



Saint Paul  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

# 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.

If you haven't completed your child's Free & Reduced Meal Application, it is important to still complete this form. The link to the website with school lunch info:

<https://www.spps.org/Page/34308>. Complete the application here:

<https://www.schoolcafe.com/spps>

Our mission at Benjamin E Mays IB World School is for all of our scholars to read 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 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)

### 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](#)

### MAYS GEAR IS HERE

Show your school spirit! Online store now open:

<https://benjaminemays2020-2.itemorder.com/sale>

Order NOW through DECEMBER 22. Clothing will arrive in 2021.

Gear Up and Rep!

### PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION

All Mays parents, guardians, and staff are invited to join us for the PTA Meeting Tuesday, December 8, 6:00-7:00pm.

PTA is parents and teachers gathering together to support our children. On December 8, we will look at the implementation of our School Continuous Improvement Plan (SCIP) and discuss *What's Working Well*.

Join us on Google Meet

<https://meet.google.com/xuk-qaju-ffz>



## CALENDAR

- Tuesday, December 8, 6:00-7:00pm – PTA Meeting all our welcome
- Thursday, December 10, 7:00-8:00pm – RP Parent Circle
- Saturday, December 19, 9:00am-3:00pm – Toys for Tots pick up
- Tuesday, December 22 – Mays Gear sale ends
- NO SCHOOL Wednesday, December 23-Friday, January 1 – Winter Break
- Monday, January 4 – classes resume

## iUpdate - KEEP CONNECTED

Help us keep in contact with you by completing iUpdate yearly, and updating contact information as needed.

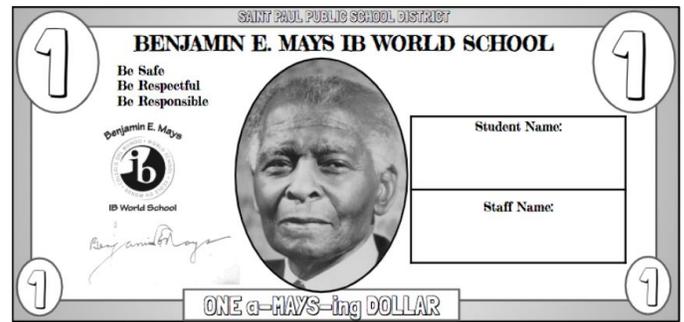
iUpdate is an online tool for parents/guardians to complete back-to-school forms, including contact and address changes, field trip forms and the Technology Use Agreement. iUpdate is accessed through One Stop on the St. Paul Public Schools website.

If you need to update contact information after submitting iUpdate, call Mays at (651) 325-2400.

## TOYS for TOTS

Registration for the Toys for Tots program facilitated by Hallie Q. Brown and the Saint Paul Promise Neighborhood (SPPN) is closed. Pick up numbers, and specific times, will be mailed to families who submitted a form by November 20. Toys for Tots pick up is Saturday, December 19, 9:00am-3:00pm. Contact Jolene Mason ([Jolene.Mason@wilder.org](mailto:Jolene.Mason@wilder.org)) if you have questions.

## RESTORATIVE PRACTICES & PBIS



Starting Monday, November 30th, students will be able to earn virtual Mays money for being safe, respectful, and responsible while learning online. If the school reaches their goal of earning \$5,000 by December 21st, assistant principal Mr. A and principal Dr. Turner will each have to complete a challenge. Let's work harder together to see what challenges our leaders will have to complete!

## COVID-19 HOUSING ASSISTANCE

The COVID-19 Housing Assistance Program provides housing assistance payments to help prevent eviction, prevent homelessness, and maintain housing stability for eligible renters and homeowners.

**The deadline to apply for the COVID-19 Housing Assistance program is Monday, December 7 at 11:59 p.m. Start your pre-application [here](#) or complete your full application [here](#).**

COVID-19 Housing Assistance Program translated information: [Spanish](#), [Hmong](#), [Somali](#)

**Restorative Practices  
Parent Circle**

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10TH  
7:00PM-8:00PM  
GOOGLE MEETS

[HTTPS://MEET.GOOGLE.COM/AXY-GNDW-BCK](https://meet.google.com/axy-gndw-bck)



# IB at Home – Take an Inquiry Stance

Benjamin E. Mays IB World School is an International Baccalaureate (IB) Primary Years Programme (PYP) school. An IB education develops lifelong learners. As your child's first teacher, you play an important role in helping them take their learning deeper. Below are 5 simple ways you can support your child's IB learning at home. These 5 strategies will help you help your child become a lifelong learner. Each month we will look at one of these 5 strategies.



**Take an Inquiry stance**

**MEET A QUESTION WITH A QUESTION**  
How could you find that out?

**BE PREPARED TO INQUIRE TOGETHER**  
Let's figure it out together!

**ASK AN OPEN-ENDED QUESTION**  
What do you notice?

**BE A LEARNER**  
Here is how I'm going to find out

This month, we will be looking at **“Take an Inquiry stance”**

**What do we mean by inquiry?** Inquiry is one of the most important approaches of the Primary Years Programme (PYP). It recognizes students as being actively involved in their own learning and as taking responsibility for that learning. Inquiry nurtures curiosity and promotes enthusiasm for life-long learning. Inquiry involves:

- exploring, wondering and questioning
- experimenting and playing with possibilities
- making connections between previous learning and current learning
- making predictions and acting purposefully to see what happens
- researching and seeking information
- establishing and testing theories
- solving problems in a variety of ways

So, what does it look like to “take an inquiry stance” at home?

- **Meet a question with a question.**
  - When your child asks a question, instead of immediately trying to answer it, ask “How could you find that out?”
- **Be prepared to inquire together.**
  - After asking your child “How could you figure that out,” follow it up by helping and supporting them in finding answers to their questions.
- **Ask an open-ended question.**
  - Asking questions like “What do you notice?” helps your child to notice patterns and make connections in the world around them.
- **Be a learner.**
  - Model for your child how you figure out answers to your own questions.

