

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
PHILADELPHIA

F. AMEDEE BREGY SCHOOL

STUDENT AND PARENT HANDBOOK
2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR



Ms. Shakeera Warthen
Principal

Message To Parents and Caregivers:

We are pleased to issue the F. Amedee Bregy School Handbook to all of our families. We hope that this will be a valuable resource to help guide your pursuit of school excellence. It is our goal to provide a safe, nurturing, and academically challenging program for all children. We aim to foster a school environment where every student can develop to his/her maximum potential, learn the importance of responsibility and cooperation, develop self-esteem and treat everyone with respect and dignity.

Please review The Bregy Pledge with your child to help them prepare for the new school year:

I am respectful
I am responsible
I am peaceful
I am a problem solver
We are the Bregy Family!

You are invited to read about our school in this handbook. Feel free to ask questions of teachers, staff and administration. We welcome your involvement. Please visit us, volunteer, and become active in our learning community.

Fondly,

Shakeera Warthen
Principal

School Hours

School begins promptly at 8:30AM and ends at 3:09PM. **It is school policy to provide supervision in the schoolyard only after 7:45AM.** All children should be picked up promptly at dismissal.

Absences

A note to the teacher explaining the absence is required in order for the child to be excused. Send the note upon the child's return to school. If your child does not submit a note within 3 days, then the absence will be marked as unexcused on his/her report card. It is important to contact the teacher or another student to find out what class work or homework has been missed.

Lateness Policy

Classroom instruction begins as soon as school starts so it is important for children to arrive on time. When a student is not able to arrive on time, the student must report to the office to fill out a late slip, and then go to the classroom. Excessive lateness will result in disciplinary and/or truancy action. Any student arriving after the daily morning entrance into the building is considered late.

School Uniform Policy

- Uniforms are mandatory. Berry's school uniform is:
 - Khaki skirt or pants
 - Maroon golf type shirt (collar with 2-3 buttons)
 - Bregy T-shirt and Maroon Sweat Pants (PE Days Only)
 - Any Bregy T-shirt and jeans can be worn on the last Friday of every month (Bregy Pride Day)

Dress Down Days: The District has a mandatory uniform policy. All students **MUST** be in uniform all days including the last week of school unless the school grants permission for a special occasion or event. Please check the monthly calendar for notification of Dress Down Days.

Parents Visitations

Parents are encouraged to visit Bregy School; however, please follow these guidelines before visiting:

1. Send a note to your child's teacher requesting a time for an appointment.
2. Report directly to the school office to receive a Visitor's Pass.
3. **No parent or guest is permitted to go directly to any classroom at anytime.**
4. Appointments can also be made by contacting the school office at (215) 400- 8210.

Morning Admission

Students are expected to be in their classroom line at 8:30 a.m. Supervised lines will enter the building in an orderly fashion. If you would like to volunteer to support our admission, please contact the Main Office.

Parents are not permitted to escort their child to the classroom.

Any student who enters the school after the teacher has escorted the class into the building will be marked late and must report to the main office for a late note.

Inclement Weather

On rainy, snowy or very cold days, parents are advised not to send their children to school until a few minutes before admission time. Students arriving early should report to the auditorium.

In case of severe weather conditions, which may necessitate the closing of schools, please listen to radio or television alerts concerning "All Philadelphia Public Schools."

In the event of an early closing of schools, we must know where your child can go if you are not home. A contact form will be sent home at the beginning of each year. It is VITAL that all contact information be kept current.

Closure Information Due to Weather

Snow Hotline: 215-400-INFO (4636)

This hotline will provide regular updates on the status of school and office closures, and is a very efficient way, in partnership with the District's Web site, to check the status of closures. **The Snow Hotline can be reached at 215-400-INFO (4636).**

Dismissal

All students are dismissed into the schoolyard starting at 3:09 p.m.

Request For Early Dismissal Of Students

Requests by parents for an early dismissal during school hours may be made in case of emergency. Routine dental and medical appointments should be made after school hours. **Parent or person picking up student must come to the main office and sign the student out in the early dismissal sign-out book. Only persons on the emergency contact form will be allowed to pick students up. A valid identification card must be presented each time you pick a student up from Bregy School.**

Emergencies

Each year the school distributes a Parent Location Card, which indicates where parents can be located in case of an emergency. It is very important that the school has this information. **If there is a change in emergency numbers, the school office must be notified.**

School Notices

Our only way to contact all of our parents is through notices sent home with the students. Please impress upon your child the importance of bringing all notices home. Check your child's belongings for these notices. Also follow Bregy School on Twitter @BregySchool for updates and announcements.

Breakfast Program/Lunch Program

Breakfast is served between **8:00 am - 8:25 am** every morning in the lunchroom. There are three forty-five minute lunch periods, which include a 15-minute recess.

Students are expected to follow rules and demonstrate respect for each other and for the adults in charge during the lunch and recess period.

1. Sit in assigned seat at assigned table.
2. Keep hands and feet to themselves.
3. Clean up their mess with one trip to the trashcan.
4. Raise their hands for staff support.

Pupil Progress Reports

The reporting system for pupils provides for an individual conference with your child's teacher. Students will be dismissed early on these conference days. If you want to speak to your child's teacher at any other time, please feel free to call the office for an appointment. See calendar.

Homework

Homework is given to reinforce or strengthen skills taught, as an extension of classroom learning. Students are expected to read a minimum of 30 minutes each night. Students are expected to complete all homework assignments. Parents or guardians should review each assignment to ensure completion. Homework is assigned Monday through Thursday nights and some weekends.

School Trips

The teachers arrange class trips. Prior to going on any trip, the parent/guardian must sign a consent form allowing his/her child to participate. Telephone calls to the teacher are NOT acceptable consent.

No child will be permitted to attend a class trip without a signed permission slip. Please send all money for the trip in a sealed envelope

with your child's name, room number, and teacher's name on it. Parents are encouraged to participate as chaperones. All parents wishing to chaperone must provide the school with their clearances prior to attending the trip.

Code of Student Conduct

The School District's Code of Student Conduct ensures appropriate behavior by all students at all times. Each family will receive a copy of the Code of Student Conduct. Please review this code with your child and help us enforce all rules.

Under most circumstances when students fail to observe basic essential courtesies and school regulations, parent will be notified. Students need to know what they did wrong and be able to identify and implement appropriate solutions to their problems. Students will be instructed on how they should resolve problems without breaking school rules. The revised edition will be sent home with students during the month of September. Please read through this document carefully

Act 26

The Pennsylvania General Assembly has enacted legislation (Act 26) that requires all public schools to take a mandatory course of action in dealing with students who are found to be in possession of weapons.

The law requires the arrest and expulsion, for at least one year, of any student found in possession of a weapon on school property, in a school program, or while traveling to or from a school program, including time on public transportation.

The law defines a weapon to include, but not limited to, any knife, cutting instrument, cutting tool, firearm, shotgun, rifle and any tool or implement capable of inflicting serious bodily injury. There is no requirement that the student use or try to use the weapon, and possession for self-protection is not a defense. Parents are encouraged not to send tools or supplies such as metal or pointed scissors to school with your children unless you receive a written request from the teacher.

The law requires that violations become part of a student's permanent disciplinary record and will be available to any school in which the student may later enroll. **Parents will be required to sign an affidavit prior to enrolling their child in any public school to disclose the existence of any weapons violations or other serious violations.**

These measures, required by Act 26, are designed as a safeguard to ensure that all public schools are safe havens in which all students may interact in an environment and climate that fosters learning, and strongly discourages potential acts of violence.

Cell Phones

The School District prohibits students from using personal cell phones during school hours on school grounds, school sponsored activities and on buses or other vehicles provided by the School District. Students should leave cellphones and electronics at home if possible. All cellphones will be collected during homeroom for students needing to bring their cellphone to school. Failure to comply with the cellphone policy may result in disciplinary action.

School Bus Expectations

The safety on a moving vehicle is vital to all children on the bus and the entire Philadelphia community. We expect all children riding the Yellow School Buses to sit in their seats, talk quietly, respect adults on the bus, and not eat on the bus. We request that all parents please help us to maintain safety on all buses by reminding your children that you expect them to follow all rules.

Parental Concerns

Please bring any suggestions or concerns to our attention.
Please feel free to contact the following school staff members:

Ms. Bronca, Counselor
Dr. Chamberlain, School Based Teacher Leader
Mrs. Pendleton, School Nurse
Mrs. Siligrini, Secretary
Mr. Thompson, Climate Manager
Ms. Warthen, Principal
Mr. Whelan, Special Education Liaison

Contact Information

F. Amedee Bregy Elementary School
1700 Bigler Street
Philadelphia, PA 19145
Telephone: 215-400-8210
Fax: 215-400-8211
Principal's Email: sgwarthen@philasd.org
Follow us on Twitter: @BregySchool

