

# The Dove's Nest

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF



*Susie King Taylor*  
COMMUNITY SCHOOL

AUGUST 2019

## WELCOME BACK!

What a wonderful and amazing Back-to-School-Night we had last week. It was amazing to see all of our returning students who have grown some inches, lost some teeth, and cut (or grew) some hair. It was exciting to meet all of the new families and finally put faces to names.

Hopefully, you had many of your questions answered at BTSN; however, I'm sure if this is your first year there are still many lingering questions. Please find the most frequently asked questions below and more detailed policies in the [Family Handbook](#).

## ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

### ***Bell Times***

School starts at 9 am and ends at 4 pm. This year we are asking students to arrive between 8:30 and 8:45. Walkers and bus riders enter through the patio door and car riders enter through the double parking lot doors in the parking lot.

Breakfast is served starting at 8:30 and ends promptly at 9 am. If your student arrives at 9:01 breakfast service will be completed and they will not receive a meal.

For safety reasons, students should not arrive prior to 8:30 am unless accompanied by an adult. **At 9:01 am students are tardy. Parents/Guardians should escort them to and through the**

front doors where they must be signed in by an adult. If the tardy is a result of a late or missing bus the absence is excused.

School dismisses at 4 pm. **Parents do not need to begin arriving for pick-up until 3:50.**

### ***Arrival and Dismissal Policies and Procedures***

#### ***Arrival***

No student may arrive at school prior to 8:30 unless they are signed into Y-Base. We are mandated reporters. Dependent on age, students who are dropped off prior to 8:30 without adult supervision may be subject to legal consequences.

#### ***Car Rider Drop-Off***

- All students riding in a car must be dropped off in the school parking lot. Not in the bus lane!!!
- Cars should into the parking lot from 33rd Street.
- Once in the parking lot proceed to the double white doors to be escorted in.
- Children should only exit the car once an adult opens the door from the outside.

#### ***Walkers and Bikers***

Students who are walking or biking to and from school should enter through the patio doors on 34th street and will be dismissed from the front doors. Please exercise discernment when deciding if your student can walk home alone. If you are a part of a walking bus (a group of parents and students walking together) please indicate so on your dismissal plan form.

#### ***Dismissal***

All families will be required to complete a dismissal plan form at the start of school (How Do I Get Home). We are aware that emergencies happen and the best laid plans may need to change.

#### ***Dismissal Changes***

We kindly request that you help us ensure your student's safety by providing **timely written notice of temporary and/or long-term changes to your student's dismissal procedures to the front office through our [Dismissal Form](#) before 3 pm.**

**Afternoon pick-up ends promptly at 4:15 pm . Two repeated failures to pick-up your student before 4:15 pm will result in a late notice. After 2 late notices your case will be given to the district social worker and your family will be required to meet with the School Director.**

#### ***Early Dismissal***

We understand that early dismissals are necessary at times. While we would prefer that appointments are made on school holidays and professional development days, we recognize that's not always possible. Please arrange for an early dismissal before 3 pm in order to prevent confusion at dismissal time

Additionally, please note that the end-of-day is always a hectic time. **To ensure that our young students are not confused about where to go after school please make all emergency changes**

to the [Dismissal Form](#) before 3 pm. After 3 pm students will be sent home through the original method that the teacher/school was told.

### Bus Transportation

The SCCPSS Transportation Department provides bus service for our students. They will contact you with pick-up and drop-off times if you have requested bus service. Busses will drop off on 34th Street. In order to provide safety and maintain order, students are expected to adhere to the rules of the bus driver. **All questions and concerns related to drop-off and/or pick-up should be directed to SCCPSS at 912-395-5591.** If ongoing issues are not properly addressed by Transportation, please contact the School Director.

### Car Rider Pick-Up

- Please pull into the parking line and join one of the five queues for pick-up.
  - Do not block the entrance. Instead go to the next line.
  - Leave room for cars to pass behind you
  - If the lot is full do not block the firehouse. Instead, circle the block until the lines ease up or park and pick-up from the front doors.

For expediency purposes:

- **Adults must stay with their vehicle.** A school employee or volunteer will come and assist your student with entering and exiting the vehicle. Do NOT exit your vehicle.
- Please be sure that **car seats and booster seats are placed on the passenger side of the vehicle.** Every family will be assigned a car number. Please **ensure that your pick-up placard is displayed prominently on the passenger side in the front window.**
- Please be sure that **anything that needs to exit the car with the child is in the car with the child** (and not in the trunk).
- Please **pull forward** immediately.
- Please **do NOT attempt to go around the car in front of you.**
- If the line is too long or you are in a hurry please park in a legal parking space (not in the bus drop-off zone on 34th st.) and walk your child to the front door.

### Please Note - We are mandated reporters:

- We are unable to load a child into any vehicle that does not have an age-appropriate car seat and we may be mandated as reporters to file a report for children who do not have the appropriate car seat.
- If we smell illegal substances emanating from your vehicle a DFCS report will be made.

## DON'T FORGET

Please send a snack and a reusable water bottle each day. Also, our students play hard - please don't send them in or with anything that you would be upset if it came home dirty, broken, or not at all.

Cellphones are allowed at school, but ...

- Students can not have them on or use them on the bus
- Students can not have them on or use them during school

- Phones must be turned off and stored in backpacks during the day
- The teacher is not responsible for the safe keeping of your student's valuables
- Even a call/text from a parent during the day will result in disciplinary action for the student. Please call the office if you have a message for your student.

## FIRST DAY

We were so excited to see many of you last Thursday. However, we are aware that some families had conflicts and were not able to make it. Unfortunately, for safety reasons, **only parents of Kindergarten students and their kindergartners will be allowed in the building on the first day of school.** Kindergartners and their parents (no siblings) can enter through the white doors across from the playground with the stairs for the first week of school only. These doors will be shut at 9 am. Dismissal will happen regularly.

Kindergarten parents, please make sure your child has their first and last name, your name, cell phone number, work number, emergency contact number, bus number and stop written on a piece of paper in their backpack. Even the most mature kindergarten student can become flustered when panicked and unable to provide this information.

All other students (new and returning and even siblings of kindergartners) must enter through either the patio door or car rider drop-off and report to breakfast or their homeroom.

If students have supplies that they cannot manage please leave them with the adult at the entrance (making sure they are clearly marked with the student's name and room number) or send them with a few each day. You will be unable to walk these supplies in on the first day of school.

If you missed BTSN and would like to meet with your student's teacher please email them and set up an appointment.



# SAVE THE DATE

## **Tuesday August 6th**

All Day: Susie King Taylor's Birthday Celebration. If your student has spirit wear, please be sure to wear it on this day.

## **Wednesday August 14th**

6 pm - 8 pm: Board Meeting (Gym - Please enter through patio doors on 34th st.)

## **Wednesday August 28th**

4:30 pm - 6 pm: Finance Meeting (please enter through front door)

## **Friday August 30th**

All Day - Spirit wear orders due