

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. MIDDLE SCHOOL

Robynne W. Prince, Principal | robynne.prince@pgcps.org 4545 Ammendale Road | Beltsville, MD 20705 | 301-572-0650 | www.pgcps.org/martinlutherkingjr



Dear Martin L. King Jr Middle School Families,

As we embark on another exciting school year, we're thrilled to introduce our theme: **Transforming Instruction through Collaboration Calibration and Capacity Building.** This year, we will focus on empowering each student to discover their unique talents, embrace their strengths, and overcome challenges.

Our Goals:

- 1. <u>Personalized Learning</u>: We are committed to tailoring our educational approaches to meet the diverse needs of all students. Every learner is unique, and we'll provide the tools and support to help each of you shine!
- 2. <u>Collaborative Environment</u>: We believe that collaboration fosters creativity and growth. Through group projects, peer mentoring, and community partnerships, we'll work together to unlock new possibilities.
- 3. <u>Encouraging Growth Mindset:</u> Mistakes are stepping stones to success! This year, we will encourage a growth mindset, where challenges are seen as opportunities to learn and grow.
- 4. <u>Celebrating Achievements</u>: Every milestone matters! We'll take time to celebrate individual and collective achievements, reinforcing the belief that hard work and perseverance lead to success.
- 5. <u>Supportive Community</u>: Our teachers, staff, and families are here to support you. Let's work together to create a nurturing environment where everyone feels valued and inspired to reach their fullest potential.

We can't wait to see all the incredible things you'll accomplish this year! Let's unlock the doors to new learning experiences and make this school year the best one yet.

Here's to a fantastic year ahead!!!

Important School Information - Please read in its entirety

<u>SCHOOL HOURS</u> - 9:30 a.m. - 4:10 p.m. (NO early dismissals after 3:30 pm - students will be dismissed with Car Riders)

SCHOOL COLORS – Blue (Royal), Red and White

SCHOOL MASCOT – King Cobra

SCHOOL WEBSITE – MLKMS website

SCHOOL TELEPHONE NUMBER - (301) 572-0650

Please read below - Important and pertinent to the 2025-26 school year at MLKMS:

• Martin L. King Jr. Middle School Website

Visit our website at <u>MLKMS website</u>. You will find the school supply list, teachers' email addresses, important dates, policies and procedures, and much more.

Orientation (All 6th grade and new students in grades 7 & 8) - August 25, 2025

Mark your calendars and join us for our Welcome Back Activities for Grade 6 students and NEW students to MLKMS, on Monday, August 25, 2025 ONLY.

- o Time: 9:30 AM 1:10 PM
- Your Bus will pick you up/Parents can drop off and pick up students
- o Must wear your uniform
- For students only (No former students or siblings)
- o Grab and Go Breakfast & Lunch
- Follow your schedule
- The event is for students ONLY Parents, your scholars will be fine.

Visitors

All visitors must make an appointment to come inside to the main office. All visitors will be required to ring the outside doorbell, show a government issued ID, and will be required to sign in upon arrival and sign out upon departure.

Transportation

All bus riders should be receiving information via mail if you were registered (new students) by August 15, 2025. This includes students that were in PGCPS last school year - no additional tasks for your family.

Stopfinder Bus App https://drive.google.com/open?id=19zrJm8rhvtb1sQ x9KNm epQRgJ0uiVh

Car Rider Arrival and Dismissal Procedures

If your child will be a car rider, please review the <u>Car Rider Arrival and Dismissal Procedures SY</u> <u>25-26.</u>

Student Schedules

Student schedules were based on a variety of factors including academic performance, social/emotional characteristics, specialized services, etc. <u>Student schedules are final and will not be changed unless there's an emergency need/or special circumstances.</u> Schedules will be available in Synergy prior to August 25th.

MLK MS has 6 Mods, A Day & B Day (60 minutes per class)

• First Day of School

The first day of school is on Tuesday, August 26, 2025. School hours are 9:30 AM - 4:10 PM; doors open at 9:00 AM. DO NOT drop off any students prior to 9:00 AM. All students will go directly to their classrooms on the first day of school. For safety purposes, students should arrive at school on the first day in the same manner that they will attend school every day: on the bus, as a walker, as a car rider, etc. Students are to be prepared with their supplies and in appropriate grade level uniform (no hoods or crocs). Students will be using PGCPS chromebooks during school hours. Visitors will not be permitted inside of the building on the first day of school.

• Student Code of Conduct

Students are expected to follow the rules outlined in the <u>PGCPS Student Rights and Responsibilities</u> <u>Handbook</u> at school, during the school day, and at school-sponsored events. Infractions will incur consequences as outlined in the handbook.

• <u>Technology:</u> Please note that all PGCPS Chromebooks will be school based and not sent home. Technology use will be classroom based in order to monitor student engagement and decrease any damage.

Communication:

Please make sure your contact information is updated and accurate in the ParentVue portal. Our primary forms of communication will be text, email, robocalls/schoolmessenger, school website and Twitter (X). Please fill out this form by clicking on the link: MLK MS Parent/Guardian Email Address Form SY 25-26. Make sure you have accessed ParentVue to create an account to view attendance and grades.

Student Attendance:

A hallmark of student success is daily attendance to school. It is imperative that students report to class daily. Upon return from an excused absence, parents/guardians are required to provide the school with written documentation for the absence. Excused absence notes should be emailed to the teachers. If the absence is excused, the student will receive all missed assignments.

Health and Safety:

Health and safety remain our priority. Universal mask-wearing, widespread vaccination_and strict cleaning and testing protocols are the pillars of our strategy for safe in-person learning. Families should also ensure children are up-to-date with <u>required immunizations</u>. No shots/No school according to PGCPS and Interim Superintendent Dr. Shawn Joseph.

Meals:

Meals are no longer free unless you have free or reduced meal prices/approval.

- Households can complete an application online at Myschoolapps.com.
- Online applications are processed within 24-48 hours
- Students not eligible for free or reduced-priced meals must pay for their meals.
- Parents are encouraged to complete the lunch application to determine eligibility for meal benefits and other need base school programs.

Student Lunch Accounts

- Students received PIN numbers during SY 22-23: they will continue to use the same PIN numbers for SY 25-26. Students must add money to their account.
- The new 6-digit PIN number will remain with the student until they graduate.
- Parents and guardians are encouraged to prepay for meals and snacks by depositing funds into their student accounts via online payment at Myschoolbucks.com.

Meal Service

- Breakfast and lunch will be offered in all schools
- Al carte sales of snacks and beverages will resume in all schools in accordance with Maryland State Department of Education Smart Snack Standards

Administration/Professional School Counselors/Secretarial Staff

	Administrator	Professional School Counselor
Grade 6	Ms. Danielle Anthony danielle.luckett@pgcps.org	Mrs. Tracey Goodridge tracey.hall@pgcps.org
Grade 7	Mrs. Mangierlett Garris mangierl.garris@pgcps.org	Dr. Jacqueline Jacobs jacqueling.jacobs@pgcps.org
Grade 8	Ms. Tia Johnson tia.johnson@pgcps.org	Mr. Jarrod Moaney jarrod.moaney@pgcps.org

Position	Name
Principal's Secretary	Ms. A'Niya Glenn Email: aniya2.glenn@pgcps.org
Registrar	Mrs. Tabitha Simpson Email: tabitha.haye@pgcps.org
Main Office	Mrs. Ruth Hasan (Bilingual) Email: ruth.hasan@pgcps.org



Uniform dress is required to be worn by all students. All uniforms must be neat and clean. Students should practice good hygiene and take pride in their appearance. Hair must be completely groomed prior to arrival at school. If a student is out of uniform, he/she will be sent to the main office for administrative action/parent contact. A parent or guardian will be required to bring the appropriate attire to school for the student. Violations to the dress code will result in school disciplinary action in accordance with the *Student Rights and Responsibilities*. **Students** will wear the same color shirt for three years. The school uniform program will accommodate students' religious expression. **NO HOODIES!!**

Side note: Hoodies can be worn to school but they are not allowed to be worn during the school day.

Shirts (SOLID color, polo style, cotton, poly blend) NO OVERSIZED SHIRTS

➤ 6th Grade: Solid Red Polo Style

> 7th Grade: Solid White Polo Style

> 8th Grade: Solid Royal Blue Polo Style

- o Shirt must be tucked in securely
- o Sweaters are allowed but must be same color as and worn over the uniform shirt
- o Sweatshirts are allowed must be same color as and worn over the uniform shirt
- o NO HOODIES!! (Allowed during school hours/in the building)
- o MLK club/organization shirts are acceptable on designated days
- o No crop tops or shirts tied up in the back

Belts (ARE MANDATORY)

o Belts must be worn through the loops and be buckled securely at the waist

Uniform Shoes and Socks

- o Shoes may be any color
- o Shoes must be fully enclosed [No Utility Boots i.e. Timberlands, Crocs, Bedroom Slippers or Slides]
- o Socks must be worn daily

Pants (fitted, Docker or Jogger style, cotton twill, front and back pockets)
NO OVERSIZED PANTS, NO CARGO PANTS WITH FRONT LEG, POCKETS, NO TIGHT PANTS OR
LEGGINGS

- o Khaki only
- o All pants are to be worn securely around the waist with a belt through all loops

Skirts/Dresses/Tops

- o Khaki only
- o Fingertip length (per the PGCPS Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook)
- o Females No crop tops or shirts tied up in the back

School Supplies/SY 2025-26

School Supplies	Suministros escolares	
 (1) 3 Ring Notebook (to be shared for all classes) Dividers for each class (1) Agenda Book - purchased at school for \$5.00 Pencil Pouch Wired headphones Composition book/spiral notebooks 3-Hole Pocket Folders (Organization) Highlighters Sticky/Post-It Notes Pencils/Pens Colored Markers, Crayons, and/or colored pencils Pencil Sharpener Erasers Personal hand sanitizer 	 (1) Cuaderno de 3 anillos (para todas las clases) Separadores de cuaderno (1) Libro de agenda - \$5.00 Bolsa de lapices Auriculares con cable Cuaderno de composición/cuadernos de espiral Carpeta de bolsillo de 3 orificios (organización) Resaltadores Notas adhesivas/post-it Lápices/Bolígrafos Marcadores de colores, crayones y/o lápices de colores. Sacapuntas Borradores Gel antibacterial personal 	

I look forward to a remarkable school year, and can't wait to see our students and families!

Sincerely,

Robynne W. Prince Ms. Robynne W. Prince Principal