



WASHINGTON LATIN  
PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL  
A Classical Education for the Modern World

# IMPORTANT

## New Policy on Tardiness

While the majority of our students and families make sure they arrive on time - meaning in class and ready to work by **8:10 a.m. every morning** - there are some students who arrive well after the start of school with no excuse (such as a doctor's appointment). This detracts from our work, especially for the tardy students and their teachers but also for the entire community. Timeliness is important, reflecting a respect for our shared work and schedule.

Starting with the 2015-16 school year, Washington Latin will no longer tolerate this extreme tardiness, adopting a policy that matches those of other DC schools:

- ***School begins at 8:10 a.m. each morning.*** Students may arrive as early as 7:30 a.m. and go to the Multi-Purpose Room (MPR) to study, socialize, etc. before heading to class by no later than 8:10 a.m.
- ***After 8:10 a.m., students not yet in class are considered tardy.*** Those who arrive to school tardy (unexcused) between 8:11-8:44 a.m. will be allowed to enter the school after signing in at the main office (reception). *A total of five tardies to school or class in one week will result in detention.*
- ***Students who arrive at 8:45 a.m. or later unexcused*** without a valid reason will be marked **absent** for the day and ***not allowed to enter the school.***
- There will be a ***grace period*** from 8/24/15 to 9/8/15 to get us accustomed to this policy.

We hope this will solve this problem of chronic tardiness that has had a negative impact on our learning community and ensure we can make the most of each school day.

**Questions?** Please contact Principal Diana Smith ([dsmith@latinpcs.org](mailto:dsmith@latinpcs.org), 202.223.1111 x218) or Assistant Principal Bob Eleby-El ([belebyel@latinpcs.org](mailto:belebyel@latinpcs.org), 202.223.1111 x113).