



**FAMILY and STUDENT
HANDBOOK
2018-2019**

WELCOME

Welcome to McKinley-Thatcher Elementary School! Please carefully review the topics covered in this edition of the Family/Student Handbook. It is our hope that presenting this important information in one location will be a useful resource to use throughout the school year. If you have any questions about information in this handbook, please don't hesitate to reach out to school staff.

MISSION & VISION

MISSION:

McKinley-Thatcher fosters a love of learning through experiential education, individualized approaches, and supporting the growth of the whole child.

VISION:

McKinley-Thatcher inspires authentic, joyful learners who are ready to explore the world. Students achieve academic excellence supported by teachers and staff who create 21st century learning environments, and foster social and emotional development.

FOCUS AREAS:

McKinley-Thatcher has four core focus areas for 2018-2021 which support the mission and vision of the school.

1. **Experiential Learning:** Develop authentic learning experiences by providing a hands-on environment for inquiry, community connection, and exploration of global perspectives.
2. **Individualized Learning:** Research and implement learning approaches that enhance individualized goal setting and student preference for demonstrating skills and progress.
3. **Social and Emotional Growth:** Support and facilitate opportunities for students to acquire the skills necessary to manage emotions, have empathy, develop resilience, and maintain positive relationships in our inclusive community.
4. **Organizational Excellence:** Provide a progressive and supportive community that recruits, retains, and develops educators committed to supporting the 21st century learner.

SCHOOL HOURS

SCHOOL DAY: 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Office Hours: 7:30 AM – 4:00 PM (3:30 PM on Friday)

Before School Playground Supervision: 7:40 AM – 7:55 AM

Breakfast: 7:30 AM– 7:55 AM

Discovery Link Before and After School Care: 6:30 AM – 8:00 AM and 3:00 PM – 6:00 PM (registration required)

LUNCH / RECESS SCHEDULE:

ECE-4: 11:45 – 12:15 lunch

Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd Grades: 11:15 – 11:40 lunch / 11:40 – 12:00 recess

3rd/4th/5th Grades: 11:15 – 11:40 recess / 11:40 – 12:00 lunch

ACADEMICS

PROGRESS REPORTS

Progress reports based on students' proficiency on the standards are issued 3 times a year on a trimester basis. Conferences with families shall be held for every child during the fall, and as needed in spring (to be arranged with teachers).

HOMEWORK

Homework at McKinley-Thatcher serves the following purposes:

- Provides an opportunity for students to practice skills learned in class
- Provides additional time needed to complete an assignment given during the school day
- Teaches students responsibility and planning
- Enriches and extends learning
- Provides opportunities for families to work together

We have set average times for homework, by grade level, based on research. These are averages, so some nights there may be more time needed for homework, other nights less time will be needed. It is ALWAYS great to read on the weekends and practice math facts with your students! Thank you for your help in creating academic opportunities at home. Homework is typically not assigned over the weekends, so our families can use weekends for activities together.

- Kindergarten: Up to 10 minutes per evening, plus 15 minutes of reading
- Grade 1: 10 minutes per evening, plus 15 minutes of reading
- Grade 2: 20 minutes per evening, plus 15 minutes of reading
- Grade 3: 30 minutes per evening, plus 30 minutes of reading
- Grade 4: 40 minutes per evening, plus 30 minutes of reading
- Grade 5: 50 minutes per evening, plus 30 minutes of reading

MAKEUP WORK

It is important that students absent from school complete their make-up work. It is the responsibility of the student and family to initiate requests for makeup work. Makeup work should reflect class assignments missed during an absence, and a reasonable amount of time should be allowed for its completion. Time allowed to complete make up work is twice the number of classes or days missed. (District Policy JH-R)

HOMEWORK REQUESTS

In the event that your child is absent or must miss school for an extended period of time, we ask that you follow these homework request procedures. Makeup work will be provided by the school for excused and unexcused absences. Teachers need at least one-day notice (24 hours) in order to have time to prepare the necessary make-up work for the student or two days (48 hours) if the student will be gone for an extended time. Students will likely have additional assignments to make up upon their return as it is difficult to anticipate all assignment components ahead of time. Please remember, there is no substitute for active learning. Making up an assignment cannot replace being present for high quality instruction, interaction, feedback and collaboration. In order to avoid classroom interruptions, we request that parents pick homework up after 3:00 pm, when students have been dismissed.

ANIMALS ON CAMPUS

Denver City Ordinances prohibit having dogs or other animals on school grounds (this includes buildings, playground and parking lots). Please respect this ordinance even after school hours and on weekends. We recognize that some dogs are service animals and are exempt from the above policy. However, please be cognizant of potential student allergies and/or fears children may have of dogs.

ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

We're working hard to maintain smooth and safe drop-off and pick-up processes as our school grows and changes. There is supervision for students grades K-5 for breakfast in the cafeteria beginning at 7:30 AM. Outside playground supervision begins at 7:40 AM daily. A parent or guardian should accompany ECE students until they are signed in to their classrooms at 8:00 AM.

Students may be dropped off at the front door or in the back playground area of the school. For families that drive to school, please use our kiss-and-go system (drop off your child at the curb and they will be greeted by school staff) or park in the neighborhood if you prefer to escort your child into the building. Due to the fire lane, no parking areas, and congestion on Grant Street, we cannot accommodate parking in the north lot before school. Dropping off students or parking in the staff parking lot (west lot) is prohibited, as the lot also serves as a walkway for our students coming to and from school.

Students may not be dropped off at school before 7:30 AM, or left on school property after 3:00 PM, except for a specific function (e.g., Discovery Link Programming, enrichment classes, etc.). Parents or caregivers should pick up students on the playground at 3:00 PM. There is no after school playground supervision. Students not picked up by 3:10 PM will be brought to the office and parents will be contacted. Subsequent violations may result in additional measures, including reports to Social Services and/or the Denver Police Department.

DPS Discovery Link provides an on-site program for families who need before or after school care. Please contact them directly at (720) 423-1781 for fees, availability, and registration information, or visit: <http://discoverylink.dpsk12.org>.

PARKING

During drop-off or pick-up times, please park on the neighborhood streets surrounding the school. During the school day, if there are spaces available, please park in the north lot, outside the front entrance. This is a city of Denver parking lot, and is not McKinley-Thatcher property. Neighbors and concerned citizens request that we follow all posted no parking signs (and they will notify Denver Police when our cars are parked illegally!). Cars parked in the handicapped spaces, the fire lane, and designated no parking areas are subject to ticketing by the Denver Police Dept. Please do not park in bus loading areas, handicap parking areas, or in the west staff parking lot. We have more staff members than parking places, and a number of our staff have to park on the street or in the public lot. Unfortunately, the west lot (staff parking) is too small to accommodate parent parking, even outside of drop off and pick up times.

BICYCLES

Bicycles may be ridden to and from school. Bicycles should be locked in one of the bike racks in the front or back of the building, and they are not to be moved during the school day. Students are asked to please walk their bicycle on school grounds between 7:30 AM and 3:30 PM. Students are required to wear a helmet. Wheelies or Heelies are not allowed at school. Skateboards and scooters must be left in the main office during the school day, if ridden to school.

ASSESSMENTS

McKinley-Thatcher recognizes the importance of standardized tests in today's society, although we consider them only one indicator of a student's abilities or success. McKinley-Thatcher teachers use multiple measures to determine students' needs and progress. The assessments below are administered to McKinley-Thatcher students:

- 3rd – 5th grades take online CMAS/PARCC tests in language arts and math. 4th graders will take the online CMAS social studies assessment; 5th graders take the online CMAS in science.
- 3rd-5th grades take DPS interim assessments three times a year for English Language Arts and Mathematics
- All English Language Learners (ELLs) take the ACCESS test to measure English proficiency.
- All new ELLs to the district take the W-APT placement assessment.

- K-5 students take on-going literacy and math unit assessments.
- K-5 reading assessments include monthly iStation (online) assessments, and oral reading assessments.
- ECE and Kindergarten students are assessed according to the Teaching Strategies Gold Standards at multiple checkpoints throughout the school year.

ATTENDANCE

ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS

Our goal for student attendance is 95% of school days attended, for every child in the school. Regular attendance is very important to maintain a consistent learning environment and maximize learning for all of our students. School begins each morning at 7:55 AM on the playground as teachers escort their students into the classroom. Please make sure that your child is on the playground by 7:55 AM every morning, or seated in their classroom by 8:00 AM.

Excessive absences and tardies disrupt the climate and culture for your child and their entire class. Please make every attempt to schedule family holidays and appointments in alignment with the Denver Public Schools (DPS) calendar. The DPS school calendar is available at www.dpsk12.org/calendars and can also be found on the McKinley-Thatcher website at www.mckinleythatcher.com or on the McKinley-Thatcher APP.

If your child has a fever, uncontrollable cough or has vomited in the past 24 hours, please keep your child at home and complete the absence form on our school APP or notify the office attendance line at 720.424.5609. This line only receives messages and is available 24 hours a day. If the office has not heard from an absent child's family by 9:00 AM, the audio dialer will call to assure that the child is home. A student must work twice as hard the next day to catch up on missed information and missed homework. The U.S. Department of Education maintains that for every missed day of school, it takes a student two days to catch up. Please be responsible to make sure that your student arrives at school on time and is ready to learn as many days of the school year as possible.

EXCUSED ABSENCES

An excused absence means that a student is absent for a reason identified within the attendance policy, set by local school board of education as declared in 22-33-104(4)(a) C.R.S. which may include, but is not limited to: funerals, illness, injury, legal obligations, medical procedures and religious observations. The following shall be considered an excused absence (or excused tardies):

- A student who is temporarily ill or injured, or whose absence is approved by the administrator of the school of attendance on a prearranged basis. Prearranged absences shall be approved for appointments or circumstances of a serious nature that cannot be taken care of outside of school hours.
- A student who is absent for an extended period due to physical, mental or emotional disability.
- A student who is attending any school-sponsored activity or activities of an educational nature with advance approval by the administration.
- A student who is absent in observance of an established religious holiday.
- A student who is attending a funeral will have up to 3 days excused for travel. Prior approval by the Principal is needed for any extensions.

UNEXCUSED ABSENCES/TARDIES

An unexcused absence/tardy is defined as an absence/tardy that is not covered by one of the reasons previously listed.

MEDICAL AND OTHER APPOINTMENTS

Whenever possible, please schedule your child's medical or other appointments outside of school hours. Please sign your child in and out at the main office when leaving early for the day or leaving and returning the same day.

Per DPS Policy, a doctor's note is required for excessive absences. If a student is absent from school for more than two consecutive days due to illness please provide a doctor's note excusing the absence. Our school psychologist will contact families with attendance concerns to provide support and information about DPS expectations.

EXCESSIVE TARDIES

Students who are tardy on a regular basis missing the first instruction sequence of the school day and are also disruptive to the class when they arrive. Please make every effort to have your children arrive at school on time. The first bell rings at 7:55 AM. Teachers will pick up their classes outside at 7:55 AM, and students are tardy if they are not in the classroom by 8:00 AM. If a student is tardy, they must check-in at the main office and receive a tardy slip to give to their teacher. This process ensures that the office staff update the student's attendance record. Parents should walk late students into the building and sign them in for safety reasons.

Tardies are excused when accompanied by a note or appointment card from a health care professional or other appointment. All tardies without a written note, and for all other reasons, constitute an unexcused tardy.

HABITUAL TRUANCY

Habitually truant means that a student has four total days of unexcused absences from school in one calendar month or ten total days of unexcused absences from school during the reported school year in congruence with DPS policy C.R.S. 22-33-107(3)(a). Excessive tardies can lead to habitually truant behavior, and will be followed up with official letters to parents/guardians. Families of students with excessive absences will be required to meet with the school attendance officer (school psychologist), and families may be referred to governing officials through the truancy system.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Feel free to coordinate a small birthday celebration with your child's teacher. These celebrations should not take more than 10 minutes of instructional time. Please ask your child's teacher about the best time of the day to celebrate. Store-bought treats are recommended due to student allergies and dietary needs. If homemade treats are brought to the class, please provide a detailed ingredient list to the teacher. As we strive to optimize every student's health, please consider a non-sweet treat. Families may provide fruits and vegetables in lieu of cupcakes or ice cream, or consider leading a game or craft activity for the birthday celebration.

CELL PHONES / ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Students should not bring cell phones or other electronic devices to school. If a child needs to bring a cell phone, computer, or other device to school, it should be turned off and left in the student's backpack all day. McKinley-Thatcher is not responsible for electronic devices that are lost, damaged or stolen on school property. Students may use a school phone (office or classroom) with a staff member's permission.

CLASSROOM INTERRUPTIONS

Our school team works diligently to minimize classroom interruptions so that students and teachers may fully take advantage of all opportunities for learning time in the classroom. To maximize instructional time, we have the following expectations, which permit necessary communication while protecting student instructional time:

- Parents needing to leave emergency messages may do so by contacting the school office by 2:30 PM. Office staff will ensure the student gets the message through their teacher prior to dismissal. All other parent concerns will be transferred to teacher's voicemail. Teachers will return calls within a 24-hour period.
- Any article to be delivered to children must be brought to the office, not taken to classrooms (i.e., glasses, money, books, homework, etc.)
- If it is necessary to pick up your child from school during school hours, please report directly to the office to sign your child out. A staff member will call your child to the main office to meet you there.

COMMUNICATIONS

Each child at McKinley-Thatcher Elementary is given a red “Friday Folder” that they will bring home each week. It contains your child’s school work for that week, as well as important information from the school and community. General information and announcements are distributed electronically through our weekly newsletter, News From The Nest. Newsletter documents are archived on the McKinley-Thatcher Elementary website under on the News page. Time sensitive announcements are email “blasted” to parents, so please make sure that the office has your current email address. If you are not receiving our Newsletter every Friday, please contact the office so that we can correct this since it is our primary source of communication. We encourage families to utilize our school APP to receive instant notification of school news or emergencies. In addition, grade-level teachers send home monthly newsletters to update you about the specific units of study that your child is engaged in, upcoming events, and ways to support learning at home.

CONFERENCES

If you wish to meet with a teacher, please contact the teacher in advance to schedule a time convenient to both of you. Teachers use time before school for planning and collaboration. Please respect this time. There are scheduled Parent/Teacher conferences twice each year. Teachers hold conferences before and after school during a two-week window in the fall, and as needed during the Spring.

DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES

At McKinley-Thatcher, different levels of intervention will be considered when conflicts arise. Teachers will handle most conflicts and problems that occur in the classroom. Students are provided an opportunity to reflect on and share his/her perspective of the incident. Consequences and behavioral supports may include one-on-one counseling, time-out, in-school community service, parent contacts, scheduled conferences, etc. If behavior problems continue, or when a major behavior occurs, an office referral will be given and students will solve problems with school leadership. In the case of serious or egregious concerns, the Principal may consider In-School or Out-of-School Suspension to help support students’ positive school adjustment. If a student is suspended, a meeting will be held with the parents(s), the child, the Principal, and any appropriate teachers to discuss and develop a plan before a student returns to school.

McKinley-Thatcher teachers follow the DPS District Discipline Ladder. For a complete description of the Denver Public Schools discipline policies, please refer to the DPS web site. A description of “major” and “minor” behaviors is available upon request. For more in depth information on any part of the Discipline ladder, please refer to DPS discipline matrix and policies:

- http://webdata.dpsk12.org/policy/pdf/Policy_JK-R_Attachment_B.pdf
- http://webdata.dpsk12.org/policy/pdf/Policy_JK-R_Attachment_C.pdf

Note: If the Principal is out of the building, an acting administrator is always designated. This person will have the authority to take action that is appropriate and consistent with the policies outlined here.

DRESS CODE

Student dress is an essential aspect of creating a school environment that is safe and conducive to learning. Student dress and personal appearance shall meet reasonable standards of cleanliness and safety and show respect for others. Skirts and shorts must be fingertip or longer in length (with arms and hands fully extended) in length. For younger girls, please have them wear shorts under their skirts since they are quite active on the playground!

Shirts should cover stomachs and backs and must have straps that are at least 2 adult fingers wide. Bare midriffs, halter-tops, spaghetti straps, or muscle shirts are not allowed. Sunglasses and hats may be worn only outside of the building, and footwear needs to be safe and appropriate for school activities (no rubber-soled thongs/flip-flops). Exceptions to the dress code may be made by the principal for religious or medical reasons.

Children should dress appropriately for cold weather (coat, hat, gloves and snow boots), as they will go outside daily for recess if it is over 20 degrees outside.

Clothing that has writing or pictures that include inappropriate references to drugs, gangs, sex, violence, profanity, alcohol, or tobacco are not allowed. If inappropriate clothing is worn to school, parents will be contacted and students will be asked to change or cover clothing.

FOOD SERVICE

We serve hot lunch daily for students who choose this option. Lunch is available for \$2.00 (or \$0.40 for students who qualify for reduced lunch). Assistance for applying for the Free and Reduced Lunch Program is available in the office. Families are encouraged to purchase lunches by the week or month. You may write a check payable to McKinley-Thatcher Elementary to pay for lunches. The money can be paid directly to the lunchroom after 10:30 AM Monday through Friday, or may be given to the office staff to be placed in the cafeteria's mailbox. Additionally, you can pay for school lunches via the McKinley-Thatcher website and APP. The online payment system is recommended so that balances may be easily monitored.

If a child's lunch money is lost or forgotten, a lunch will be provided and the price of the meal will be charged to the student's account. A student is not allowed to 'charge' more than \$6.00 on their account. For more information, or to learn about the free and reduced lunch program, please see: <http://foodservices.dpsk12.org/>

Lunches may also be brought from home. Please write the child's name on the sack or lunch box. Soft drinks (soda) may not be brought in sack lunches. Students who bring peanut products in their lunches will be asked to eat in a designated area for the safety of students with peanut allergies.

Free breakfast is provided to all McKinley-Thatcher students from 7:30 – 7:55 AM, Monday through Friday. It is important that students arrive on before school starts, as they will not be allowed to stay in the cafeteria to eat after the bell rings. McKinley-Thatcher staff will supervise students and then send them outside promptly at 7:55 AM to line up with their teachers. Students do not need money in their accounts to eat breakfast.

ECE students must be accompanied by a parent or guardian while they are eating breakfast, and until they are signed in to their classrooms at 8:00 AM.

HEALTH AND EMERGENCIES

ALLERGIES AND FOOD INTOLERANCES

The school should be informed of any known allergies that could endanger a student's life, especially bee stings, food, or medication that causes severe or life threatening reactions. In the case of intolerance to milk or other foods, the Federal Hot Lunch Program requires a physician's note if the food or milk is not to be served to your child. As of October 1, 2016 peanut products will no longer be served in the McKinley-Thatcher cafeteria, nor allowed in classrooms.

IMMUNIZATIONS

The State of Colorado requires evidence of immunization for school enrollment. A child entering school must meet the requirements for each vaccine, or have a signed Statement of Exemption. A child may be denied entry into school until this information is provided. Immunization requirements for the State of Colorado can be found at the following website: <http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/dc/Immunization/index.html>

MEDICATION GUIDELINES

If a student needs medication at school, the following requirements must be met for prescription and over-the-counter medications:

- Doctor's orders and written permission from the parent must be provided for the school to administer the medication. Forms are available in the school office. Forms must be completed before medication can be administered.
- Medication must carry a prescription label with the child's name, drug identity, dosage instructions, doctor's name, and prescription date, and the medication must be in the original container.
- The prescription must be current (not expired).
- Over-the-counter medication also requires a need written doctor's permission prior to dispensing at school.

All medication must be turned in to the office and not carried by students. Please do not send pills or capsules in plastic bags, or over-the-counter medications such as aspirin or cough drops. Medications will be locked in the school office and dispensed by designated office staff. Our nurse is in the building only one day per week (Wednesday). Students are not permitted to carry medications, including cough drops, inhalers, and epi-pens.

STUDENT ILLNESS GUIDELINES

The following guidelines are necessary to help ensure the health of our students and staff. If your child exhibits the following symptoms do not send them to school:

- If the child has been vomiting in the previous 24-hour period.
- If the child has a fever of 100 degrees (F), or greater, or has been running a fever during the night.
- If the child has been diagnosed with strep throat he/she must be on antibiotics for at least 24 hours before returning to school.

ILLNESS

If a child becomes ill, develops a fever, or is injured at school, the nurse or a member of the office staff will contact the family and supervise the child until pick-up. Calls will be made using numbers on the emergency form provided during registration. (Pick-up should occur within 30 minutes or the next emergency contact on your list will be called.) In cases of emergency, we will call 911. Please keep your child's emergency information updated.

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

911 will be called when an extremely severe (life threatening) medical emergency arises. In the case of a serious illness or injury, the family will be called at the phone numbers listed in order of priority designation. If the family cannot be reached at home or at work, designated emergency contacts will be called. Every attempt is made to notify the family when there is a serious injury. It is extremely important that your child's emergency contact information is current at all times. Please inform the school office of any changes in residence, employment, and/or phone numbers that occur during the school year.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

When the weather conditions prevent children from being outside before school, they will gather in the school gymnasium at the regular drop-off supervision time (7:40 AM). If it is raining or snowing after school, parents and caregivers will pick ECE & kindergarten children up from their classrooms and first-fifth graders outside, per our standard procedure. During the colder months, temperatures must be 20 degrees or warmer for students to play outside. We will also take the conditions of the field and playground equipment into account when making decisions to relocate inside during colder, snowy days.

In the case of severe storms, school will be in session unless closings are announced on the DPS website (www.dpsk12.org), local radio, or TV. Radio stations KOA 850 or KBNA 1220 are the official announcement stations for school closing information. TV stations begin announcements at 5:00 AM.

If it is announced that the Denver Public Schools are on a “late start schedule” this does NOT impact McKinley-Thatcher start times. We are NOT a late-start school and will always have a consistent 8:00 AM start time, regardless of the weather.

LOST AND FOUND

Lost and found items are located in the hallway leading to the cafeteria. Small items, such as glasses, are held with the office staff. Please mark your child’s name inside all jackets, lunch boxes, backpacks and anything else they might lose! The school is not responsible for lost items. Several times during the year we will donate unclaimed items to local charities.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION SYSTEM

The staff of McKinley-Thatcher has worked collaboratively to identify School Values and imbed the teaching of these values into our daily lessons and interactions with students, staff, parents and our community. At McKinley Thatcher,

- students are taught and expected to exhibit strong character traits, including our School Values
- staff uses shared language to communicate behavioral expectations clearly
- students’ social and emotional needs are supported
- teachers are supported in providing strategies for positive classroom management and discipline, and
- recognition and celebrations of positive student behavior are implemented school-wide.

We ask that families partner with us to maintain a positive school culture and reinforce the School Values at home. Our School Values are:

- **Be Kind and Considerate**
 - We treat others the way we want to be treated.
 - We have positive attitudes.
 - We support each other.
 - We act with empathy.
- **Work Together**
 - We share our ideas and listen to each other’s ideas.
 - We encourage each other and resolve conflicts together.
 - We accomplish our goals together and celebrate our success.
- **Challenge Yourself**
 - We keep trying and stay focused when things are difficult.
 - We have high expectations for ourselves.

- We take pride in our work and always do our best.
- We turn challenges into opportunities to grow.
- **Lead by Example**
 - We do what is right, even when no one is looking.
 - We are problem-solvers.
 - We are honest and we take responsibility for our actions.
 - We work hard to keep our community strong.

SNACKS

SNACK POLICY

All grades (ECE-5) have a designated snack time each day. Students are responsible for providing their own snack. Snacks need to be nutritious; please do not send foods high in fat or sugar content. A recommended snack list is provided below. If your child has a medical need for a snack at a different time of the day, you will need to provide a statement from your doctor and the teacher will help your child work out a routine. Please remember that nuts (peanuts and all tree nuts) are NOT allowed in snacks in any classroom. Snacks should not require preparation, cutting, or peeling. Utensils are not provided for snacks, so finger-foods are best.

RECOMMENDED SNACKS:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------|
| • fresh fruit, ready prepared | • apple sauce |
| • fresh vegetables, ready prepared | • crackers |
| • yogurt | • cereal |
| • cheese sticks | • granola bars |
| • raisins | |

TOYS AND PERSONAL BELONGINGS

Students may not bring toys, cards, games, balls, electronics or other personal, non-essential belongings to school. Loss of, or damage to, personal belongings often occurs when these items are brought to school. “Fidget spinners” are considered toys unless specifically identified in a behavior support plan created with the teacher, student, and family.

VISITORS AND VOLUNTEERS

Parents are welcome and encouraged to visit and volunteer at McKinley-Thatcher Elementary. To visit or volunteer in your child’s classroom, please contact the teacher, at least 24 hours in advance to make arrangements. For safety and security purposes, all visitors must stop at the Office to sign in and pick up a visitor badge. This is a DPS policy requirement as we are responsible for the safety of everyone in our building. Students are not allowed to bring students from other schools (e.g. friends, brothers, sisters or cousins) to visit during the school day due to district insurance regulations.

All volunteers are required to complete a DPS background check before spending time consistently in the school. Please read about the process for volunteers by visiting:

<http://face.dpsk12.org/volunteer-services/>