Athlos Academy of Jefferson Parish | August 12, 2019



FIRST DAY OF KINDERGARTEN WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14 | WELCOME TO ATHLOS!

BUS TRANSPORTATION

Arrival procedures: Buses will drop off students in the bus lane at the back of the school at 7:40 a.m. Students will proceed to their homerooms where breakfast is served this year.

Dismissal procedures: Buses will begin to be called over the PA system at 3:40 p.m. Buses will depart from the school at 4:00 p.m. If you have any questions regarding routes and times, please contact Hammond's Transportation at (504) 662-0261.

DRIVELINE

Arrival procedures: Driveline will begin at 7:40 a.m. Parents, follow the Driveline course around the football field and drop off your student at the front of the building. **Please do not drop off your scholar (s) in the parking lot.** This is not a safe procedure. We will open both lines of Driveline in the morning. An Athlos staff member will escort your scholar (s) across the street from Driveline and into the building. Students are tardy at 8:01 a.m. After that time, parents must park in the parking lot and walk their student into the front office.

Dismissal procedures: Driveline will begin at 4:00 p.m. Please ensure that your GREEN driveline tag is visible either on your rearview mirror or dashboard. Please also adhere to the directions of the staff members outside. Please check the pick up and drop off procedure on our website at: <u>https://www.athlosip.org/parent-resources/driveline/</u>

Kindergarten Parents: Please include a note with your scholar's dismissal plans in a Ziploc bag and attach it to the back of your scholar's shirt or book sack. Please include the bus route number and stop or the Driveline number and an emergency contact name and number.

LOOKING AHEAD

Aug 12

YMCA before and after-school care begins

Aug 14

First day of kindergarten 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Aug 14

Open House for grades 1–3 5:00–7:00 p.m.

Aug 15

Open House for grades 4–7

Sep 1

Hispanic Heritage Month

Sep 2

Labor Day - NO SCHOOL

Sep 10

Early dismissal

1:30 p.m.

5:00–7:00 p.m.

Sept 20

Staff PD - NO SCHOOL

Oct 1

Anti–Bullying Month Pep Rally

Oct 8

Early dismissal

1:30 p.m.

NEW BUS TRANSPORTATION COMPANY HAMMOND'S TRANSPORTATION

Thank you for your patience as we all navigated the busing and drop off/ pick up process for the first time this school year! We are working closely with Hammond's Transportation to finalize updates to bus stops and routes and make the process as streamlined as possible. Your child's bus route may change in coming days as things are finalized. Please check your email each evening for any possible updates to your child's bus route. If you have any questions or concerns, please visit or call the front office at (504) 290-2510.

f you have any questions, you may contact Hammond's Transportation at (504) 662-0261 or the school's front office at (504) 290-2510. Please allow 48–72 hours for any bus changes.





ATHLOS ACADEMY UNIFORMS ONLINE STORE AND UNIFORM POLICY

The official <u>school uniform policy</u> and <u>apparel store</u> are on the school's website on the *Uniforms* page under the *Parent Resources* tab. Athlos Academy uniforms are only available online. Your order will be packed and ready for shipment in 1–2 business days. The arrival time depends on the shipping option you choose at checkout. An email with tracking information is generated with every order; use the tracking link provided to follow your package. If you have not received your order before the beginning of school, students are allowed to wear athletic wear and tennis shoes. The school uniform policy will be enforced by Monday, September 16. If you have any concerns, you can reach the Athlos Academies apparel store at (208)-519-4038.

EARLY CHECKOUT/ DISMISSAL CHANGES

Dismissal time at a school as large as Athlos Academy can be at times hectic with a lot of moving parts. However, to assist during this time, the following policies have been put in place to ensure that all of students get home in a safe and timely manner.

DISMISSAL CHANGES: Dismissal changes must be made through the school office prior to 1 p.m. the day of the change. The front office staff will contact the student's teacher with the change information. This will ensure that accurate information is given. Students are not allowed to leave their classroom during dismissal unless they are called by the school office.



EARY CHECKOUTS: Early checkouts are allowed prior to 3:15 p.m. No early checkouts will be allowed after that time. It is the office staff's primary duty at this time of day to prepare for a safe dismissal. Parents or guardians must pick up their students through Driveline which starts at 4:00 p.m.

NURSE CONNER'S MESSAGE

Welcome to Athlos Academy of Jefferson Parish! I would like to take this opportunity to explain my role as your school nurse, and to provide a few back-to-school tips that will help your student/s get a good start to their new school year.

What does the school nurse do? Here's a glimpse:

- Provide first aid and emergency care
- Administer medication and treatments per provider orders
- Develop and implement Individualized Healthcare Plans
- Maintain health records for all students
- Ensure *whole child* success by participating in the school's multidisciplinary support system
- Train & delegate personnel to meet the health needs of the students and staff
- Oversee hearing and vision screenings
- Assist families to locate health resources in their community

Back-to-school tips for parents:

- Confirm all required and recommended immunizations are up-to-date
- Encourage and review good handwashing technique with your children
- Confirm all contact information is current, including emergency contact information
- For kindergarten students: keep a change of clothes in your student's backpack
- Families of students with a health concern/condition: inform school nurse of student's health concern/condition
- If medication or treatments are needed during the school day:
 - Provide school nurse with a current medication order form completed and signed by the student's pediatrician
 - Parent/guardian needs to bring the medication in its original container with the matching pharmacy label adhered

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns. I am excited to work with you and your student/s here at AAJP during this 2019-2020 school year.

Sincerely,

Tamara Hester-Conner RN

"Children must be healthy to be educated and educated to be healthy."



ATTENDANCE CORNER

(UNEXCUSED ABSENCES AND EXCESSIVE TARDIES)

Welcome to the 2019-2020 School Year! I am excited about the start of the new school year and am looking forward to another successful year!

One of the factors in having a successful school year is daily attendance. Good attendance means your student(s) report to school daily on time. Excessive unexcused absences and tardies can negatively impact learning, grades, and overall school performance. You can find the Athlos Academy of Jefferson Parish attendance policy on our website at: <u>https://www.athlosjp.org/wp-content/</u> <u>uploads/bsk-pdf-manager/2019/05/5201-Attendance-Policy.pdf</u>

Students are expected to be at school by 8:00 a.m. and are late by 8:01 a.m. If your student is tardy at 8:01 a.m. a parent is required to sign that student in at the front office.

As the State of Louisiana school attendance policy states:

Louisiana requires students to attend school for a certain number of days to be promoted to the next grade and earn credit for a course. Under the law, students must attend school from age 7 to 18 or until they graduate from high school. Students are required to attend school regularly and must attend at least 167 days to earn credit and be eligible for promotion to the next grade.

A student is not allowed to miss more than 10 days per school year.

Some common attendance jargon and definitions:

- **Truancy** is defined as a student who misses 5 unexcused days within a school semester.
- **Chronic absenteeism** is defined as a student who misses 15-18 days of school per year.
- **Excessive tardies** is defined as a student who is tardy 3 or more times per school semester.

Three or more tardies will be equal to one day of school absence. Parents will be contacted by the school on a student's third absence and/or tardy for a parent conference.

Excessive unexcused absences (5 days) and tardies (5 days) will be reported to Families In Need of Services (FINS) for case management services.

Parents, please make sure to submit any doctor's documentation when applicable by bringing it either to the school's front office, emailing to <u>frontoffice@athlosip.org</u>, or faxing to (504) 290-2511.

Please contact Mrs. Matthews with any questions or concerns regarding your student(s) attendance and/or tardies. She can be reached at (504) 290-2510, ext. 219.



COUNSELORS' CORNER

PARENTS: HELP US BETTER SERVE YOUR STUDENT

For the 2019–2020 school year, the school counseling department has chosen to survey parents, teachers, and students in an effort to develop and provide programs that address the specific needs of our school community.



We are asking parents to complete one anonymous survey per Athlos student in your household. This survey will help us determine the needs of the students individually, as well as which topics we need to address in the classroom and within small group sessions. The survey requires no

identifying information other than grade level, and is anonymous unless you *choose* to disclose your student's name. Please use the links below:

PARENTS OF STUDENTS IN GRADES K-3 WILL COMPLETE TWO SURVEYS:

- 1. Parent Needs Survey: <u>https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/</u> parentsneedssurvey
- 2. Student Needs Survey: <u>https://es.surveymonkey.com/r/</u> studentsneedsassessment

PARENTS OF STUDENTS IN GRADES 4–7 WILL COMPLETE ONE SURVEY:

- 1. Parent Needs Survey: <u>https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/</u> aajpuepns1920
- 2. **Student Needs Survey:** Students in grades 4–7 will complete the student survey in class with the school counselor.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact your student's counselor via email:

Grades K-3Grades 4-7Emily PrevotAlaina Garnereprevot@athlosjp.orgagarner@athlosjp.org



OPEN HOUSE GRADES 1–3 August 14, 5–7 p.m.

Parents of first, second, and third-grade students will meet their student's homeroom teacher and go over classroom expectations and norms. Kindergarten students recently visited with their teachers during their orientation night and are not required to attend open house.

Additionally, Kona Ice will be on site selling shaved ice. Twenty-five percent of the sales will benefit the school's Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) program.

