



Welcome to JH!

Information for new families

Registration

We are your neighborhood school and your community, we are so glad you're here!

Kindergarten registration begins April 17, 2024– please register early so the school can predict enrollment and the correct number of classrooms!

- 1) Complete the enrollment forms online ([link here](#))
- 2) **You must also visit your school in person** with your [verification documents](#). This usually takes <15 minutes. **Schedule this visit** with the registrar. Call the school to schedule 703-706-4400.

JH Registrar: Ms. Pearce nishicka.pearce@acps.k12.va.us

The Basics

- What time does school start? 7:50am
Doors open at 7:35am for breakfast.
Students counted tardy after 8:00.
- Only bus riders can enter the doors at the bus loop
- Walkers must enter the main doors, which are on the playground side
- Kiss and Ride (dropping off/picking up in your car)- enter the parking lot and there is a drop off lane
- Park on Cameron St./Princess St./in the parking lot if you want to walk your kid up to the main doors
- What time is dismissal? 2:35pm (Kindergarten dismisses at 2:30pm)
 - Grade levels will group by walkers/kiss and ride/bus and teachers will escort the group. Your teacher will let you know what door to pick up walkers at – generally on the playground side
- Uniform – There is no required uniform. [ACPS dress code](#)



Bus Information

- If you are within the walk zone, you are ineligible for bus transportation
K-8 students who live 1 mile or less from their campus are within the walk zone. Exceptions are based on specific safety issues along the expected walk path.
Transportation Office 703-461-4169
- You will automatically be assigned a bus, if eligible, based on your home address in your registration paperwork
- You will receive an email in the days before school starts with your bus number, time, and stop location. *Plan for buses to be off-schedule the first week as adjustments are made*
- If you need transportation to another location (e.g. an after school program) you must use [this form to request the change BY AUGUST 5!](#) [ACPS Bus Change Info](#)
- [GPS Parent Portal](#)- the app will show you the GPS location of the bus and send you a push notification when it is nearing your bus stop.
- If you need help meeting other bus riders in your neighborhood, the PTA can help you connect with other families- email us or post in the [Jefferson-Houston School Parents and Caregivers facebook group](#)

Step Up to Kindergarten/Orientation


- Step Up to Kindergarten is:
 - the Friday before school starts (Aug 16)
 - half day 9-12 with their classroom teachers
 - drop-off (parents don't stay)
 - practice bus routes
 - practice going through lunch line
- Orientation/Open House (all grades):
 - the Friday before school starts, in the afternoon
 - Find out your child's classroom assignment if you haven't received it in the mail
 - Visit the classroom and meet your child's teacher, bring in school supplies
- First days of school
 - Only kindergarten parents should come inside
 - Kindergarten meets in the first floor cafeteria which is just inside the main doors, and walk to the classroom together
 - Make sure you clearly communicate your child's afternoon transportation (parent pick-up as walker, kiss and ride, or bus #) to the teacher by the first day of school!
 - Make sure your student knows where they are going in the afternoon

After School Programs (also plan care for days off, winter and spring breaks!)

- Campagna Kids (at school) [The Campagna Center](#)
 - Sliding fee scale based on income; no before-school care at JH; closed on teacher workdays; summer camp at another ACPS school
- Boys and Girls Club (walk) [Dunbar Alexandria-Olympic Club \(401 N Payne St\)](#)
- Charles Houston Rec Center (bus) [Power On Out of School Time Program](#)
 - Open on teacher work days
 - City of Alexandria Parks and Recreation offers some Out of School Time Programming “OSTP” (camps) when schools are closed
- YMCA ([420 E Monroe Ave](#))
- Creative Play (100 E Windsor Ave)
- Yang’s Taekwondo (1611 Commonwealth Ave)
- **For bus transportation to an after school program, you must use [this](#) form to request the change BY AUGUST 5! [ACPS Bus Change Info](#)**

JH 2024-25 Calendar

2024-25
Traditional Academic Calendar



2024

JULY

1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

AUGUST

						1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
18	★	20	21	22	23	24		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31		

SEPTEMBER

1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28		
29	30							

OCTOBER

	1	2	3	⊙	5			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26		
27	28	29	30	31				

NOVEMBER

	⊙	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30		

DECEMBER

1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28		
29	30	31						

2025

JANUARY

		1	2	3	4			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25		
26	27	28	29	30	31			

FEBRUARY

2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22		
23	24	25	26	27	⊙			

MARCH

2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29		
30	31							

APRIL

	1	2	3	4	5			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26		
27	28	29	30					

MAY

	1	2	3					
4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31		


JUNE

1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28		
29	30							

CALENDAR KEY

- ★ First/Last Day of School
- Student Days
- NO SCHOOL
 - All Students
 - Parent-Teacher Conferences
- TWO-HOUR EARLY DISMISSAL
 - All Students
 - High School

2024-25
Traditional Academic Calendar



KEY DATES

AUGUST 2024

- 16 Step Up to Kindergarten
- 19 First Day of School
- 30 Labor Day - No School for Students

SEPTEMBER 2024

- 2 Labor Day - No School for Students

OCTOBER 2024

- 3 Rosh Hashana - No School for Students
- 4 Elementary, Middle and High School Conferences - No School for Students
- 14 Indigenous Peoples Day/ Professional Learning Day - No School for Students
- 24 End of Quarter
- 25 Teacher Work Day - No School for Students

NOVEMBER 2024

- 1 Diwali - No School for Students
- 4 Elementary, Middle and High School Conferences - No School for Students
- 5 Election Day / Professional Learning Day - No School for Students
- 11 Veterans Day - No School for Students
- 27-29 Fall Break/Thanksgiving - No School for Students

DECEMBER 2024

- 23-31 Winter Break (includes Christmas Day) - No School for Students

JANUARY 2025

- 1-3 Winter Break (includes New Year's Day) - No School for Students
- 20 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day / Inauguration Day - No School for Students
- 23 End of Quarter
- 24 Professional Learning Day - No School for Students
- 27 Teacher Work Day - No School for Students

FEBRUARY 2025

- 17 Presidents Day - No School for Students
- 28 Elementary, Middle and High School Conferences - No School for Students

MARCH 2025

- 27 End of Quarter
- 28 Teacher Work Day - No School for Students
- 31 Eid al-Fitr - No School for Students

APRIL 2025

- 14-18 Spring Break - No School for Students

MAY 2025

- 26 Memorial Day - No School for Students

JUNE 2025

- 9-10 Two-Hour Early Dismissal for High School Students
- 11-12 Two-Hour Early Dismissal for Students - Afternoon Teacher Work Day
- 12 End of Quarter/Last Day of School for Students

CULTURAL OBSERVANCE DAYS
On weekdays, these are regular school days unless otherwise noted under Key Dates. These days should not have assessments, sporting events and other school sponsored special activities. Any missed assignments due to student absences on these days can be made up without penalty.

2024

- October 12 - Yom Kippur
- November 1 - All Saints Day
- November 1 - Dia de los Muertos
- December 8 - Bodhi Day

2025

- January 6 - Three Kings Day
- January 6 - Epiphany
- January 7 - Orthodox Christmas
- January 19 - Orthodox Epiphany
- January 29 - Lunar New Year
- March 1 - First Full Day of Ramadan
- April 13 - Theraavada New Year
- April 18 - Good Friday
- April 18 - Orthodox Good Friday
- April 20 - Easter Sunday
- April 20 - Orthodox Easter
- April 20 - Last Day of Passover
- June 7 - Eid al-Adha

Approved December 14, 2023. Holidays that fall outside of the academic year are not included under Key Dates.

Example Schedule (2nd grader)

7:50-8:10 Morning Meeting/SEL (social emotional learning)

8:10-9:25 Math

9:25-10:05 Intervention/Enrichment

10:10-11:10 Encore*

11:10-11:40 Recess

11:40-12:10 Lunch

12:15-12:45 Core Reading

12:45-1:05 Writing

1:05-2:00 HD Word (Reading)

2:00-2:30 Science/Social Studies

2:30 Pack-Up & Dismissal

*Encore Schedule:

Monday- Art

Tuesday- Library

Wednesday- Spanish

Thursday- PE

Friday- Music (band/orchestra 4th & 5th)

*Kindergarten also has a snack time in the afternoon.

Lunch (30 min)

- There are small cafeterias on each floor, each grade level eats together (e.g. Kindergarteners are eating lunch only with other kindergarteners)
- Community Eligibility Provision – (free breakfast and lunch for all 23-24 school year)
- Menu- available on the School Café app ([info on ACPS website](#))
 - Don't make selections or add money, only use to view menu
- After lunch is served, students can buy ice cream or chips, \$1.50
- If you send money for their account to buy extra items, your child will get a PIN number
- No fridges or microwaves available for student use
- Middle school- Please don't order delivery (e.g. doordash, ubereats)

Example Lunch Menu (*PB&J is actually sunbutter)

Elementary Lunch					
Week 2					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
K-8	Cheeseburger on a Bun or Black Bean Burger	Beef or Mexican Crumble Nachos w/ Taco Fixins' (LR100140)	Brunch for Lunch: French Toast Breakfast Panini (LR101908) w/ Hash Browns	Homemade Bean & Cheese Empanada (LR101779) w/ Rice	Cheese (LR101001), Pepperoni [^] (LR101006), or Manager's Choice Pizza
	Spaghetti & Homemade Meatsauce or Meatless Crumble Sauce	Three Bean Chili Topped Tots (LR101224) w/ Cinnamon Roll (LR101051)		Warm Turkey & Cheese on Croissant (LR100509) w/ Baked Chips	Tuna Melt on Croissant (LR101921) w/ Chips
Bento Box	PB & J Uncrustable (LR100932, 840), String Cheese (LR100224, 975), & Pretzels (LR100553)				
	Yogurt & String Cheese w/ Muffin, Grahams	Pizza Lunch Kit (LR100745): WG Mini Flatbreads (2) w/ Shredded Mozzarella (2 oz), & Marinara	Yogurt & String Cheese w/ Assorted Cereal	Homemade Hummus Cheese Wrap (LR101027) <i>updated recipe</i>	Yogurt & String Cheese w/ Muffin, Grahams
6-8 ONLY	Chicken or Kickin' Nuggets Biscuit Mash Bowl	Titan Nacho Grande w/ Beef, Three Bean Chili, or Mexican Crumble (LR100894/016)	Peruvian Chicken (LR101791) w/ Black Beans & Rice/Quinoa Blend & Aji Verde (LR101284)	Falafel Pita w/ Tzatziki Sauce (LR101910, LR101577)	Buffalo Chicken Pizza
Greens More Bar (GMB)	Savory Loops	Taco Fixins'	Hash Browns	Roasted Plantains [^] (LR100081)	Fresh Grape Tomatoes
	Salad/Lettuce Mix (LR100648, 636)				
	Fresh Carrots (LR100821)	Chili Spiced Sweet Potatoes	Fresh Seasonal Vegetable*	Cucumber Tomato Salad (LR100748)	Marinated Mushrooms (LR101915)
	Green Bean Salad [^] (LR100901)	Cauliflower Florettes	Marinated Chickpeas [^] (LR100900)	Seasoned Pinto Beans [^] (LR101359)	Fresh Cucumber Coins (LR100235)
	Chilled Corn (LR100902)	Tasty Tree Tops (LR100446)	Fresh Tomatoes (LR100738, 647, 818)	Fresh Seasonal Vegetable*	Fresh Carrots (LR100821)
	Fresh Cucumber Coins (LR100235)	Vegetarian Refried Beans	Fresh Cucumber Coins (LR100235)	Chilled Power Peas (LR100907)	Tasty Tree Tops (LR100446) / Fresh Cauliflower (LR100253)
	Fresh Orange Wedges (LR100086)	Fresh Seasonal Vegetable*	Chilled Sliced Peaches (LR100050)	Fresh Sliced Pear (LR100084)	Fresh Seasonal Fruit*
	Chilled Pineapple Chunks (LR100051)	Frozen Fruit Cup (LR100490, 575, 713, 869)	Fresh Apple Slices (LR100820)	Fresh Seasonal Fruit*	Clementines

Assorted Milk Offered Daily

KEY: [^]Speed Scratch Recipe
*Manual Menu Item Add

School Supplies

- [Link to supply list](#)
- Bring them at orientation or send them with your child the first day
- The school social worker has many donated backpacks and school supplies Jeremy.Patterson@acps.k12.va.us
- Send a change of clothes if your child might need it. Send layers-the air conditioning can be cold, the heat can be hot
- Medications- speak with Nurse Pastore lisa.pastore@acps.k12.va.us
- Back to School Night – a few weeks after school starts; visit the classroom, meet the teacher, find out the daily schedule, meet other parents

Who's who

Dr. John McCain

Head of School

Ms. Tiffany Young

Academic Principal

Ms. Francise Fernandez

Assistant Principal

Ms. Jessica Donahue

Special Education Accountability

Ms. Monroe

Administrative Assistant

Ms. Ross

Administrative Assistant

Ms. Brown-Dunn

Dean of Students

Mr. Beason

School Psychologist

Mr. Patterson

School Social Worker

Ms. Brown

Elementary Grades School Counselor

Ms. Gettis

Middle Grades School Counselor

Nurse Pastore

School Nurse

Instructional Assistants- each Kindergarten has a full time instructional assistant. Other grades may have an IA full time or part time based on student needs (e.g. special education)

[Link to Staff Directory](#)

Power School and Parent Square

- You will receive a letter in the mail in September from ACPS with an 'Access ID' and 'Access Password'
- [Power school](#) – fill out Back to School forms each year, view absences and tardies
 - Make sure your contact info (e.g. email) is correct and matches your registration information!!
- [Power school](#) info is used to configure your [Parent Square](#)
- Please check the box in your Back to School forms about “school-wide directories” so you will receive PTA messages!

- [Parent Square](#) is how the school sends communication to you (school newsletter from Dr. McCain, PTA updates and events, messages to and from your teacher).
- There is an app, or you can view on a browser, and you will receive emails.
- Use this app!
- For major announcements like early dismissal for weather or school closure-you will receive a text from ACPS.

Power School – available after school starts

- Link to Canvas
- Grades and Attendance ←
- Student Information
- View Contact Information
- Attendance History
- Teacher Comments
- Forms
- School Bulletin
- Class Registration
- Balance
- MySchoolBucks
- My Schedule
- School Information
- Account Preferences
- Back to School Forms ←

District Code
LZLW

Download on the App Store

GET IT ON Google play

Grades and Attendance

Attendance By Class																			
Exp	Last Week					This Week					Course	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	X1	Y1	Absences	Tardies
	M	T	W	H	F	M	T	W	H	F									
01(A-B)											Homeroom, GR 2 Email Murray, Curtis - Rm: 227	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	0	0
02(A-B)											LA Reading, GR 2 Email Murray, Curtis - Rm: 227	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	0	0
03(A-B)											LA Writing, GR 2 Email Murray, Curtis - Rm: 227	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	0	0
04(A-B)											Math, GR 2 Email Murray, Curtis - Rm: 227	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	0	0
05(A-B)											Social Studies, GR 2 Email Murray, Curtis - Rm: 227	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	0	0
06(A-B)											Science, GR 2 Email Murray, Curtis - Rm: 227	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	0	0
07(A-B)											Art, GR 2 Email Haney, Caitlin M - Rm: 213	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	0	0
08(A-B)											Physical Education, GR 2 Email Rotruck, Alex - Rm: 153	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	0	0
09(A-B)											General Music, GR 2 Email Hancock-Siggers, Bianca - Rm: 126	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	0	0
Attendance Totals																		0	0

Show dropped classes also

Attendance By Day											Absences		Tardies	
Last Week					This Week					Q3	YTD	Q3	YTD	
M	T	W	H	F	M	T	W	H	F					
										0	1	0	1	
Attendance Totals											0	1	0	1

Legend

Attendance Codes: Blank=Present | K=Present - Virtual | E=Appealed | X=Default Enter/Left Code | D=Document | L=Excused Tardy | F=Family | H=Homebound | I=Illness | P=In-School Susp | N=No Show | R=Religion | V=School Activity | S=Suspended | T=Tardy | C=Truant | G=Shelter Care | U=Unexcused | A=Unverified | W=Weather

Technology

- Kindergarteners use Chrome tablets, other grades use Chromebooks
- Clever– portal to access learning apps
- Canvas – course assignments and resources (older grades)
- Securly- caregivers can review your student’s internet searches and activities
- Class Dojo –used to reward points as part of the school’s PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports) program. Teachers may also use for messaging or sending classroom photos to families.
- Educational apps used at school:
 - Reading Eggs, Dreambox, Epic, abc ya (examples for Kindergarten)

Attendance Matters!

Absenteeism affects our school accreditation.

Please plan family vacations on school breaks!

Chronic Absences

Missing 10 days or more

Excessive absences will impact learning even if your child is on grade level

Warning Signs

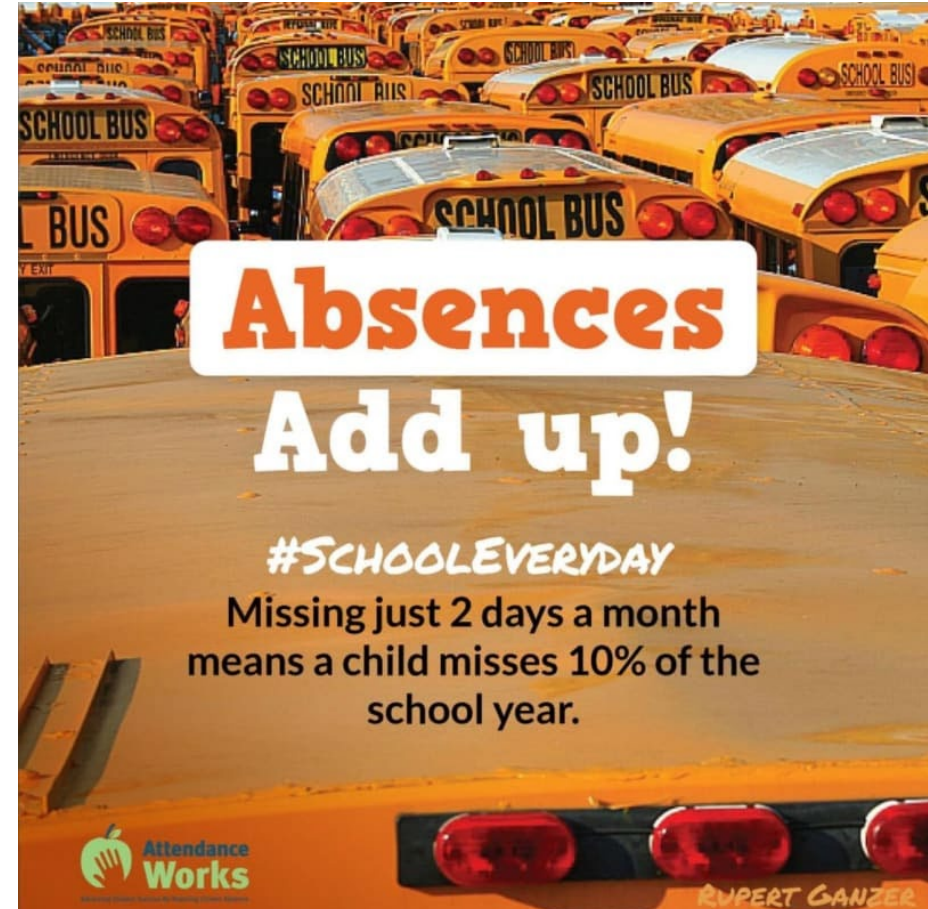
Missing 9-5 days

Absences are a problem even when they are excused

Satisfactory

4 days or less

Students can get behind by just a day or two a month

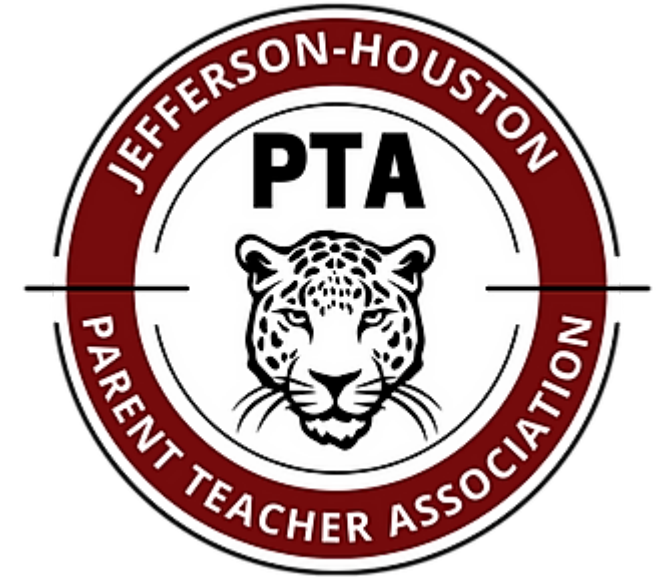


Join the PTA!

<https://www.jeffersonhoustonpta.com/>

Contact: pta.jeffersonhouston@gmail.com

Join [here](#) (\$10)!



What we do:

- Advocate for our families, teachers, and school
- Organize after-school elementary clubs
- Fundraise for field trips, teacher appreciation, classroom grants, and music programs
- Community-building events like restaurant nights, Election Day bake sale, and Pancake Breakfast