

JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT



BACK-TO-SCHOOL GUIDE



What's new for 2018-2019?

Let's Talk!

We've made it even easier for you to share questions, comments, suggestions, concerns, and kudos with District leaders 24/7. Visit www.jackson.k12.ms.us/ContactJPS or download the Let's Talk! app and enter our ID (JP1359) on your mobile device. You can remain anonymous or leave your contact information to continue the conversation.

Revised Bell Schedules

The regular bell schedules for middle and high schools were changed for the 2018-2019 school year. The revisions are included in the table below. Visit www.jackson.k12.ms.us for additional information.

School Event	Elementary	Middle	High
School Opens	7 a.m.	7:25 a.m.	7:30 a.m.
Instruction Begins	7:45 a.m.	8 a.m.	8:40 a.m.
Instruction Ends	2:15 p.m.	3:20 p.m.	4 p.m.
School Dismissal	3:30 p.m.	3:30 p.m.	4:30 p.m.

New Early College High School

Jackson Public Schools, in a partnership with Tougaloo College, will start the Early College High School program in 2018-2019. The inaugural class will consist of 49 ninth graders. New ninth graders will be added each year until the program includes grades 9-12. An ECHS is a small, independent high school located on a partnering college campus or a location other than a traditional high school campus. Students enter as high school freshmen, with a goal of earning both a high school diploma and an associate degree. Jackson Public School District's Early College High School is located on the campus of Tougaloo College. Visit the Early College High School webpage (www.jackson.k12.ms.us/ECHS) to learn more about the program and the application timeline.

How do I find contact information for my child's school?

For a complete list of JPS schools with contact information, go to the School Directory on our website (www.jackson.k12.ms.us/SchoolDirectory).

How do I find out what school my child will attend?

To determine your attendance zone school, contact Enrollment Services at (601) 960-8852 or the Transportation Department at (601) 960-8919.

How do I register my child for school?

This school year you must schedule an appointment to initiate the registration process. Completing online registration requires access to a computer with a connection to the internet. Computer labs are set up at each school for parents who do not have access to a computer. Labs are open Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Schools will be closed from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. each day. Hours will be extended until 6 p.m. on Thursdays to accommodate parents. For more information, contact Enrollment Services (www.jackson.k12.ms.us/Enrollment) at (601) 960-8852.

Is summer reading a requirement?

Yes. All students are required to read at least three books and complete a log for each book they read. However, the District encourages students to read as many books as they can and complete logs for them. Students who read lots of books not only grow academically but may receive incentives at their school and at a communitywide celebration to be held at the Mississippi Children's Museum in September. Visit the Summer Reading page (www.jackson.k12.ms.us/SummerReading) for more information.

What supplies will students need for school?

Elementary school supplies are listed by grade on our School Supplies page (www.jackson.k12.ms.us/SchoolSupplies). Students will need pencils and paper every day. Students will also need a Library Card. School supply lists for middle and high school students must be obtained from the school the student will be attending. Get links to our school websites by visiting the School Directory page (www.jackson.k12.ms.us/SchoolDirectory).

Is there a dress code for students?

JPS has a mandatory dress code policy for elementary and middle schools. The recommended dress code guidelines are on the Student Dress Code webpage (www.jackson.k12.ms.us/DressCode). Schools provide assistance to families that have a financial need to comply with uniforms. Parents should contact their child's principal if they need this assistance. High school students should refer to page 17 of the Student Code of Conduct and Handbook which can also be downloaded from the Student Dress Code webpage.

When is the first day of school for students?

The first day of school for JPS students is Wednesday, August 8, 2018. The District Calendar At-A-Glance (www.jackson.k12.ms.us/DistrictCalendar) includes important dates for 2018-2019.

What documentation is required to register my child for school?

The following documentation is required by parents/legal guardians to complete registration for all students enrolling in JPS schools for the 2018-2019 school year:

New Students

1. Valid photo ID. (No copies will be accepted.)
2. Certified copy of student's long form birth certificate.
3. State of Mississippi Certificate of Immunization Compliance (Form 121) or Certificate of Medical Exemption (Form 122).
4. Two Proofs of Residency documents. For a list of acceptable documents, visit the Registration Requirements page (www.jackson.k12.ms.us/Registration) or call (601) 960-8852.

Returning Students

1. Valid photo ID. (No copies will be accepted.)
2. Two Proofs of Residency documents. For a list of acceptable documents, visit the Registration Requirements page (www.jackson.k12.ms.us/Registration) or call (601) 960-8852.

For more information, contact Enrollment Services at (601) 960-8852.

How do I get my child to school?

JPS school buses provide transportation for students to their schools and homes. Buses also provide round-trip transportation for students attending special programs, such as the Academic and Performing Arts Complex, the three International Baccalaureate schools, and McWillie Montessori school. The Transportation Department sends bus schedules to parents by mail before the first day of school. Parents who do not receive their student's bus schedule should contact the appropriate JPS Transportation center below.

- Transportation Central - (601) 960-8919
 - Transportation North - (601) 987-3587
 - Transportation South - (601) 960-5404
- For additional information, contact Transportation (www.jackson.k12.ms.us/Transportation) at (601) 960-8919.

How much do school meals cost?

JPS students receive breakfast and lunch meals at no cost as part of the Community Eligibility Program (CEP). It provides an alternative approach to offering school meals to local educational agencies and schools in low-income areas, instead of collecting individual applications for free and reduced-price meals. The CEP allows schools that predominantly serve low-income children to offer nutritious school meals at no cost to all students through the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs.

How do I find out what schools are serving for breakfast and lunch?

Bookmark the Food Service Lunch Menu page (www.jackson.k12.ms.us/LunchMenus) for breakfast and lunch menus by grade level. The menus are updated once a month throughout the school year. For more information, contact Food Service at (601) 960-8911.

How do I view my child's grades?

ActiveParent is a web-based application that parents can use to keep track of students' records throughout the school year. To learn more and create an account, go to the JPS Active Parent page (www.jackson.k12.ms.us/ActiveParentSupport).

What days will schools be closed?

Schools will be closed on the days listed below in 2018-2019. Dates with an asterisk (*) may be used for inclement weather makeup days if needed.

DATE	EVENT
September 3, 2018	Labor Day (Districtwide Closure)
October 8, 2018	Fall Break (Districtwide Closure)*
October 22, 2018	Parent-Teacher Conference Day (No School for Students)*
November 19-23, 2018	Thanksgiving Break (Districtwide Closure)
December 21, 2018	Winter Break Begins (60% Day for Students)
Dec. 24, 2018-Jan. 4, 2019	Winter Break (Districtwide Closure)
January 21, 2019	Martin Luther King Jr. Day (Districtwide Closure)
February 18, 2019	Parent-Teacher Conference Day (No School for Students)*
March 11-15, 2019	Spring Break (Districtwide Closure)
April 19 & 22, 2019	Easter Break (Districtwide Closure)*
May 27, 2019	Memorial Day (Districtwide Closure)

When are Parent-Teacher Conference Days?

There will be two Districtwide Parent-Teacher Conference Days - October 22, 2018, and February 18, 2019. Schools will be open from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Parents may need to schedule a time to meet with teachers. Check with your child's school for procedures.

How can I get involved at my child's school?

JPS parents can become involved in their child's school through the PTA (Parent Teacher Association) or PTSA (Parent Teacher Student Association). For contact information for JPS schools, visit the School Directory page (www.jackson.k12.ms.us/SchoolDirectory).

How do I stay informed about District and school news?

We share news, announcements, and alerts on our website, social media channels, and notification systems.

Visit our websites:

The District Homepage
(www.jackson.k12.ms.us)

Connect with us:

Facebook ([facebook.com/JacksonPublicSchools](https://www.facebook.com/JacksonPublicSchools))

Sign up for notifications:

My Blackboard
(jackson.bbcportal.com/Entry)

Find your school's website on the School Directory webpage
(www.jackson.k12.ms.us/SchoolDirectory)

Twitter (twitter.com/JPSDistrict)

YouTube ([YouTube.com/JPSITYV](https://www.youtube.com/JPSITYV))

SchoolWay App
(myschoolway.com/JPS)