

## Tapping into Tech for Safer Classrooms



As part of our COVID-19 mitigation strategy, we are using new disinfection robots to deep clean schools and office buildings with technology that kills coronavirus, flu and more. The robots sanitize the room before employees clean which also helps keep our team safe. When a COVID-19 case is detected, the robots can fully disinfect a standard-sized classroom in three minutes.

[Learn more](#) about our layered COVID-19 prevention strategies to stop the spread of COVID-19 and minimize disruptions.

Watch

## TOP NEWS

### Complete the Free and Reduced-Price Meals Application



Meals are free for all students this school year, but it is important that families still submit the Free and Reduced-Price Meals application (FARMS)! FARMS responses impact more than \$400 million of PGCPS revenue for a variety of programs beyond free meals.

Complete Form

### Student Suppers to be Discontinued



Beginning the week of October 4, PGCPs will discontinue the distribution of student suppers outside of Before and After School Enrichment programs due to supply shortages. With meals being free for all students nationwide, increased demand has placed a strain on food companies.

Free breakfast and lunch for all students will continue in schools daily along with weekly meal distribution for virtual learning students. Families should anticipate menu changes as our Food and Nutrition Services team explores different options and meal substitutions in light of the supply shortage.

Changes to school lunch menus will be reflected in our online [Meal Viewer](#).

## Changes to Virtual Student Meal Distribution This Week

Schools are [closed for students](#) this Friday, Oct. 1 for professional development. **The meal distribution for virtual learning students this week will be held on Thursday, Sept. 30.**

## COVID-19 Vaccination & Testing



### Student Pool Testing

Beginning this week schools will begin random pool testing of students regardless of symptoms and vaccination status. Parents and guardians are required to provide consent prior to testing.

### Athletes

Student-athletes over age 12 are required to present proof of vaccination for participation in all sports. Unvaccinated individuals will be required to undergo weekly testing starting the week of October 18.

Deadlines to provide proof of full vaccination: Friday, Oct.15 for fall sports, Friday, Nov. 12 for winter sports and Friday, Jan. 14 for spring sports.

### Volunteers

All contractors, volunteers, interns and non-PGCPs employees doing business or providing services in schools or offices are required to either show proof of

vaccination or submit proof of weekly COVID-19 negative testing.

## Transportation Updates



Our team is working overtime to recruit and hire qualified, full-time drivers amid the ongoing school bus driver shortage. We continue to encourage families to drive or carpool children to school when possible. Middle and high school students may ride [TheBus, operated by Prince George's County](#), for free with their student ID. Our team is also working with schools to better manage the pickup and dropoff process.

[View FAQs](#)

## Student Health: Immunizations & COVID-19 Vaccines



The Prince George's County Health Department is hosting immunization clinics to bring students up to date on vaccinations. We continue to encourage students ages 12 and over to [receive the COVID-19 vaccine](#).

[Upcoming Immunization Clinics](#)



- [Sign Up: Free Math Tutoring for Students in Grades 3-12](#)
- [PG13 Episode 3: "The Wise Way"](#)
- [Caring for PGCPS Technology Devices](#)

[View More Stories](#)

## QUICK LINKS

- [2021-2022 School Calendar](#)
- [Student Meals](#)
- [SchoolMAX Family Portal](#)
- [Fall Learning Information](#)
- [Bus InfoFinder](#)
- [Registration/Enrollment](#)
- [PGCPS-TV](#)
- [Vendor Managed Child Care](#)

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