Making the first day of school work for you

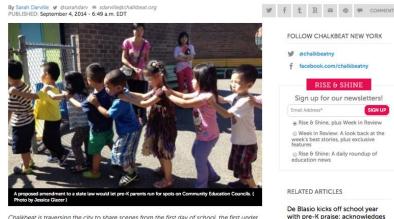


Philissa Cramer @ Chalkbeat

The first day of school is ...



Live-blogging the first day of school, the first under Mayor de Blasio



Chalkbeat is traversing the city to share scenes from the first day of school, the first under Mayor Bill de Blasio, whose ambitious pre-kindergarten expansion kicks off today. What's going on at your school? Let us know through #backtoschoolNYC and, as always, ny.tips@chalkbeat.org.

4:30 p.m.: School visits are over, pre-K students have been picked up, and some teachers are heading home. At the end of his Amber visit, Geoff says Mayor de Blasio and Chancellor Fariña took up two issues looming over the school year: co-location policy and

Mulgrew, who has effusively praised the de Blasio administration in the wake of the union's new contract accompanied Fariña on the visit. It was his first first day of school as union president when Michael Bloomberg wasn't mayor, and a change he seemed happy to point out.

"It's a new beginning for our school system," he said, "and we are very, very excited about doing the work that we love to do, which is helping our children."

11:38 a.m.: Ernest Logan, head of the principal's union, will be at Brooklyn's P.S. 11 and then P.S. 184 today for back-to-school visits. CSA spokeswoman Chiara Coletti said he wasn't appearing with the mayor because he didn't want to send a "confusing" message during contract negotiations. The city and the union are stuck on the issue of retroactive pay for teachers who were promoted to principals or assistant principals since 2009.

11:25 a.m.: Patrick's been hanging out at The Highbridge Green School in the Bronx, a middle school started by local parents. The school is going to feel the effects of a few de Blasio priorities this year—a growing after school program, and some changes because of the UFT contract—but the first thing on Principal Kyle Brillante's agenda was orienting his new sixth graders. His report:



A few minutes after 8 a.m., Brillante strode into the cafeteria of the Highbridge Green School and found a field of green-shirted sixth-grade

... a great time to recap the last year.

school diversity concerns

On her 50th first day, New York

City chancellor tours schools

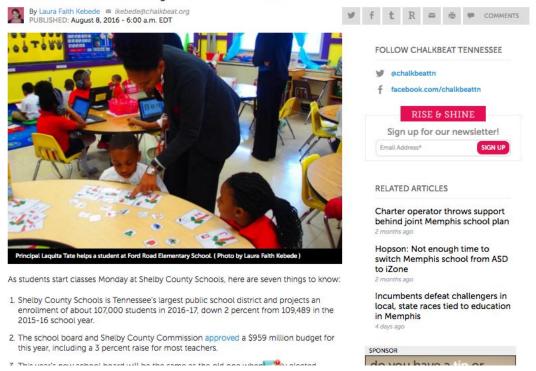
carrying out her vision

11 months ago

11 months ago

BACK TO SCHOOL

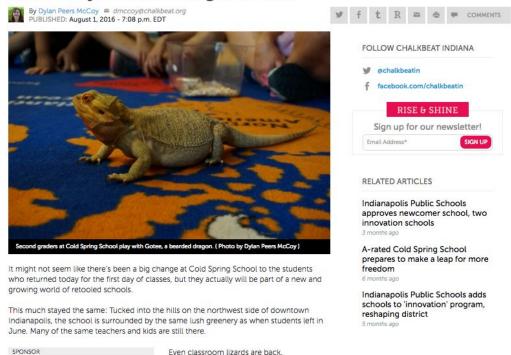
Here are seven things to know about Memphis schools as a new school year kicks off



... and to preview the coming one.

NEW DAY

Cold Spring takes the plunge to manage school differently, but it's still got lizards



... a news peg as much as a news event.



For Crescent Bynum, a culinary arts instructor at Hamilton High School, the \$100 she receives from Shelby County Schools at the start of the year buys some pencils and paper.

Shelby County teacher Lisa Butler volunteers at the Tennessee Education Association's school supplies store for

new teachers in Memphis. Butler says she remembers the financial burden of starting as a new teacher. (Photo by

It doesn't buy cleaning supplies for her kitchen classroom. It doesn't buy extra food to prepare when her class runs out. It doesn't buy chef coats for students who can't afford to pay for them. Bynum pays for all of that out of her own pocket.

SPONSOR

"It's just the way it is that inner-city school

... a chance to (re)connect with sometimes elusive audiences.

increase for Tennessee education 2 weeks ago Education spending boost a slam

dunk in Tennessee House, but

Haslam says state is fulfilling legal funding obligation to Shelby County Schools

impact on individual districts

unclear 4 months ago

11 months ago

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The first day of high school, with one of Orange County's best teachers



Teacher Kathleen Switzer welcomes her students to a new school year at El Dorado High School in Placentia. Among her first-day-back activities: "get-to-know-you bingo." (Mark Boster / Los Angeles Times)



By Sonali Kohli - Contact Reporter

SEPTEMBER 4, 2015, 3:00 AM

pr teachers, going back to school means getting restless students just back from summer vacation into learning mode. When it comes to building a positive classroom dynamic, the first few days back are key.

We wanted to know, how do teachers set the tone for the year? How do they welcome their students?

To answer this question, we visited Kathleen Switzer. She is an English and theater teacher at El Dorado High School in Placentia, where school started on Tuesday. She's also one of the state's finalists for Teacher of the Year.

So we visited her classes on the first day of school to find out how she welcomes her students and establishes the tone for her new class. We'll check up on her progress



... and to open the classroom door to the general public.

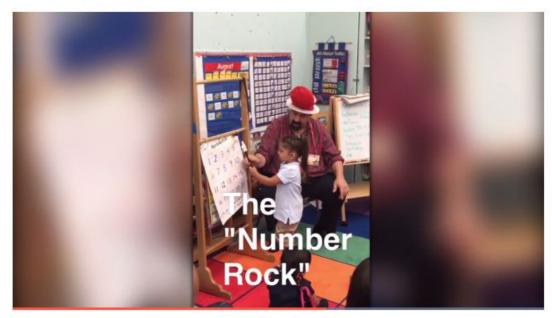


... an opportunity to be seen listening.

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The first day of school - in Snapchats

Cos Angeles Times Photography & Video / Video



Education Matters reporter Sonali Kohli Snapchats the first day of school.



... and a great day to try something new.