



August 2019

Dear Leila G. Davis Elementary Parents,

Welcome to the 2019-2020 school year!! We welcome back our returning families and extend a big welcome to our new families too! We are looking forward to your family joining our journey towards 100% student success. Last year our school performed extremely well and was awarded an “A” rating by the Florida Department of Education!!! We are looking forward to a great school year and have a lot of wonderful activities and learning experiences planned for your child. Many of the teachers are already working hard in their classroom preparing for their new class of Davis Scholars. ***Our first day of school will be on Wednesday, August 14th at 8:45 a.m.*** and we want you to have all the information needed to make the transition back to school seamless. Here is some pertinent information that we would like you to keep in mind as you prepare for the upcoming school year.

- ***Class Lists:*** Will be posted on our lobby doors in the Bus Circle at 3:30pm on Friday, August 9. Parents may also see who their teacher will be in FOCUS that same afternoon.
- **Meet & Greet your new teacher will be Monday, August 12th from 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.** This is a time for **all** of our Davis Scholars to visit their classrooms, meet the teacher, drop-off any school supplies, pickup teacher specific supply lists, or ask any questions. Our fabulous PTA will also be selling school t-shirts and other spirit products. The teachers and staff will be very busy preparing for the opening of school so we ask all parents to adhere to our Meet & Greet times.
- **School Safety and Security Update**

As a result of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act, numerous safety measures were put place in Pinellas County Schools. Our staff will again participate in safety training with Clearwater Police and our School Security Officer (SSO). All exterior school doors remain locked at all times. All visitors must be cleared to enter the secure area of the school through the front office. All visitors must present a valid government or school district identification. Those visitors who do not have a *Jessica Lunsford Act* (JLA) Level 2 clearance must be escorted by school personnel at all times while on campus. Those volunteers with JLA Level 2 clearance will be granted access to campus only on school scheduled volunteer opportunities.

- When you have a scheduled parent conference, the teacher will meet you in the office and escort you to the classroom or to a school conference room.
- Parents will be allowed to walk students to classrooms during the first two days of school, August 14th and 15th, only. **Beginning on Friday, August 16**, parents must drop off their children at the front gate, front office or car circle. Please feel free to visit the district’s safety website for further information regarding school safety... www.pcsb.org/safety

- **Medication:** If your child will need to have prescription or over the counter (OTC) medication during school hours, it is important for you to visit the front office **prior** to school starting. Both prescription and OTC medications require additional paperwork to be completed by the parent and/or doctor. Prescription medication may **ONLY** be brought in by the parent and must be in the original prescription bottle.
- **School Hours:** Our **NEW** school hours are from 8:45 a.m. - 2:55 p.m. The first bell rings at 8:35 a.m. Students will be marked as tardy if they are not in their classroom by 8:45 a.m.
- **Morning Arrival and Student Drop-Off:** Student arrival and “drop-off” begins 8:15 a.m. unless they are registered in the YMCA before care program. Our carline is very efficient and safe. We ask that you enter the carline from Landmark Drive and follow arrows and the directions of our employees working the carline. Please know that parking is extremely limited on campus! We ask parents wishing to walk his/her child to school to please park at Heritage United Methodist Church (HUMC) and use the connecting sidewalk/crosswalk from the church to enter the school campus. For safety reasons, please do not allow your child to walk unescorted through the church parking lot. **Student drop-off will not be permitted in the car parking lot or bus circle.** You must use the car circle as designed or park at HUMC.
- **Front Parking Lot:** - This is the first lot accessible from Landmark Drive. We kindly ask that this parking area used only for our **pre-kindergarten student**, our **students with special needs**, and **parents attending conferences**. If you wish to walk your child up to the main entrance, please park at HUMC.
- **Bus Riders:** Students who are eligible for transportation services should receive a postcard in the mail by the first week of August with his/her assigned bus stop, route number, pick up time, and drop off time. If you do not receive a postcard in the mail or have a question about transportation you can call the help line at 587-2020 or visit the transportation link on the Pinellas County Schools website: www.pcsb.org
- **Student Dismissal:** Please note that our new dismissal time is **2:55pm**. Safety is our number one priority! Please be sure your child knows how he/she will be getting home from school each day and if there is a change in plans, please notify the office and your child’s teacher!! We encourage parents picking up his/her child to use our car circle. Please adhere to the directions from our staff and follow the traffic patterns to ensure everyone’s safety in the car line. During the first week of school, we will send home “hang tags” with our new students who intend to be regular car riders. This will assist our staff to have your child (or carpool) ready as you enter the pick-up zone. However, you can help us out the first couple of days by having your child’s name and grade visible in the front window. Returning families may use their hang tag from last year. Thank you for your patience during the first couple of days.
- **Early Pick-Up: (New):** For purposes of safety and accountability, students will not be released from class between **2:40-2:55**. Every instructional minute is crucial to your child’s learning and we ask that you please limit the times you sign your child out early. Appointments and other commitments arise however, please be respectful of your child’s instructional times.
- **School Breakfast:** All students are eligible to participate in the Universal Free Breakfast program. Breakfast will be served from 8:15 a.m. – 8:40 a.m. each morning in the cafeteria if you wish for your child to participate.
- **School Lunch:** Students may purchase a school lunch for \$2.25 daily. Our food service manager, Ms. Suzanne, will be sending more information out the first day of school concerning breakfast and lunch programs. Parents may also choose to create an online lunch account for their child at www.myschoolbucks.com. You will need your child’s 10-digit student ID to create or access your child’s account. This number can be found by using your parent user name and password to access FOCUS. The 10-digit number can be found by clicking the “My Child” link and then the “Child Info” tab. The number will be labeled as the “Local Student ID.”

- **Family Lunch Dates:** Parents may have lunch with their child during their scheduled lunch time at school on the following dates: 9/13, 10/11, 11/8, 12/13, 1/17, 2/14, 3/13, 4/17, 5/8.
- **Dress Code:** At Davis we do not have a school uniform policy and follow the Pinellas County School Board Dress Code <https://www.pcsb.org/dresscode>. Please keep in mind as you are finishing up your school shopping that Pinellas County Schools' dress code requires all students to wear blouses or shirts **with sleeves**. Shorts and skirts must be more than halfway to the knee in length. Students attend PE 3 days a week and have a daily recess break. Closed toes shoes (tennis shoes/sneakers) are required.
- **Supplies:** A current school supply list is posted on the Davis Elementary school website at www.pcsb.org/davis-es and on our **Leila G. Davis Elementary** Facebook page. Copies of the list may be picked up in the front office at school as well. Don't forget that many retailers participate in programs that help earn money for schools.
- **Open House:** Mark your calendars for our Open House Nights. See below for detailed dates & times.

Thursday, August 29th

Gifted Open House at 6:00pm

Thursday, September 5

6:00 - 6:45 p.m. for **Pre-K thru 2nd grade parents**

7:15 - 8:00 p.m. for **3rd, 4th, and 5th grade parents**

This is a time for parents to visit the classrooms and learn about the upcoming school year. *We kindly ask, if at all possible, children remain at home.* Resource Teachers and Therapists will also be available to meet parents both open house nights. You will have the opportunity to meet our other Specialist Teachers during Meet and Greet and prior to our first PTA General Meeting in September 19, 2019.

- **Get Connected:** Please visit our school website at www.pcsb.org/davis-es or for important school events, calendars, and contact information. For those on social media, we also have a Davis Facebook page (Leila G. Davis Elementary) and a Twitter page @LeilaGDavis. It is important to be sure you have a current email address and phone numbers listed in Focus to receive additional updates. You can check your email address by accessing your child's Focus account. These communication tools are a great way to stay in touch with our school. As always, you can contact the school at 725-7972 with any questions you may have.

We are excited to work with all of our returning Davis Scholars and to get to know our new-to-Davis Scholars. Leila G. Davis Elementary School is an awesome place where school pride is strong. Great things will take place this year at Leila G. Davis! See you soon.

OUR VISION
 Leila G. Davis Elementary will exceed county and state expectations as one of the top elementary schools in Pinellas County devoted to highest student achievement, character development, and individual success.



OUR MISSION
 The mission of Leila G. Davis Elementary is to prepare students for middle school by providing a nurturing and academically challenging education through the unified efforts of the total school community.



Mr. Durst
 William D. Durst
 Principal

Mrs. Gualtieri
 Kathryn Gualtieri
 Assistant Principal

