



Opening of New School Year

Principal Newsletter

August 12, 2019

LaVilla Parents,

I am excited to begin the 2019-2020 school year with you and your student on Monday, August 12.

LaVilla is a special school where your student will receive intensive arts instruction and rigorous academics every single day. I am proud to have a faculty with strong artistic, pedagogical, and personal skills who will provide your student with the skills necessary to be successful in high school. So welcome (or welcome back) to the LaVilla family and get ready for a year filled with celebrations and special events for our 20th anniversary.

This first newsletter is filled with info about the first week of school, so please read through it thoroughly.

1. Students can be dropped off as early as 7:45 a.m. Please do not let students out of your car until this time, as we will not have adult supervision until 7:45 a.m. Our instructional day begins at 8:25 and ends at 3:20.
2. Our PTSA will host Donuts with Grown Ups on the first day of school from 8:00-9:00 am. We encourage parents to drop off students, grab a donut, and take a quick selfie at our LaVilla Photo Booth.
3. Car riders should be dropped off at the front of the school on the LaVilla sidewalk. Please do not drop your students off on Davis Street. We do not have crossing guards and it is dangerous for them to walk across the street or the parking lot.
4. Please be patient with the morning traffic. It will take at least a week for new families to learn how our traffic pattern and routine works. We are not counting student tardies this first week, so stay calm and know that we want our students to arrive safely.
5. Bus routes are available at www.duvalschools.org/bus or you can call 904-381-7433. It is extremely important that students know their bus numbers for before AND after school transportation. Please have your student write down their bus numbers in several places (notebook, wallet, cell phone) in case they forget or lose the information. Buses will run late that first day, so be patient until the drivers learn their routes.

6. Morning Extended Day students should be dropped off at the Duval Street gate. If you have questions about Extended Day, you can call 904.633.6069 ext. 1008. The Extended Day Afternoon Staff will be available at 2:00 pm.

7. Students will have time Monday and Tuesday to set up and organize their lockers. We will also collect money for locks (\$5) and student IDs (\$1) for those who were unable to attend Orientation. If you are interested in purchasing a LaVilla Planner, our Theatre Boosters will be available every morning and afternoon this week, so send your student to school with \$10.

8. Duval County Public Schools purchased a new Visitor Badge Pass System. Please be patient with our front office staff as they work through the kinks and learn this new program.

Please follow us on Facebook and Instagram at The LaVilla School of the Arts. We make daily posts about events, deadlines, as well as everyday happenings at the school.

If you have any other questions, feel free to call us at 904.633.6069. I look forward to seeing your student on Monday at the BEST middle school in DCPS!

Sincerely,

Lianna Knight

Principal