



# CURTIS CHRONICLE

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Richard Knight, Principal, KNIGHTRI@pcsb.org

Ward Kennedy, Assistant Superintendent, Area 1, 727-588-5023

SEPTEMBER 2019

## Dates to Remember

- **September 6** -

Open Court

8:10 am

- **September 10** -

PTA Meeting

Dunedin High School

All Grades

7 pm

- **October 2** -

Walk to School Day

- **October 10** -

PTA Meeting

Grades 3-5

7 pm

- **October 17th** -

PTA Meeting

Grades K-2

7 pm

- **October 25** -

Trunk or Treat

## *From the desk of the Principal*



Dear Curtis Fundamental Families,

We had a wonderful opening to the school year! I would like to thank each and every family, student and staff member for such a smooth opening. It is because of each of you that Curtis Fundamental is the greatest school in Florida!

Our first PTA Night/Open House was a huge success! I am glad that families were able to touch base with our teachers so early on in the school year. I know that our teachers took time to make sure everyone understands their classroom and school wide rules, policies and procedures that have been put in place to allow every child to be successful. Our next PTA Meeting on September 10th will be held at Dunedin High School in the Auditorium at 7:00. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

In the month of September first through fifth grade will be conducting our first round of MAP tests. Students will be taking the Math and ELA portion of the assessment. Instead of MAP assessments, kindergarten students will be taking the FLKRS/STAR assessment. Teachers will be providing all our students and families with information from the testing once the testing is complete.

We will continue our Safety Drills in the month of September. This month, we will practice the "Run" portion of "Run and/or Hide". Please know the students will not be running but will walk "with a purpose" to their designated areas.

Please continue to encourage your child to read or read with your child every night. The best indicator of a student's success in reading is the amount of time they spend reading at home. We thank you for continuing to support literacy at home. Show your child how important it is to read by reading while they are reading!

I look forward to seeing everyone at our first Open Court on September 6th at 8:15 in front of the cafeteria. Please remember that ALL VISITORS MUST HAVE THEIR DRIVERS LICENSE OR GOVERNMENT ISSUED ID WITH THEM TO COME ON TO CAMPUS. No exceptions can be made.

Have a Super September! Sincerely,

*Mr. Richard Knight*

### School Mission

Teachers, students, staff, parents and community are partners in education. We join together to assure a focus on highest student achievement by implementing the Plan/Do/Study/Act cycle. Our goal is for each student to learn and to be successful.

# Important Volunteer and Visitor News

Welcome back, Curtis volunteers!

I hope you all had a wonderful summer! A few procedural changes for checking in volunteers were put in place by the district over the summer:

Every visitor to campus (including level 1 and level 2 volunteers) must bring a driver's license or other government identification EVERY TIME they visit campus. This includes joining your student for lunch on Fridays.

Level 2 volunteers must be wearing their badge in order to use level 2 privileges on campus. If a volunteer forgets to bring their badge, they will be issued a level 1 sticker and only allowed to function as a level 1 volunteer (must be escorted and supervised with students). There is a board in the clinic where volunteers may hang their badge, so that it will always be on campus when they come to volunteer.

Every visitor must exit through the front office and be checked out of the system. The new software keeps track of visitors who do not check out.

Otherwise, the campus rules remain the same. All visitors and level 1 volunteers will receive a sticker and must be escorted and supervised on campus. If you plan to have lunch with your student on Fridays, please arrive early (especially for the first couple of weeks), as the new procedures may cause delays in the office.

I look forward to seeing you all on campus! Please contact me with any questions.

Thank you,

Holly Wintermeier

Front Office Clerk/Family &Community Liaison

(727) 738-6483

wintermeierh@pcsb.org



# Counselor's Corner

Hello Curtis Families! My name is Heidi Jolliffe and I am your child's School Counselor.

I will be going into each classroom one time per month for 30 minutes to do Classroom Guidance. In August, we worked on Relationship Building and did an Introduction to Guidance.

**Kindergarten:** The students learned about what a School Counselor does and how I can help them.

**First Grade:** We read the book *The Rainbow Fish* and the students learned to identify the resource adults in the school community, and how to seek their help.

**Second Grade:** The students explored how helping others makes relationships better. They drew pictures and wrote about the ways they can help at home, at school, and with friends.

**Third Grade:** The classes played Self Esteem Speedball. Each student said his/her name and a positive adjective that describes himself/herself that begins with the same letter as the name. As a person catches the ball, he/she must say the name and adjective of the person who threw the ball.

**Fourth Grade:** The students worked in cooperative groups of various sizes to solve a brain teaser puzzle. We discussed the benefits and challenges of working in different size groups.

**Fifth Grade:** The students created personal Coats of Arms to communicate their interests, achievements, and goals.

During September, we will talk about Respect. In the months ahead, Classroom Guidance topics will include: Conflict and Bullying, Gratitude, Career Exploration, Empathy, Communication and Problem Solving, Mindfulness and Self-Regulation, Healthy Choices, and Growth Mindset.

I also work with students individually and in small groups, as needed. Aside from my role as the School Counselor, I am also the 504 Coordinator.

If I can ever be of assistance to your family or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me. I'm happy to help! My email is [jolliffeh@pcsb.org](mailto:jolliffeh@pcsb.org) or you can call me at school. I look forward to working with your children this year!



# ART NEWS



Welcome back to another creative year! I am so glad to be back in the art room working with our amazing Curtis artists! We have been busy setting up portfolios and sketchbooks. Tools that every great artist needs to create and keep great art.

Coming up in September:

Kids Art Fest at the Dunedin Fine Art Center

Every year some of our Curtis artists volunteer with me at a make and take table. This is a FREE event that kicks off the new theme in the children's hands on museum for the season. Mark your calendar now and plan on coming out to join us for a creative and fun day!



MFA Art Mobile

Another art mobile is coming! During the first week in September all students will get to experience viewing and responding to art in a museum setting through a visit from the art mobile sponsored by the Museum of Fine Arts in St. Petersburg. The art mobile will be delivered to our school on Sept. 6 and remain on campus the following week to allow all students to view it during their regular art time.



Synopsis of the Museum of Fine Arts' "Discover the Story in Art" Mobile:

Every work of art has a story to tell, just like every person has a story to tell. When a 19th-century child jumps out of a painting at the Museum of Fine Arts, students are taken on an adventure from ancient times to modern day. Along the way, they will discover how to read works of art to explore their story and meaning. Kindergarten through 5th grade students will make connections between English Language, Social Studies, and Visual Arts standards.

*Mrs. Hiltbrandt*



## Musical Moments

My name is Mrs. Noordhoek and I'm teaching your child music this year. The classes are 45 minutes long and all 536 children come to my room to learn. We have two Chorus classes for 4th and 5th graders.

**K/1-** We are learning to follow directions and work together as a class during music

**2/3-** We have been using the Yoga balls to feel the beat of music and trying to discover how the rhythm is different from Beat

**4-** 4th graders are allowed to be in Chorus this year. I'll be working on uploading their Chorus music so that they can practice at home. I'll also be working on uploading the actual music and speaking parts. Typing the words of the music out is something I will be doing as well for children that have difficulty following the printed music.

**5-** 5th graders in Chorus will have a chance to audition for All State Chorus. Two of our students last year were part of the All State concert. I'm hoping to get at least 3 in this year if not more. 5th graders in Chorus also will be allowed to audition for 5th grade All County Honors Chorus and World Drumming Ensemble in the upcoming months.

For the month of September and I'm sure beyond we will be learning to move to the beat with whole group dancing. Dancing is an amazing way to work together and have fun. I'm also planning to use the Keyboard lab with the children so they can get used to piano skills.



# PE News



## PE Happenings

We have had another great start to a new year! We look forward to teaching your kids how fun it is to be physically active!

## Fitness Jars

To encourage your child (and you) to be physically active, we have created our Fitness Jar program. If your child participates in 30 minutes or more of physical activity, he/she can take a fitness jar slip home, fill it out, and return it to the jar for our monthly drawings at Open Court. We also have a guardian one in the front office, so that you all can be a part of the action too!!

## Healthy School

As many of you know, our school has been recognized as a healthy school! If your child has snack time in class, please help us by sending healthy snacks to school. Our classroom celebrations should be healthy as well!

## Patrols

Mrs. Manley has 62 patrols this year!! If you are interested in becoming a patrol sponsor, please pick up a flier in the front office. The patrols need new belts, new pins, etc. \*\*Reminder: AM patrols begin at 7:30 and PM patrols stay after school until 2:30.

## Upcoming Lessons

Movement Concepts (K-2)

Recreation Games (3-5)

# **Cafeteria News**

## **WELCOME BACK!**

**Anita, Marta, Mary, Pina and I are so happy to be back here at Curtis.**

**Just a few reminders for the 2019-2020 school year.**

## **BREAKFAST**

**Breakfast is FREE for ALL students**

**Breakfast Hours are from 7:30 to 7:50 AM**

**Breakfast includes choice of hot entrée or a variety of pastries, muffins, scones, baked goods and cereals.**

**All baked items and cereals are made with whole grains and are served on a rotational basis.**

**Two fruits offered daily, juice and milk.**

## **LUNCH**

**All lunches include a minimum choice of 2 hot or 2 cold entrees and up to 5 nutritious sides:**

**Fresh fruit, cupped fruit, steamed vegetables, side salad  
milk and juice  
for only \$2.25.**

## **SNACKS**

**Snack service will resume in  
September.**

## **QUESTIONS?**

**Contact me, Mark Paulson  
Food & Nutrition Manager  
[paulsonm@pcsb.org](mailto:paulsonm@pcsb.org)**

# SCHOOL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Our Student Advisory Council (SAC) flyer will be coming home with your child/children soon  
(please see next pages).

We would love to have you join us at our next meeting – Monday, September 16th in the  
Curtis Media Center from 6-7pm.

Important Dates:

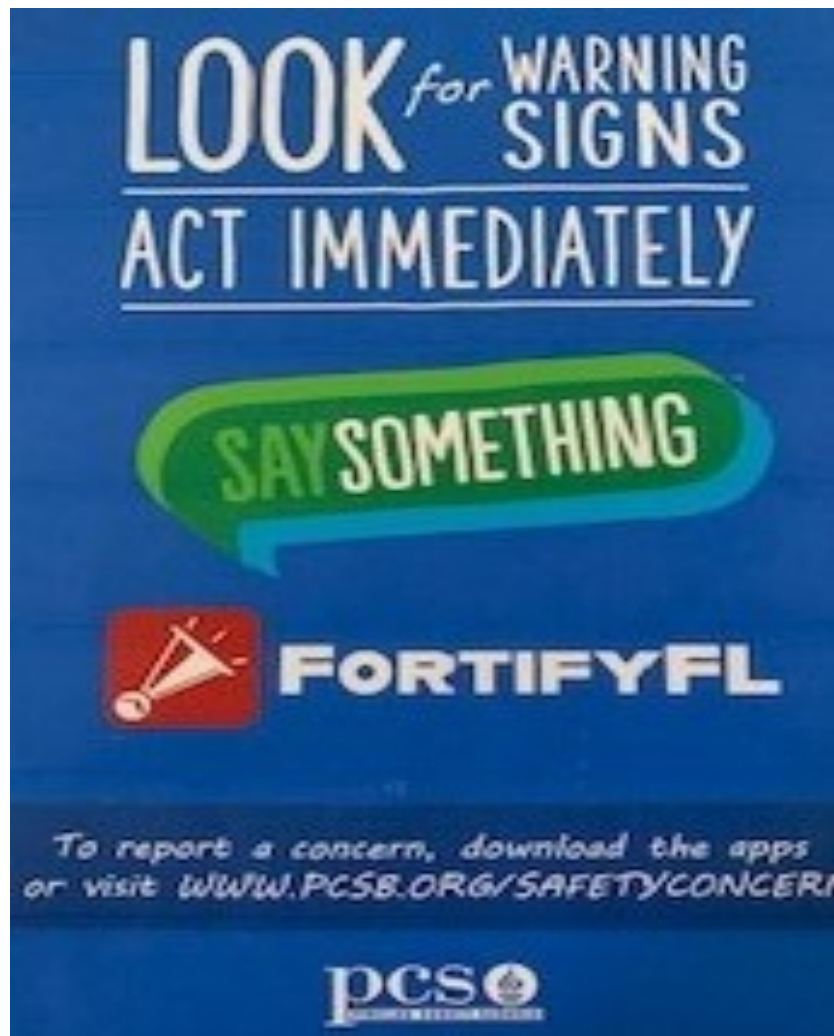
SAC Elections will be September 10th, 2019.

SAC must represent ALL students. We want diversity, and it is required by law! Please join us!

Nominations are due September 6th, 2019.

If you have any questions please reach out to us via email at [curtiscougarsac@gmail.com](mailto:curtiscougarsac@gmail.com)!

Thank you for ALL your continued support.







**CURTIS NEEDS YOUR OPINIONS!**

*Help our school by joining the*

## ***School Advisory Council***



Our school cannot pass it's improvement plan without parent input. We must reflect the rich diversity of our population and to do that we must have parents reflecting all backgrounds.

*You do not need to do anything but listen and give your feedback!*

Why come to a SAC meeting?

- Share feedback directly with school leadership.
- Be part of the School Improvement Plan and yearly survey to parents.
- Give your opinions on policies, enrichment programs & assistance for Curtis families.
- Note: You can NOW attend the October and February SAC meetings instead of the PTA.

We need YOU to represent your family at Curtis

For more info email: [curtiscougarssac@gmail.com](mailto:curtiscougarssac@gmail.com).

Go online for more about SAC: <https://www.pcsb.org/curtis-es> - (Under the "Get Engaged" tab - SAC)

**Curtis Fundamental Elementary School Advisory Council**

**2019-2020**

**SAC Candidate Nomination**

**Some fast FAQs about SAC:** Thank you for considering joining our Council! The School Advisory Council (SAC) is a team of community members who meet once a month during the academic year to help guide school improvement. The team consists of Curtis parents, teachers, school support staff, school administration, and local business partners. A diverse council membership working collaboratively ensures that our students will have knowledgeable and relevant voices advocating for their educational needs. SAC enriches the school by helping to shape school policy so that it remains student-centered, culturally competent, and appropriately academically rigorous. We utilize data-driven decision making, and work closely with the principal on several projects, including:

- School Improvement Plan (SIP)
- Allocation of "A+ Dollars"
- School Climate Survey
- Student Enrichment programs

For more information, please join us for our **next meeting on Monday August 26, 2019 at 6pm in the Curtis Media Center** to learn what SAC is all about. Looking forward to seeing you there!

**Please return your nomination by Friday September 6, 2019.** You may email it to Sari Wood at [CurtisCougarsSAC@gmail.com](mailto:CurtisCougarsSAC@gmail.com), or send it in to the Front office. Elections will be held at the September PTA assembly.

**Nominee Information**

**Candidate Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Name and grade level of children attending Curtis in 2019-2020:**

- |                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| 1. _____ / _____ | 3. _____ / _____ |
| 2. _____ / _____ | 4. _____ / _____ |

**I am seeking to represent the following group of individuals on our School Advisory Council:**

(Please circle one.)

Parents and Guardians

Teachers

School Support Staff

Community or Business  
Partners

**Please share a little about what motivates you to to become a member of the Curtis School Advisory Council.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



PTA Connection  
presents

# COUGARS' ROAR

Curtis Fundamental  
Elementary  
**PTA**  
everychild.one voice.

September 2019

Mr. Richard Knight  
**Principal**

Laura Daniels

**PTA President**

Amber Warren

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Public  
Relations**

Marley Lindlay

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Volunteer  
Coordinator**

Sherri Amato

**3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President, Programs**

Emily Gasner

**Treasurer**

Anne-Maire Nurnberger

**Recording Secretary**

Brittany Maglio

**Corresponding Secretary**

Cynthia Weclaw

**SAC Liaison**

**Like us on Facebook:**

[www.facebook.com/  
CurtisFundamentalElementary](http://www.facebook.com/CurtisFundamentalElementary)

**CONTACT US:**

**Curtis T-Shirts:**

[janacurtisshirts@gmail.com](mailto:janacurtisshirts@gmail.com)

**Yearbook:**

[curtisyearbook513@gmail.com](mailto:curtisyearbook513@gmail.com)

**All other PTA questions/  
comments:**

[curtiscougarspta@gmail.com](mailto:curtiscougarspta@gmail.com)

## *A message from your PTA President*



Hello Families,

My name is Laura Daniels and I am very excited to be your PTA President once again this year! This will be my fourth year serving on The Curtis Fundamental Elementary School PTA Board, this is my second year as president and prior to that, I was VP1 for two years as well. I am so proud of everything our PTA Board has accomplished as a team!

I would like to take a moment to say thank you to every parent that supports PTA efforts, whether it be through your memberships, monetary donations, donations of time and resources, and event participation. Because of your generosity, we are able to enrich the campus, classrooms, and curriculums for our children.

Also, PTA is planning some great events this year! We are working to reschedule the Back to School event at the Largo Highland Rec Center . We have also started planning our Mother and Son Date Night as well! Our PTA Board is working hard on getting campus projects started as well; we would like to add at least one water bottle filling station, additional benches for lunch, and possibly even add to the front of the school's landscaping.

Lastly, I would like to say Thank you to everyone who participated and volunteered during our Uniform Resale, it was our first fundraiser of the year and not only was it a huge success, we were also able to donate so many great clothes that were leftover to a nonprofit called "Clothes To Kids", which is a wonderful organization within our community. There are so many wonderful parents who volunteer and donate their time and we are so grateful!

Sincerely,

*Laura Daniels*

The PTA is working to reschedule the  
Back to School Splash.

We thank you for your patience.

Be on the look out in your e-mail for updates!



The Mother and Son Date Night event  
planning is underway.

Details will be available soon  
regarding this fun event!

