A Word from Principal Morris

Greetings! Welcome back! It is very exciting to greet our new students and families, and welcome our returning students and families, as well! Our Mays family continues to grow. It has been a very joyful start to the school year.

As we continue to build on the great start to the school year, I would like to give some tips on how to help your child be successful at school. Talk to your child about the importance of school safety. At Benjamin E. Mays IB World School, we expect every student to Be Respectful, Be Safe, and Be Responsible. Ask your child to explain what these expectations look like at school. Please get to know your child’s teacher. The partnership between family and teacher is extremely important. When the teacher and parent have a strong partnership, kids do better in school. Set school goals with your child. These goals can be either short term or long-term goals. Set routines for your child. Have a regular homework and bedtime. Also, set a consistent morning routine. Kids work much better when things are predictable. Rituals and routines are very important both at school and at home. Ask questions each and every day of school. This shows your child that you are interested in their education. Insist on them giving their best effort. If your child knows that school is important to you, it will be important to them.

Reminder: Our staff are not on duty until 8:15 each morning. In order to assure that kids are supervised at all times, please do not drop your child off at school before 8:15.

Also, it is very important that we stick to our dismissal procedures. If your child rides the bus home from school and you need to pick them up on a particular day, you must call the office by 2:00 p.m. We will not be getting children off the bus once they have boarded. This rule is in place for safety reasons. If your child is a parent pickup student, please be prompt in picking them up from school at 3:00 p.m. The school office closes at 3:30 p.m.

We are a uniform school. Students must come in uniform each and every day. We cannot make exceptions to this rule. Please help support our school by sending your child(ren) to school in proper uniform. The uniform is a tradition here at Mays and we need to respect the rich traditions of our school.

“FUN FACT: Our eyes are always the same size from birth, but our nose and ears never stop growing.”

~Unknown

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**CONTACT US:**

**Office:** (651) 325-2400  
**Fax:** (651) 325-2401  
**Nurse:** (651) 325-2786  
**Absentee Line:** (651) 325-2499  
**Parent Engagement:** (651) 325-2492  
**Address:** 560 Concordia Avenue  
**Saint Paul, MN 55103**  
**Website:** www.spps.org/mays

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**BEM CALENDAR:**

***PTA Meeting Dates:**  
912/4, 1/8, 4/16, 5/21

**iUpdate** available now  
www.spps.org/onestop

**Mays CAFÉ**  
Thursday, September 27  
5:30-7:30 p.m.

**Take Your Parent to School Dates:**  
10/2  Grade 2, 8:30-10:30  
10/3  Grade 1, 8:30-10:30  
10/4  Grade K, 8:30-10:30  
10/9  Mays Pre-K  
8:30-11:00  
( PM ½ day 12:30-3:00)  
10/10  Rondo Pre-K  
8:30-11:00

**Picture Day**  
Thursday, October 11  
Uniforms Required
Mays CAFÉ and Title I Night

What: Dinner and Discussion
When: Thursday, September 27, 5:30-7:30
Where: Benjamin E. Mays IB World School 560 Concordia Avenue
Why: to Encourage and Inform Action
Who: Parents, Guardians, Community Members, Teachers

Principal Morris invites you to join us Thursday, September 27 from 5:30-7:30 for dinner and discussion. Mays CAFÉ is a place to meet other parents, school staff, and concerned adults and plan together for the success of OUR STUDENTS. We need you at the table! During the evening, you will learn about Title I at Mays, enjoy dinner, and have conversations that shape what happens at Mays.

Childcare and a light meal provided. Transportation available upon request.

For more information, or to reserve your spot, Contact Karen Shanahan at (651) 325-2492 or karen.shanahan@spps.org

Participate in Your Classroom

At Mays, we have an open door visiting policy. You are invited to stop in at any time. Please remember when visiting that a teacher’s focus is on teaching whenever students are present. A teacher may not have time to talk with you immediately. We encourage you to make notes and contact the teacher at a later time by e-mail, phone, or text. This will allow the teacher to give your comments and questions his or her full attention.

For longer visits, please make arrangements with the teacher.

We value feedback from Parents!

Save the Date
Thursday, October 11
Picture Day
Uniforms Required
More information will be sent closer to the date.

Cheese!

Benjamin E Mays IB

PTA (Parent Teacher Association) kicked off the year with an introduction to events and participation at Mays during our first general meeting on September 9. Our next event is Mays CAFÉ, Thursday, September 27. Parents plan our CAFÉ. We hope to see you there!

Freedom School Starts
October 9
K-5 grade students apply for Freedom School Express (Mays after school program). Information at www.spps.org/mays

2018-2019 Attendance Policy

Attendance matters. According to the Benjamin E. Mays attendance policy, all student absences must be called in every day a student is absent. To report an absence, please call the attendance line at (651) 325-2499. Students who arrive after 8:30 will be marked tardy. Students who leave before 3:00 need to be signed out and provide a valid excuse.

Please plan appointments outside of school hours whenever possible. School is in session between 8:30-3:00. If a student misses part of the day for a medical appointment, please bring a doctor’s note to the office. Thank you.

“To Build a Learning Community for all Globally Minded Life-Long Learners”