

MOUNT RAINIER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Jennifer Till, Principal | jennifer.till@pgcps.org
4011 32nd Street | Mount Rainier, MD 20712 | 301-985-1810 | www.pgcps.org/mountrainier

August 7, 2024

Dear Families,

It is with great excitement that I welcome you to the 2024-2025 school year at Mt. Rainier Elementary! I hope you enjoyed a wonderful summer with family and friends. As we prepare for the return of our students, I am eager to see both our returning and new students join us with enthusiasm and a commitment to hard work.

At Mt. Rainier Elementary, creating a nurturing, safe, and positive learning environment is a top priority. We believe that such an environment is essential for your child's academic success and overall growth. Over the coming months, you will witness your child's development into a confident, college-bound individual with pride in themselves, their school, and their community.

Mr. Scott and his building services staff (Mr. Clegg and Mr. Dalton) have worked diligently to ensure that all classrooms, learning spaces, and common areas are clean and ready for the new school year. Ms. Williams, Ms. Ortiz, and Ms. Rosario have been busy throughout the summer with registrations, ordering materials, and connecting with families to ensure everything is in place for a smooth start.

Staff Changes

We say farewell to the following staff members:

- **Melissa Harkey (Ericsson)** - resigned to stay home with her daughter
- **Stacey Morrison** - moved to Berwyn Heights Elementary

We would like to welcome our newest staff members:

- **Nicole Clem** - ELD Teacher
- **Janai Durham** - PreK Teacher
- **Sierra Malloy** - 1st Grade
- **Anaciolo Ortiz** - Secretary I/Registrar
- **Jabari Shakir** - 5th Grade Teacher (Math/Science)
- **Susan Tierno** - 3rd Grade Teacher (RELA/Social Studies)

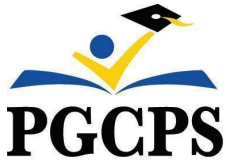
We are still searching for teachers to fill the following positions:

- 2 Kindergarten
- 4th Grade
- Media Specialist

Our team has also spent considerable time carefully planning classroom assignments to create well-balanced classes that best support the needs of all students. Please note that the assignment process is now complete, and no further changes will be made.

We invite you to meet your child's teacher during our PreK/K Orientation or Grades 1-5 Open House on Friday, August 23rd. Specific times for these events are detailed below.

For more information and the latest updates, please visit our school webpage: [Mt. Rainier Elementary Website](#). Should you have any questions, feel free to contact me at jennifer.till@pgcps.org.



MOUNT RAINIER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Jennifer Till, Principal | jennifer.till@pgcps.org
4011 32nd Street | Mount Rainier, MD 20712 | 301-985-1810 | www.pgcps.org/mountrainier

I look forward to working together with you and your children to ensure a productive and safe learning environment throughout the school year.

Warm regards,

Jennifer Till

Principal
Mt. Rainier Elementary School

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR THE 2023 - 2024 SCHOOL YEAR

PreK/Kindergarten Orientation - August 23rd from 9:00 am - 10:00 am

Grades 1 - 5 Open House - August 23rd from 10:30 am - 11:30 am

SCHOOL START/END TIME CHANGES

7:30 am - 1:40 pm

School Supplies

In an effort to support our families, we have purchased school supplies and backpacks for every student. Supply pick up will take place on **Friday, August 23rd during PreK/Kindergarten Orientation (9:00 am - 10:00 am) and our Open House for Grades 1 - 5 (10:30 am - 11:30 am) in the classrooms.**

Students will be expected to bring their **Chromebook and charger daily to and from school. Their Chromebook should be fully charged and ready to use each day.**

School Hours

Our school hours are **7:30 am to 1:40 pm**. Children should arrive at school between **7:20 am and 7:30 am**. Children who arrive after **7:30 am** will be considered late and marked as such. Breakfast will be available for student pick-up in the cafeteria from **7:20 am to 7:30 am**. No child should be left at school before **7:20 am**. The school does not provide supervision of children until 7:20 am.

Arrival

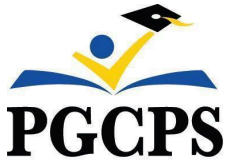
- Buses will arrive and drop off students at the **main entrance**
- Car riders should follow the **direction of the staff and patrols on the front sidewalk**
- Cones will be placed to direct car flow
- Cars should not stop and drop off students until they have pulled up into the labeled "drop off zone"
- Students should **ONLY** exit the vehicle on the **right hand side**
- Cars should **not** pull around to pass unless directed by a staff member
- **ALL** students will enter through the **main entrance doors**
- In order to remain healthy and safe we ask that parents drop students at the main entrance doors and "Kiss and Wave"

Dismissal

Dismissal will begin at 1:40 pm

Bus Riders and After Care Students

- Dismissed from the cafeteria through the main entrance doors



MOUNT RAINIER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Jennifer Till, Principal | jennifer.till@pgcps.org
4011 32nd Street | Mount Rainier, MD 20712 | 301-985-1810 | www.pgcps.org/mountrainier

Walkers/Car Riders

- **PreK** will exit through the **rear classroom doors**
- **Kindergarten** will exit through the **rear classroom doors**
- **1st grade** students will exit through the **lower level doors**
- **2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th** grade students will be dismissed through the **main entrance doors**
- Parents/guardians should wait on the sidewalk in the specific area assigned to the grade-level for walker pick-up

Main Office Hours

The main office is available via telephone or by in-person appointments Monday through Friday from 7:15 am - 3:15 pm.

2024-2025 School Year Meal Prices

Elementary (Pre K through Grade 5)

- Breakfast: \$1.60/day
- Lunch: \$2.75/day

There is no cost to students who are eligible for Free or Reduced Price Meals.

We encourage all families to consider applying for free and reduced price meals! Visit www.myschoolapps.com/Home/PickDistrict to apply online today!

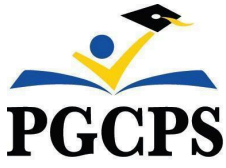
To apply, you will need:

- The name, school and grade for your school-age children
- The name of all adults living in the home
- Income information for all adults living in the home
- Student ID Numbers for your school-age children

All children should bring home a **Free and Reduced Lunch Application**. We are requesting that all our families apply for the program to ensure that no one who is eligible is left out.

Instructions:

- Fill out one application per family at the following site [Apply for Free and Reduced Priced Meals](#). Remember that is one application per family. If you need assistance completing the application, please contact Mrs. Barrientos at esbarr@pgcps.org.
- If you filled out and sent the application over the summer, please complete the Application Status Form and return that to your child's teacher.
- Some families will receive a Spanish and an English version of the form once school resumes, but you only need to fill out ONE of the two. If you complete a physical copy of the application, return the form to each child's teacher.
- **We encourage ALL families to complete the form prior to the return of school.**



MOUNT RAINIER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Jennifer Till, Principal | jennifer.till@pgcps.org
4011 32nd Street | Mount Rainier, MD 20712 | 301-985-1810 | www.pgcps.org/mountrainier

Student Lunch Accounts

- Students will receive **6-digit PIN numbers** which will remain with them until they graduate.
- Parents and guardians are encouraged to prepay for meals by depositing funds into each student's account via online payment at Myschoolbucks.com. Food and Nutrition Services accepts cash, certified checks, or money orders at the registers. Personal checks are NOT accepted.

How to pay for lunch: www.pgcps.org/offices/food-and-nutrition/how-to-pay-for-lunch

No shots! No school!

For the health and safety of all, please ensure your PGCPS student is current on all vaccines required by the state before the beginning of this school year!

Prince George's County Health Department offers immunization clinics designed to support students and families that are underinsured or uninsured. Appointments are required and can be made here.

View immunization FAQs: <https://www.pgcps.org/offices/school-health/immunizations/faqs>

Get health forms:

<https://www.pgcps.org/offices/school-health/health-forms-for-parents-and-prescribers>

Did you know: Maryland residents can download/print out their official immunization records without having to go to their healthcare provider or local health department through Maryland MyIR (My Immunization Record), a free consumer access portal? This information can then be presented to schools at the parent/guardian's discretion.

Bus Routes

To secure school bus transportation for the start of the 2024 - 2025 school year, your student must be registered for school by **August 7**.

Bus schedules will be viewable in PGCPS ParentVUE beginning **August 12**.

Postcards with bus assignments will be mailed to families with students who are registered for school the week of **August 19**.

To opt out of bus transportation or to opt back in, contact your school registrar.

Need help? Transportation Resolution System <https://apps.pgcps.org/pls/apex/f?p=358:1>

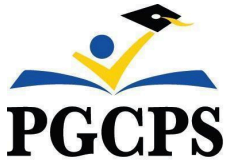
View info on 2024-25 school year improvements to school bus transportations to get students to and from school safely and on time. <https://www.pgcps.org/bus>

Download the school bus app, StopFinder, from the App Store or Google Play.

<https://stopfinder.com/faq/#1601560097542-4660c4a0-f170>

View Transportation FAQs:

<https://www.pgcps.org/offices/transportation/frequently-asked-questions>



MOUNT RAINIER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Jennifer Till, Principal | jennifer.till@pgcps.org
4011 32nd Street | Mount Rainier, MD 20712 | 301-985-1810 | www.pgcps.org/mountrainier

Enrollment

To find your neighborhood school please visit the PGCPS School Finder:

<https://gis.pgcps.org/schoolfinder/findschool2.asp>

Online registration is available for all parents through ParentVUE! A ParentVUE account is needed to register a new or returning student in PGCPS and for transfers within the county. Note: Do not attempt to create your ParentVUE account from a mobile phone browser; this will cause errors.

The ParentVUE app will be available for download by August 12.

If you do not have access to the internet or an electronic device, you can visit your child's school to complete the online registration process. <https://www.pgcps.org/schools>

Forms

Free and Reduced Price Meals Application: www.myschoolapps.com/Home/PickDistrict

Health Forms: www.pgcps.org/offices/school-health/health-forms-for-parents-and-prescribers

2024-25 Publicity Release Form:

www.pgcps.org/globalassets/offices/newsroom/docs---newsroom/pgcps-publicity-release-form.pdf

Apply to be a volunteer:

<https://www.pgcps.org/offices/ograc/volunteer#volunteer-process>

Some final reminders

- Be sure to sign up for Class Dojo with your child’s teacher. Important information and announcements will be posted on Class Dojo throughout the school year.
- In addition to Class Dojo, we will send out announcements through our School Messenger communication system. All of the information for families is gathered through Synergy.
- As a certified Green School, you will receive information, announcements, and the monthly principal’s newsletter electronically through Class Dojo, School Messenger, and the School Webpage.

Important Dates

Date	Event	Time
August 23, 2024	PreK/Kindergarten Student Orientation	9:00 am - 10:00 am*
August 23, 2024	Open House Grades 1 - 5	10:30 am - 11:30 am**
August 26, 2024	First Day of School	Arrival: 7:20 am - 7:30 am Dismissal 1:40 pm
September 12, 2024	Back to School Fair	6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

*School supply pick-up during PreK/K Orientation in the classroom

**School supply pick-up during Open House for grades 1 - 5 in the classroom