

Welcome Back Cypress Woods Eagles!

Our Cypress Woods faculty returned to school in full force last Friday. Our theme this year is “Be The Game Changer”. We know this year we will be elevating excellence by being open to new learning opportunities, doing something with those opportunities, and making that human connection to our learners and our school community. We are Cypress Woods and we are Game Changers!!



Traditions are an important part of our school, and we will continue these with some changes. With the unprecedented events of today, it is necessary that we adhere to the Health and Safety guidelines for all our stakeholders **to the greatest extent possible**. While things will look different, we know they will be still great experiences. We also recognize that you may have some disappointment in the changes, but we appreciate your support as we know that you share our goal of maintaining health and safety as our top priority. If you have medication that needs to be dropped off before school starts, please call the front office and ask to make an appointment with our school nurse.

Masks

- Students will be required to wear their masks throughout the day. This will include arrival/dismissal, transitions throughout the campus (to and from lunch, specials etc.) and during classroom instruction.
- Mask breaks will be built into the day by the classroom teacher. When in the cafeteria for lunch students may have their masks off while **actively** eating or drinking. Once they are finished eating, they will put their masks back on.
- All students will receive a package of 5 cloth masks (however, we are still waiting for our final shipment and will distribute them once we receive them).
- It would be very helpful for you to have your child practice wearing their mask for longer periods of time before the first day of school next week.

Teacher Assignment/Class Placement

- This year the teaching assignments will look different as in years past. Some of the teachers in each grade level will be assigned to teaching the MyPCS online students, others in the grade level will be teaching the students returning to brick and mortar, and a few may be doing both simultaneously.
- It will be important to have your parent user name and password to access Focus for your child's teacher assignment which will be available on Wednesday, August 19th. We will NOT be sending postcards home as we have in past years. So, knowing your parent user name and password will be paramount. We will not release class assignments over the phone. If you do not know your parent user name and password please contact our front office.
- **The learning options families selected were for the first 9 weeks of school. Please know that at the end of the 9 weeks, depending on the landscape of choices at that time, students may shift teachers. While we know that this is not ideal, it may be unavoidable as students eventually return to the brick and mortar school and we maintain class size limits.**

Meet and Greet

- We recognize that everyone is eager to know how we will host a teacher Meet and Greet. While it may not look the same as it has in the past, we tried to find a balance in providing this experience and still maintaining our safety guidelines. We will be having a Drive-Thru Meet and Greet this year for Eagles in Grades 1-5, in either our car or bus circles on Thursday, August 20th or Friday, August 21st. Each grade level will have an hour window to drive by and say hello! We have specific times for brick and mortar

students and MyPCS students. Grade level times are listed below and attached in another document to the message you have received via email.

- Our traditional brick and mortar Kindergarteners and PreK students will have the opportunity to meet their teacher face to face, following CDC guidelines, of course. Specific details will be shared separately with these families. MyPCS kindergarteners will meet their teacher in the drive thru event as scheduled below.
- Our PreK teachers will be contacting you to specifically set up a time for a meet and greet for your child.
- We will ONLY be taking supplies that will not fit in your child's backpack the first day of school during the drive-thru Meet and Greet. Your child will bring any other supplies when they return to school next week.
- We will be distributing computer to those parents who completed the tech survey requesting a device during the MyPCS Meet and Greet drive thru time listed below.

MEET AND GREET TIMES

Thursday, August 20th

9:00-10:00

- Kdg - 2nd Grade MyPCS students ONLY – front car circle
- 3rd Grade – 5th Grade MyPCS ONLY – bus circle (east side of campus)

1:00-1:30

- Kindergarten (last names A-M) meet at the blue kindergarten doors

1:30-2:00

- Kindergarten (last names N-Z) meet at the blue kindergarten doors

1:30-2:30

- 5th Grade brick and mortar – bus circle (east side of campus)

Friday, August 21st

11:00-12:00

- 2nd Grade brick and mortar – front car circle
- 4th Grade brick and mortar – bus circle (east side of campus)
- K-5 Access Students (brick and mortar & MyPCS)

1:00-2:00

- 1st Grade brick and mortar – front car circle
- 3rd Grade brick and mortar – bus circle (east side of campus)



First Day of School

- The first day of school is always an exciting time for families. As much as we would love for all parents to walk their child on campus the first day, we will not be able to accommodate this tradition this year, as having large groups of people on our campus doesn't support the work we are doing to ensure the health and safety of our staff and students. **For this reason, we will only have Pre-K and Kindergarten with a modified walk-in process. The process for the first day only for Pre-K and Kindergarten is as follows:**
 - Parking will be in the main parking lot only or in the grassy area at the end of Cypress Woods Blvd.
 - **Only 1 parent and the kindergarten/Pre K child may come onto campus**
 - **Please utilize the identified crosswalks ONLY or sidewalks.**

- Kindergarten parent and child will be able to walk to meet the teacher in the grassy area in the front car line. Parents are asked to drop and go. We cannot have groups of people congregating in the front of school.
 - Pre K parent and child will be able to walk to the front door of the PreK building and a staff member will escort your child into the PreK building.
 - Remember you will have seen the classroom during the meet and greet, so this is just a way for you to walk them to meet their teacher and say good-bye.
- All other students in grades 1-5 **WILL NOT** be able to be walked to their classroom building. They will arrive their normal way. We will have staff on hand to assist all students with getting to their classrooms.
 - Please take your first day of school pictures BEFORE arriving on campus.

Arrival/Dismissal

A detailed map outlining our car line processes will be included in your first day packet; however, we wanted to share a couple of big changes with you now, so you have time to plan.

- **We will not allow parent walk-ups for the first part of the school year.** This means you cannot park and walk onto campus to drop your child off in the morning or wait for your child to come out in the afternoon. We made this decision with CDC guidelines in mind and knowing that we will have to make health and safety our priority. All parents must use the car circle for drop off and pick up.
- We will still utilize the front car line for our students in Kindergarten-2nd Grade with their older siblings. **However, those students will be staged socially distanced on the interior of the campus and will be called out as you pull up to the car line.** We will still use the back car line (bus circle) for students in 3rd-5th Grade.
- Kindergarten students will need to either be car riders, bus riders or can walk with an older sibling (with written permission from the parent) but **our current practice does not allow for Kindergarten students to walk independently off our campus.** If you would normally meet your child to walk them out, you would then use the car line to pick them up.

Please know that we are working hard at school to get ready for the year ahead. We are excited to reconnect with our Eagles community soon! We thank you for your support and patience as we fine-tune our work for the 1st quarter of the year.

Kimberly Hill, Principal

Scott Stevens, Assistant Principal

