



Saint Paul  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Benjamin E. Mays IB World School

November 15, 2020

# Inquirer's Journey



## Message from Dr. Turner, Principal

I hope everyone is staying safe during this time and taking care of yourself and loved ones. I want to provide all our families a few things that are coming.

Parent Teacher Conferences are Tuesday the 17th from 3-6 pm, Thursday the 19th from 3-6 pm and Friday the 20th from 8:30-2 pm. We look forward to seeing you. If you're not able to make it, this is the link for you to get your child(s) report cards

<https://www.spps.org/ONESTOP>.

If you haven't completed your child(s) Free and Reduced Meal Application, it is important to still complete this form. The link for information on Nutrition Services and Free & Reduced Meal Applications is <https://www.spps.org/Page/34308> . Complete the application here: <https://www.schoolcafe.com/spps>

For those parents that haven't completed the Early Learning Scholarship, it has been put in the mail today. Please fill it out and return to us as soon as possible.

We have another 3 days scheduled for parents to come get school supplies: November 23, 1-6 pm; November 24, 1-6 pm; and November 25, 1-6 pm.

Our mission at Benjamin E Mays IB World School is that all of our scholars are reading at grade level by grade 3. We have created IB/Literacy Fridays which will focus on doing IB activities during scholars synchronous & asynchronous times. IB/Literacy Fridays will also focus on areas in Reading and Writing and provide support and practice for our scholars.

We want to continue to push our scholars to read and write at least 20-30 minutes per day.

Please take care of yourselves and your families.

In Partnership, Dr. Turner (Principal)

## FALL CONFERENCES

At Benjamin E. Mays IB World School, we know communication between home and school is important. Family Conferences are a good time to connect with your child's teacher. Parents provide key insights on their child. Teachers can inform parents of progress in the classroom. Together, parents, teachers, and students can set goals for success.

Conferences will be held on Google Meet:

- Tuesday, November 17, 3:00-6:00pm
- Thursday, November 19, 3:00-6:00pm
- Friday, November 20, 8:30am-2:00pm

Teachers will contact families with the information to join their conference on Google Meet. Contact your child's teacher if you have any questions regarding conferences.

The Global Family Research Project has been studying family engagement for years. They have developed strategies for principals, teachers and families to get the greatest benefit from conferences. For more information on the Global Family Research Project strategies for conferences follow this [link](#).



## CONTACT

- Office: (651) 325-2400 [mays@spps.org](mailto:mays@spps.org)
- Attendance: (651) 325-2499  
[mays.attendance@spps.org](mailto:mays.attendance@spps.org)
- Family Liaison, Karen Shanahan: (651) 325-2492  
[karen.shanahan@spps.org](mailto:karen.shanahan@spps.org)
- Technology Services: (651) 603-4348  
[familysupport@spps.org](mailto:familysupport@spps.org)
- Benjamin E. Mays IB World School Directory ([link](#))

## RESTORATIVE PRACTICES & PBIS

Our apologies to those of you who tried to join our Restorative Practices (RP) Parent Circle last Thursday. We were looking forward to more conversations that explore our Mays community and life as a parent during the pandemic. Unfortunately, our Zoom link failed and we were unable to connect. The RP Parent Circle will be rescheduled and information sent to families soon. This time our platform will be Google Meet.

In our weekly Bulldog Bulletin videos, we are wanting students to record a video of themselves reciting our [School Challenge](#). Please send the videos to Mrs. Yang at [grace.yang@spps.org](mailto:grace.yang@spps.org). Also, students can submit a video of themselves asking teachers a question. Some examples of questions are: What is your favorite thing to eat? What is your favorite instrument? Please submit those question videos to Mrs. Yang as well. Your child will be featured in our Bulldog Bulletin videos. Thank you so much!

## TOYS FOR TOTS

Toys for Tots is a program run by the United States Marine Corps Reserve which distributes toys to children whose parents would like assistance with gifts for Christmas. The program was founded in 1947 by reservist Major Bill Hendricks.

As a Saint Paul Promise Neighborhood (SPPN) school, Benjamin E Mays IB World School participates in Toys for Tots. Follow this [link to register](#) for the Toys for Tots Program. You must have a child who attends Mays to participate in the program. Enrollment will be checked before processing registrations.

SPPN staff will contact families with a date/time for pick-up and an identifying registrant number.

## FREE SCHOOL SUPPLY PICK UP

- Monday, November 23, 1:00-6:00pm
- Tuesday, November 25, 1:00-6:00pm

- Wednesday, November 25, 1:00-6:00pm

Please come to the Yellow Doors on the west side of the building (the doors outside the Mays office) for a curbside school supply pick up. Do not leave your car. Staff will assist you. There will be two different supply kits available, one for PreK – 2 grade and another for 3 – 5 grade.

## VISITING, VOLUNTEERING & QUESTIONS

Mays has long had an open-door visiting policy. While we are not physically in the school during distance learning, we still welcome you to participate and volunteer in your child's class. In addition to attending events like Family Days and Fall Conferences, we want you to know you are welcome to join synchronous learning times with your child.

If you, or your child, have questions, you may want to take advantage of teacher office hours. Office hours are held on Google Meet. For the Meet code to the office hour, check your child's Seesaw or Schoology classroom or contact their teacher. Office hours are:

- PreK – 11:00-12:00 Monday-Friday
- Kindergarten – 9:40-10:30 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday
- 1<sup>st</sup> grade – 9:20-10:00 Monday-Friday
- 2<sup>nd</sup> grade – 10:30-11:30 Monday-Friday
- 3<sup>rd</sup> grade – 11:30-12:30 Monday-Friday
- 4<sup>th</sup> grade – 9:30-10:30 Monday-Friday
- 5<sup>th</sup> grade – 9:30-10:30 Monday-Friday
- ASD Ms. Kellogg – 11:30-12:15 Monday-Friday
- ASD Mr. Knudsen – 1:00-2:00 Monday-Friday
- ASD Mr. Jay – 12:00-1:00 Monday/Wednesday
- ASD Mr. M – 9:00-11:00 Friday

Our website, [spps.org/mays](http://spps.org/mays), is also a great resource with information on events, IB, classroom schedules and more.

### Calendar

- Tuesday, November 17, 3:00-6:00pm – Parent Teacher Conferences
- Thursday, November 19, 3:00-6:00pm – Parent Teacher Conferences
- NO SCHOOL **PreK only** Thursday, November 19
- Friday, November 20, 8:30am-2:00pm – Parent Teacher Conferences
- NO SCHOOL **PreK-12** Friday, November 20 due to Fall Conferences
- Monday, November 23, 1:00-6:00pm – Curbside School Supply Pick Up
- Tuesday, November 24, 1:00-6:00pm – Curbside School Supply Pick Up
- Wednesday, November 25, 1:00-6:00pm – Curbside School Supply Pick Up
- NO SCHOOL **PreK-12** Thursday & Friday, November 26 & 27 – Thanksgiving Break



