

Family Newsletter

Friday February 7th, 2025

Important Updates: Happy Black History month

We celebrate love, peace and friendship the whole month of February. Stay tuned for our BHM bulletin challenge, winners will be announced at our showcase on the 28th.

Our annual coffee cake fundraiser was a success, we sold 272 cakes. Room 205 sold the most cakes winning themselves a pizza party. Cakes will be ready for pick up on Wednesday February 12th.

RESPECTFUL

I will be Respectful by using the golden rule, I will treat others the way I'd like to be treated.

RESPONSIBLE

I will be responsible by trying my very best.

SAFE

I will be safe and have fun.



Upcoming Important Dates

February 6, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Monthly Family Council meeting
February 10, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 3rd Grade school choice begins
February 13, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 100th Day of school
February 17-21, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● February break: No School
February 24, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All students report back to school
February 26, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Governing Board meeting
February 28, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Black History Showcase & Potluck



We started a SchoolStore program to help our school raise money. An envelope explaining how the program works has been sent home with your student. Parents, please read over the information describing how you can participate. Your student will earn a participation prize when they return the filled-out envelope to school, and they can earn more great prizes when your family and friends help our school raise money. So don't forget to send the filled-out envelope back to school, and thanks for your support.

3rd Grade
continuous
choice begins
Feb 10th

IMPORTANT DATES For School Year 2025-2026

	Start of Priority Registration	End of Priority Registration	Assignment Notifications
Students entering K0, K1, K2, 6, 7*, or 9	January 6	February 7	March 31
Students entering all other grades	February 10	April 4	May 31

K2 is now part of the January Priority Registration Period
 *7th Grade Assignment Notifications will be mailed at the end of May

For information on the timeline for the BPS exam school process, please visit: <https://www.bostonpublicschools.org/exam>

[Online school choice guide for families](#)

Black History Month
school Showcase
and Family Potluck
February 28th, at
1:30pm.

This event will be held across the street at Unity culture club. 10 Dunbar ave Dorchester ma. The showcase will start at 1:30pm and will end by 3pm. Students will not be dismissed from the venue, all students will be walked back to the school to be dismissed regularly to avoid any confusion. Please you are welcome to return to the venue after dismissal to enjoy some entertainment, food and convos during the potluck. Please reach out to Ms. Govi with your cultural dish sign-up.

~K0 & K1: Beverages (Juice boxes & Water

~K2 & 1st Grade: Healthy Dessert options: (ex. Fruit platters, Fruit snacks)

~2nd & 3rd Grade: Healthy snacks options (Ex. Veggie tray, skinny popcorn)

JOIN US IN CELEBRATING LOVE



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

SHOWCASE & FAMILY
POTLUCK



FEBRUARY 28, 2025 — 1:30PM



UNITY CULTURE CLUB
10 DUNBAR AVE,

ENJOY AMAZING MUSICAL & DANCE PERFORMANCES AND LATER JOIN US FOR OUR FAMILY POTLUCK.

~K0 & K1: BEVERAGES (JUICE BOXES & WATER)

~K2 & 1ST GRADE: HEALTHY DESSERT OPTIONS (EX. FRUIT PLATTERS, FRUIT SNACKS)

~2ND & 3RD GRADE: HEALTHY SNACKS OPTIONS (EX. VEGGIE TRAY, SKINNY POPCORN)

*PLEASE REACH OUT TO MS. GOVI WITH YOUR CULTURAL DISH SIGN-UP.

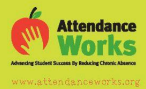
NOTE: STUDENTS WILL NOT BE DISMISSED FROM THE VENUE; THEY WILL FILE BACK TO THE SCHOOL WITH THEIR CLASSROOM FOR REGULAR DISMISSAL PROCEDURES.



Attendance Updates:

ATTENDANCE in the early grades

Many of our youngest students miss 10 percent of the school year—about 18 days a year or just two days every month. Chronic absenteeism in kindergarten and even pre-K, can predict lower test scores, poor attendance and retention in later grades, especially if the problem persists for more than a year. Do you know how many young children are chronically absent in your school or community?



Who Is Affected

Kindergarten and 1st grade classes often have absenteeism rates as high as those in high school. Many of these absences are excused, but they still add up to lost time in the classroom.

1 in 10 kids in kindergarten and 1st grade are chronically absent. In some schools, it's as high as 1 in 4.¹



2 in 10 low-income kids miss too much school. They're also more likely to suffer academically.²

2.5 in 10 homeless kids are chronically absent.³

4 in 10 transient kids miss too much school when families move.³



¹ Chang, Hedy; Romero, Marilouise. *Present, Engaged and Accounted For: The Critical Importance of Addressing Chronic Absence in the Early Grades*, National Center for Children in Poverty, NYC, NY, September 2008.

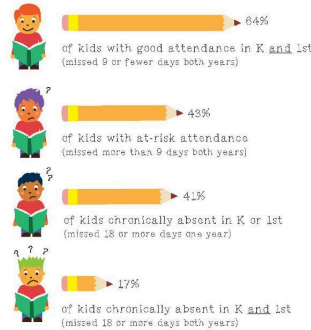
² *Chronic Absence in Utah*, Utah Education Policy Center at the University of Utah, 2012.

Why It Matters

If children don't show up for school regularly, they miss out on fundamental reading and math skills and the chance to build a habit of good attendance that will carry them into college and careers.

Preliminary data from a California study found that children who were chronically absent in kindergarten and 1st grade were far less likely to read proficiently at the end of 3rd grade.

Who Can Read on Grade Level After 3rd Grade?³



³ *Absenteeism in Early Elementary Grades: Association with Student Characteristics, School Readiness and Third Grade Outcomes*, Applied Survey Research, May 2011.

What We Can Do



Engage Families

Many parents and students don't realize how quickly early absences can add up to academic trouble. Community members and teachers can educate families and build a culture of attendance through early outreach, incentives and attention to data.



Fix Transportation

The lack of a reliable car, or simply missing the school bus, can mean some students don't make it to class. Schools, transit agencies and community partners can organize car pools, supply bus passes or find other ways to get kids to school.



Address Health Needs

Health concerns, particularly asthma and dental problems, are among the leading reasons students miss school in the early grades. Schools and medical professionals can work together to give children and families health care and advice.



Track the Right Data

Schools too often overlook chronic absence because they track average attendance or unexcused absences, not how many kids miss too many days for any reason. Attendance Works has free data-tracking tools.

These are a few steps that communities and schools can take. How do you think you can help?

To download a copy of this infographic, please visit www.attendanceworks.org

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Health & Wellness

February is National Children's Dental Health Month (NCDHM)



A national health observation to promote the benefits of good oral health, brought to you by the ADA.

Every day should be about children's dental health. This year, in place of the traditional posters, the American Dental Association is offering new materials to celebrate and promote children's dental health, not only during the month of February, but all year long.

Posters are available for digital download. Matching coloring sheets in two designs. All materials are available in English and Spanish.

ADA's 2025 [Brushing Calendar](#) is available now for digital download.

- [11"x17" Poster - English \(PDF\)](#)
- [11"x17" Poster - Spanish \(PDF\)](#)
- [11"x17" Poster - English \(PDF\)](#)
- [11"x17" Poster - Spanish \(PDF\)](#)
- [8.5"x11" Coloring Sheet - English \(PDF\)](#)
- [8.5"x11" Coloring Sheet - Spanish \(PDF\)](#)
- [8.5"x11" Coloring Sheet - English \(PDF\)](#)
- [8.5"x11" Coloring Sheet - Spanish \(PDF\)](#)



Please review additional guidelines below to help our students and staff determine if they should stay home. We ask that community members experiencing any of the symptoms listed below stay home for at least 24 hours after any symptoms of illness resolve:

- Fever — Temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher. Students need to stay home for 24 hours after their temperature has returned to normal without any fever reducing medications, such as Ibuprofen or Acetaminophen.
- Diarrhea — Three or more loose or watery stools in a 24-hour period, especially if the person feels ill. Students or employees should stay home for 48 hours after the last watery stool.
- Vomiting — Two or more times during the last 24-hours, especially if the person feels ill. Students or employees should stay home for 48 hours after the last time they vomited.
- Persistent Coughing — Could be caused by many illnesses. Students or employees experiencing persistent coughing should see their primary care provider and stay home until it is resolved.
- Fatigue — Symptoms include lingering tiredness, paleness, lack of appetite, difficult time waking, confusion and irritability. Students or employees should stay home until they are well, or have seen their primary care provider.
- Strep Throat or Bacterial Conjunctivitis (Pink Eye) — Illnesses for which primary care providers have diagnosed and prescribed treatment. Students or staff must stay home 24 hours after the first dose of antibiotics.

[Reasons to Keep your child at home](#)

[Tips For Staying Healthy](#)

[SY 2024-2025 Respiratory Virus Protocols](#)

[Staying home to prevent the spread of respiratory viruses](#)

**Monthly
Family
council
meeting**

The Purpose of The Family Council is to improve the school experience for our students. It is where parents can express their concerns, advocate for the school, and plan school activities and events. The School Family Council advocates for the students and the school, elects representatives to sit on the Governing Board, raises funds to support school activities, takes a leadership role in promoting parent engagement at the school, and promotes an environment of understanding and common purpose among parents and teachers.

What better than to come together as a community once a month to discuss important topics, such as:

- **BPS transportation**
- **Housing Resources**
- **Local Resources within our community**
- **Planning fun LAPS events for our students & families**
- **Represent the family community in making school decisions with the school principal and school staff**

Join us every first Thursday of the month

Time: 6 - 7pm

Where: ZOOM

<https://k12-bostonpublicschools.zoom.us/j/86379619173>

Next meeting: March 6, 2025

All important information from the district as well as our school will be sent via Talking Points, ParentSquared and/or email. We provide information in various languages according to the diverse cultures of our school community. It is important that you download the Talking Points application on your phone so that you can receive LAPS communication.

[Click here for Boston Public Schools District Calendar](#)

Contact Information

School leader : Principal	Carlitta Camillo	ccamillo@bostonpublicschools.org	(617) 635-8618
Secretary	Zoraida Camacho	zcamacho@bostonpublicschools.org	(617) 635-8618
Coordinator of Special Education (COSE)	Pricilla Casna	Pcasna@bostonpublicschools.org	(617) 635-8618
Student and Family Support Counselor	Jasmin Torrejon Chu	itorrejonchu@bostonpublicschools.org	(617) 635-8618
School Psychologist	Jennifer Medeiros-Crabbe	jmedeiros@bostonpublicschools.org	(617) 635-8618
Family Liaison	Govi Tovar	gtovar@bostonpublicschools.org	(617) 635-8618
School Nurse	Marthe Jean-Jacques	mjeanjacques2@bostonpublicschools.org	(617) 635-8618

Browse Family handbook at this link: [Family Handbook](#) for more details. You can call us at (617)635-8618 or visit our website: LeeAcademyPilotSchool.org