

As we prepare to welcome our scholars, staff, families, and community members for the 2026–2027 school year, we are excited about the opportunities that this new school year will bring at both Colin Powell Academy and John Hanson Montessori School. We look forward to opening our doors, building strong relationships, and creating a welcoming environment where every scholar can learn, grow, and thrive.

As we prepare for the opening of school, we also recognize that the beginning of a new school year will bring an increased volume of traffic in and around our school communities. School buses, vans, staff vehicles, walkers, and car riders will contribute to increased activity, particularly during arrival and dismissal.

The safety of our scholars and respect for our neighbors will remain our highest priorities. We respectfully ask all members of our school communities to exercise patience, follow established traffic patterns and procedures, and remain mindful of our shared responsibility to keep everyone safe. Please avoid parking directly in front of our neighbors, mailboxes, driveways, and the crosswalks. Adhere to and respect the directions provided by our crossing guards.

Our teams are diligently partnering with our Safe Passage partners and community stakeholders to review and refine our current traffic and dismissal plans. As we learn from the opening days of school, we will make adjustments as needed to improve the timeliness, safety, and efficiency of arrival and dismissal.

Dismissal Times

Please note the following dismissal times for our two school communities:

- **Colin Powell Academy:**
 - **School Hours:** 8:30 AM – 3:15 PM (Monday – Friday)
 - **Doors Open:** 8:00 AM - 8:25 AM
 - **Early Dismissal Cutoff:** 12:45 PM
 - **Dismissal/Pick-up:** 3:15 AM-4:00 PM
- **John Hanson Montessori:**
 - **School Hours:** 9:30 AM – 4:15 PM
 - **Arrival/Drop-off:** 9:00 AM – 9:25 AM
 - **Dismissal/Pick-up:** 4:00 PM – 4:30 PM
 - **Early Dismissal Cutoff:** Before 3:00 PM

These staggered dismissal times are an important part of our efforts to support a safe and efficient traffic flow.

We understand that the first few weeks of school may require additional patience as families, staff, transportation providers, and our community become familiar with the traffic patterns and

procedures. We ask everyone to plan accordingly, follow directions from staff and safety personnel, and allow additional time for arrival and dismissal.

We are committed to maintaining open communication and strengthening the valued partnership between our two school communities and our neighbors. Together, we can create a safe, respectful, and welcoming environment for everyone.

Thank you in advance for your grace, patience, cooperation, and partnership as we begin this exciting new school year. We are grateful for your shared commitment to the safety and success of our scholars and the well-being of our entire community.

In partnership,

Courtney King, Principal
John Hanson Montessori

Kineka Dorsey, Principal
Colin Powell Academy