founded Men About Progress Youth Male Mentoring Organization in 2004
- He loves all types of music
- He and his wife have 3 children (19yrs, 14 yrs, and 4 yrs )

## PTA MEETING 10/6 @ 6:30PM - MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**On October 6th, we will hold our first PTA meeting.** PTA's mission is to make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children. As a recent recipient of this year's National PTA School of Excellence award, we need you to help us continue the work today. You can join the meeting here: <https://dorakennedyfrenchimmersionpta.my.webex.com/dorakennedyfrenchimmersionpta.my/j.php?MTID=mf62e07ff7bd7b69ab4e5ef2d85af4dfb>

RAISE FUNDS FOR DKFI PTA WITH  
THE 2021 ZOMBIE RUN!



**Mark your Calendars: Zombies are coming Saturday October 16, 2021!!** The Hyattsville Zombie Run is a fun, family-friendly event promoting a healthy lifestyle and exercise. It is a fantastic opportunity to raise money for our school. **Last year, DKFI PTA raised \$1364.00 through the individual fundraiser option!** The event includes three races: 1K Family Fun Run, 1 Mile Kids Run and a 5K. All racers, runners, joggers and walkers are invited to participate-- there is something for everyone! When registering for the race, you can choose to be an individual fundraiser through the race website. Individual Fundraisers get their own webpage to raise money for their school from family and friends who sponsor them to run in the race. **Check out this link to register and start a fundraiser. If you don't want to run please consider supporting the fundraising efforts by making the donation here :** <https://runsignup.com/Race/Donate/MD/Hyattsville/HyattsvilleZombieRun#tab-charitySelect> Our community has raised \$470 so far. We would love to meet or exceed last year's fundraising amount!

## SY 2021-2022 DKFI STUDENT COUNCIL EXECUTIVE BOARD

### CONGRATULATIONS!!!

#### **Co-Presidents:**

Ava Bouchard &  
Jace Jenkins

#### **Secretary:**

Milan Wilson

#### **Treasurer:**

Ari Slade

#### **Reporter:**

Morgan King

Congratulations



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- 10/1/21 - School Closed (Professional Development Day)
- 10/5/21- Picture Day
- 10/6/21 - PTA Meeting at 6:30pm
- 10/11/21 - School Closed (Indigenous Peoples Day)
- 10/16/21 - Hyattsville Zombie Run
- 10/30/21 - DKFI PTA Trunk or Treat



## BLAKE'S TIPS & TRICKS FOR OUR DKFI VIRTUAL LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hello,

We are the Wilson Family & Blake A. Wilson (3rd Grade) is our scholar matriculating through DKFI. Our family decided on trying the virtual option for a variety of reasons and so far it feels similar to last year. Just to be clear, our last year with the 2nd grade team, ELA, Tech, Music & Art went very well. Now that we have settled into a new school year this is proving to be the same.

Insight:

*Given there was less than 1 week's time frame for DKFI to put together a virtual learning experience, there were a couple of hiccups in the initial roll out of links and a little confusion on the days and times for classes, but Dr. Mills put together a great clickable schedule that Blake likes because it makes things easy to follow. We are trying to learn how to navigate Canvas, give yourself some time and grace...honestly we are just going to go to YouTube & watch some simple videos to understand how it works.*

### Tips/Tricks

1. **Have your child open up their PGCPS Chrome browser, go into Dr. Mills' Google Classroom, click on the schedule (usually at the very top) and create a favorites Bookmark that stays at the top of your child's screen when they login.** This gives them quick access to the schedule & it updates anytime the document's links are updated.
2. **If you utilize Google on your cell phone(s) & you have a Google Home device, you can utilize the Family Bells option to create alarms for each class your child has to attend.** It sounds like a school bell & can be programmed to announce the name of each class/teacher that they are to attend. Just make sure to set it to go off about 2 - 3 minutes prior to the actual start of the class to factor in any time for tech issues.
3. **Before the start of the school day, have your child open up a tab that is set to just their emails so they can see when teachers assign them classwork or homework.** This is also helpful if a teacher is absent & needs them to work independently.



**BLAKE: DKFI VIRTUAL SCHOLAR  
SY 2021 - 2022**

4. **If you can, hook up your chromebook to multiple monitors/tvs to be able to see the virtual class & keep your assignment up on the other screen at the same time.** This prevents your child from having to toggle between windows when teachers are sharing their screens and wanting them to complete assignments concurrently.
5. **To reduce eye strain, have your student utilize glasses that block the computer's blue lights** or change the computer's display settings to reduce the hue emitted.

We hope everyone is having a great year thus far & Blake can't wait to see his greater DKFI friends in the near future!

Cardinally Yours,  
**Blake Wilson & Family**

## Did you know that our Middle School students earn HS credits?

DKFI MS students receive high school foreign language credit for Russian 1 & 2 (7th & 8th grades), as well as French language arts (7th & 8th grades). Also, Algebra counts as high school math credit! Great job, Cardinals!

### Standardized testing

- MS parent's Pay particular attention to MISA and MCAP)
- <https://www.pgcps.org/offices/testing-research-and-evaluation/testing/elementary-and-middle-school-assessment>

### The Maryland Seal of Biliteracy

The Maryland Seal of Biliteracy is an award given by participating school systems that recognizes a student's high level of proficiency in listening, speaking, reading and writing in one or more languages other than English. Begun in California in 2011, the Seal of Biliteracy is now offered in 36 states and Washington, DC. Maryland's Seal of Biliteracy Bill was signed into law in 2016. High school graduates who can function in two or more languages are equipped with the knowledge and skills to participate successfully in college, careers, and a diverse 21st century society. The Maryland State Seal of Biliteracy is established to recognize and reward excellence in language learning as measured by rigorous proficiency assessments. 228 Prince George's County Public School students earned this seal last year.

- if they received a qualifying score, they can earn the Seal of Biliteracy which they receive when they graduate
- <https://avantassessment.com/stamp>

## A MIDDLE SCHOOL MOMENT



**DKFI STAFF WITH TOUSSAINT**

## FRENCH CULTURAL RESOURCES & EVENTS

- **Cultural Services French Embassy in the United States:**  
<https://frenchculture.org/>
- **Kids EuroFest Family Day @ the French Embassy (October 9 & 16th):**  
<https://events.euintheus.org/events/kids-euro-fest-family-day-french-embassy/>
- **COLCOA (French Films, shorts, and documentaries):** <https://colcoa.org/>

# A MIDDLE SCHOOL MOMENT



**MIDDLE SCHOOL SCHOLARS  
SY 2019 - 2020**

## National Junior Honor Society (NJHS)

National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) membership is invitation-only and a specific honor. The Five pillars are: Everyday Scholarship, Service, Leadership, Character, and Citizenship. These values are not limited to student members alone, but are shared by schools, communities, and families. NJHS invites students who have received a 3.5 GPA or higher the previous school year to be a member. Our chapter invites eligible 7th and 8th graders to apply.

Ms. Molly Cheng [molly.lepore@pgcps.org](mailto:molly.lepore@pgcps.org) is the advisor for the NJHS chapter at DKFI. Eligible students were sent an invitation via their PGCPs email account the week of September 29th. If your child meets the qualifications and didn't receive their invite, please email Ms. Cheng directly. Current 8th graders who were inducted last year will not need to reapply. Please be on the lookout for the invitation and the deadline to apply. Students will meet virtually this year.



**PARENT HELPING AT EUROSTORE**



**ADVOCACY DAY WITH DEL  
ALONZO WASHINGTON**



**FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL  
SY 2021 - 2022**



## Grading, Reporting and Assessments

Did you know that students and/or parents/guardians may request one additional opportunity to improve a score on a qualifying assessment, activity, or assignment that demonstrates knowledge of course content, skills, and standards? Did you know that students will receive a minimum of 50% on all assignments where they made a good faith effort? No? Don't worry. You can read all about the changes to the grading and reporting policy that was updated last month. Check out the one page highlight here:

<https://www.pgcps.org/globalassets/offices/curriculum-and-instruction/docs---curriculum-and-instruction/grading/what-pgcps-middle-school-students-and-their-families-should-know-about-grading-and-reporting.pdf> or read the full policy here:

<https://www.pgcps.org/globalassets/offices/general-counsel/docs---general-counsel/administrative-procedures/5000/administrative-procedure-5121.2---grading-and-reporting-for-middle-schools-grade-6-through-grade-8pdf>



## A MIDDLE SCHOOL MOMENT CONT'D

### Junior Achievement (JA) Finance Park

Junior Achievement Finance Park is a public/private collaboration between our region's school systems, businesses, educators and volunteer mentors who come together to inspire, guide and teach students how to be financially capable and ready to take on their futures. From goal-setting to saving, budgeting, shopping and bill paying, students experience what it really takes to successfully navigate today's complex economy and they come face-to-face with how their decisions today can impact their future. At last week's Middle School Back to School Night it was mentioned that this program will be happening for our 7th and 8th graders this year. Please be on the lookout for more information from the school.

## TUTORING RESOURCES

- Weendie Jacques Tutoring Services – [weendie357@gmail.com](mailto:weendie357@gmail.com)
- Ms. Lily Hayford Tutoring Services - [lhayful@yahoo.com](mailto:lhayful@yahoo.com)
- Jasaron Learning Institute, LLC - [www.jasaronlearninginstitute.com](http://www.jasaronlearninginstitute.com), [info@jasaronlearninginstitute.com](mailto:info@jasaronlearninginstitute.com)
- Mamima Online French Academy - [mamimaacademy@gmail.com](mailto:mamimaacademy@gmail.com)
- Mouna Thiam - [moumithiam@aol.com](mailto:moumithiam@aol.com)

# TESTING CALENDAR SY 2021 - 2022

\*SOME DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE\*



## FOR MORE INFORMATION

CONTACT: MR. DARREHMANE AT

[MAHJ.DARREHMANE@PGCPS.ORG](mailto:MAHJ.DARREHMANE@PGCPS.ORG)



## SEPTEMBER 2021

### 9/9-10/10

- KRA Kindergarten Readiness Assessment
- Reading (Kindergarten)

### 9/13-9/24

- ESOL Quarterly Speaking Writing Tasks
- ELA (All ESOL Students)

### 9/20-10/08

- iReady # 1
- Reading (Grades 2-5)

### 9/13-9/17

- MCAP Practice online
- Reading & Math (Grades 3-8)

### 9/20-10/15

- MCAP Early Fall Assessments
- ELA & Math (Grades 4-8)

### 9/20-10/15

- MCAP Early Fall Assessments
- Science (Grade 6)

## OCTOBER 2021

### 9/27-10/20

- MAP Reading Fluency # 1
- Reading (Grades K-2)

### 9/9-10/10

- KRA Kindergarten Readiness Assessment
- Reading (Grades K)

### 9/20-10/15

- MCAP Early Fall Assessments
- ELA & Math (Grades 4-8)

### 9/20-10/15

- MCAP Early Fall Assessments
- Science (Grades 6)

### 9/20-10/08

- iReady # 1
- Reading (Grades K-5)

### 10/26 & 11/6


- OLSAT-
- Selected 3rd grade new to PGCPS TAG Identification
- Cognitive Abilities
- 3rd graders new to PGCPS



# IT'S FLU SEASON!


## FALL 2021 FLU CLINICS

**"I'm Stronger than the Flu."**






Protect yourself and your family from the flu. The Health Department's community clinics are open to ALL COUNTY RESIDENTS. No appointments required. Those under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. Injectable flu vaccine will be available to anyone age 6 months and older.

**Walk in or Schedule an Appointment**



Contact Us: 301-583-3371  
Website: [health.mypgc.us/flu](http://health.mypgc.us/flu)  
Search: Flu Shot

<b>Saturday, September 25th</b> 8:00am - 4:00pm 13601 Missouri Avenue Brandywine, MD 20613 James E. Proctor Southern Area Aquatic Recreation Complex	<b>Thursday, October 7th</b> 1:00pm - 7:00pm 6101 Cherrywood Lane Greenbelt, MD 20770 Springhill Lake Community Center
<b>Saturday, October 9th</b> 10:00am - 2:00pm 2261 Oxon Run Drive Oxon Hill, MD 20748 Spirit of Faith Church	<b>Tuesday, October 12th</b> 11:00am - 6:00pm 15 Crescent Rd #200 Greenbelt, MD 20770 Greenbelt Community Center

It's Flu Season! Make your plan now to protect yourself and your family from the flu. The County Health Department's Fall 2021 community flu clinics schedule is out now! Each clinic is open to all County residents and accepts walk-ins and appointments. Those under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. Injectable flu vaccine will be available to anyone age 6 months and older.

Haga su plan ahora para protegerse y proteger a su familia de la gripe. Las clínicas comunitarias contra la gripe del Departamento de Salud del Condado para otoño de 2021 aceptan visitas sin cita previa y citas. Los menores de 18 años deben estar acompañados por un padre o guardián. La vacuna inyectable contra la influenza estará disponible para cualquier persona de 6 meses en adelante.

## Otoño de 2021 clínicas de la gripe

**"Soy más fuerte que la gripe."**



Protégase y proteja a su familia de la gripe. Las clínicas comunitarias del Departamento de Salud están abiertas para TODOS LOS RESIDENTES DEL CONDADO. No se requieren citas. Los menores de 18 años deben estar acompañados por un padre o guardián. La vacuna inyectable contra la gripe estará disponible para personas de 6 meses en adelante.

**Sin cita previa o programe una cita**



Contáctenos: 301-583-3371  
Sitio web: [health.mypgc.us/flu](http://health.mypgc.us/flu)  
Búsqueda: Vacuna contra la gripe

<b>Sábado 25 de septiembre</b> 8:00 a.m. a 4:00 p.m. 13601 Missouri Avenue Brandywine, MD 20613 James E. Proctor Complejo recreativo acuático del área sur	<b>Jueves 7 de octubre</b> 1:00 p.m. a 7:00 p.m. 6101 Cherrywood Lane Greenbelt, MD 20770 Centro Comunitario de Springhill Lake
<b>Sábado 9 de octubre</b> 10:00 a.m. a 2:00 p.m. 2261 Oxon Run Drive Oxon Hill, MD 20748 Iglesia Espíritu de Fe	<b>Martes 12 de octubre</b> 11:00 a.m. a 5:00 p.m. 15 Crescent Rd # 200 Greenbelt, MD 20770 Centro Comunitario Greenbelt





# DORA KENNEDY FRENCH IMMERSION

## CARDINAL PRIDE

### LEGACY

Founded in 1985 by Dr. Dora Funari Kennedy (1921-2009), Dora Kennedy French Immersion is a magnet school located in Greenbelt, Maryland. It is a lottery-based specialty program serving students in grades K-8. DKFI, originally called Robert F. Goddard French Immersion School, is one of the oldest French Immersion schools in the United States. In 2015, the school's name was changed to Dora Kennedy French Immersion in honor of our founder, a long-time Maryland Educator. Dr. Kennedy served as a teacher for many years and became the president of the Maryland Foreign Language Association and an executive member of the American Council on Teaching of Foreign Languages. She co-founded the National Museum of Language in College Park, MD and became the first foreign language supervisor in the county's school system.

In 2014, the school was awarded the esteemed designation of being a National Blue Ribbon School by the US Department of Education. The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program recognizes and honors elementary, middle, and high schools that exhibit high performance and/ or significant improvement in student achievement, including reducing the achievement gap for disadvantaged students. The school also was awarded the National PTA School of Excellence Award in 2020

All DKFI core subjects are taught in French beginning in Kindergarten. In second grade, the curriculum begins to implement English instruction. In sixth grade, Russian is available as an elective subject for students, becoming an academic requirement in 7th grade. Our teachers include mostly native French speakers from all over the world, including Morocco, France, and Cameroon. In the past, our students have received top honors in the Diplome d'Etudes en Langue Francaise, a certification of competency in French, from the French Ministry of Education.

Our school is celebrating a rich legacy of over 36 years of French Education. As proud parents of Dora Kennedy French Immersion, we are committed to working with the administration of the school to carry the torch of excellence into the future, ensuring the success of our students..

### DKFI QUICK FACTS:

**PRINCIPAL:** James A. Spence, II  
**DKFI Website:** <https://schools.pgcps.org/dorakennedy/>  
**SCHOOL COLORS:** Red, Blue & White  
**SCHOOL MASCOT:** Toussaint, le Cardinal  
**PTA PRESIDENT:** Lyssa Hargrove  
**PTA MOTTO:** Plusieurs Quartiers, Une Communauté  
(Many Neighborhoods, One Community)  
**PTA Website:** <http://www.dkfipta.org/>  
**GRADES:** K-8



# **DORA KENNEDY FRENCH IMMERSION PTA**

*NATIONAL PTA SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE*

## **2021-2022 EXECUTIVE BOARD**



**LYSSA HARGROVE,  
PRESIDENT**



**TIKEETHA THOMAS  
VP, MIDDLE SCHOOL**



**BENITY SEWELL  
VP, ELEMENTARY**



**PILAR SNOWDEN  
SECRETARY**



**ALISHA HUNTLEY  
TREASURER**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO VOLUNTEER:  
PLEASE EMAIL US AT [DKFIPTA@GMAIL.COM](mailto:DKFIPTA@GMAIL.COM)**