Good afternoon Tech High families,

This message is being sent as a phone call and an email for your convenience. If you have any difficulty receiving the email, the message will be posted on the school’s website within the next day or two... Go to “News” then “Resources” then “Parent Resources”, then Newsletters and Announcements”. Our goal is to make sure our students and families are well-informed with all the great things taking place at Tech High.

Here are some things you will want to be aware of for the upcoming weeks

1.) Thank you to all the families that joined us for our Back-to-School night. We had a great turnout, and it was wonderful to meet so many of our new families. If you missed Back to School night, your child should have brought home a packet for you the next day with some great informational items about the school. We also included a refrigerator magnet in the packet that displays the phone number and email address to contact anytime your child will be absent from school. We hope that you will keep this handy and be sure to contact us when your child is absent so we can accurately code their attendance. Thank you for your help with this important initiative.

2.) If you didn’t get a chance to join PTSA, there is still time. Go to https://techhighptsa.memberhub.com/store and support Tech High by joining PTSA for just $10. Also, our Donuts with Dads event is scheduled for Friday, 9/1 at 7:45am. This is for dads or anyone serving in the capacity of a dad. Plan to bring your child to school that day. We will have you park in our bus loop are starting around 7:30am. We will provide donuts and a short presentation, and we will finish up around 8:30. This is a great way for dads to get involved and meet other dads here at the school. Together we will make an impact on our kids and our community.

3.) Please continue to monitor the weather this week and make plans if a school closure takes place. WE DO NOT HAVE ANY INDICATION AT THIS TIME THAT PINELLAS COUNTY SCHOOLS WILL HAVE ANY CHANGE TO OUR REGULARLY SCHEDULED SCHOOL OPERATIONS. However, it is important to be prepared with the appropriate supplies and plans to ensure the safety of your family. If it becomes necessary to reschedule any of our upcoming activities, we will communicate as quickly as possible in order to keep everyone informed.

4.) We held our 9th grade workshop called Frameworks for Success on Wednesday, 8/23 and we will have another session this Wednesday, 8/30. These workshops offer our incoming students a chance to meet with identified 11th and 12th grade student leaders and learn about the guidelines, expectations, and traditions that exist at Tech High. We also do some fun team-building activities and encourage students to get involved in the different opportunities that are available in our school.

5.) We will have Club Fairs scheduled for Wed. 8/30 and Wed. 9/6 so students can sign up for any clubs that they would like to participate in this year. Please see the attached Club Day Info.docx form for a breakdown of how clubs will operate this year as well as the clubs that will be available. We are looking forward to all the extracurricular experiences that will be available to our students this year.

6.) I’d like to ask parents to please drop off and pick up your child in the area of the car line that is located on the side of the building. Dropping off and picking up in front of the building can cause the carline to back up as there is no lane to go around stopped cars in that area. Also, PLEASE do not drop off or pick up your child in the student parking lot. We have a lot of new drivers in that lot and it becomes a safety concern when vehicles are dropping off, turning around, and exiting in the morning. Thanks for your help in following the established guidelines for student drop-off and pickup.

7.) Academic probation notifications went out through an automated phone call and email last week. Academic probation is based on the semester GPA from the previous semester. 9th grade students have to earn a semester GPA of 2.0 or better and 10th and 11th grade students must maintain a semester GPA of 2.3 or better. 12th grade students have to have a 2.5 or better. There will be a meeting on Tuesday, 8/29 at 8:00am, 4:30pm, or 6pm for the parents of all students on academic probation. We will communicate the probation process and share some tools to support your child back to good standing.
In Case You Missed It…

8.) **Academic tutoring** is available during both lunches Mon – Thurs. and after school from 2:15 – 3:15 on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays in the cafeteria. Please encourage your child to attend tutoring for assistance in any subject areas where they are struggling. Please see the attached form [Tutoring Schedule 23-24.docx](#) for more information.

9.) If your child uses the **Airdrop** app on their iPhone, please ask them to adjust their settings to only receive Airdrop messages from people they know. We have been made aware that a few schools have had issues with students “Airdropping” inappropriate messages to large groups of kids and we don’t want anyone to be subject to something like this in our school. Adjusting the settings to only receive Airdrop notifications from your contacts will help us to identify the sender and address any issues with them immediately. Thanks for your help.

10.) One of the presentations our PTSA is planning to host this year will be related to **online safety** and some **tools that parents can use** to monitor their child’s location or receive notifications when concerning content is accessed or received on your child’s electronic device. There are lots of resources out there and you don’t have to wait for the PTSA presentation to research the different apps available in your App Store. I encourage you to have a discussion as a family and determine if there is a system that is the right fit for your needs. Online safety is very important and can make a big difference in your child’s well-being.

11.) **Arrival/Dismissal**: Please do not drop your child off at school before 7:00 am. Our campus will not be open before then. Our first bell rings at 7:30 am and 1st period starts at 7:35. Students arriving late will need to sign in through the front office. Dismissal takes place at 2:05pm. We will have after school tutoring available from 2:15 – 3:15 on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays starting Mon. 8/21. All students should be picked up by no later than 3:30 each day.

12.) **Attendance**: Did you know that if your child is out of school just 2 days per month, by the end of the year they will have missed 10% of their school year? Attendance is important and there is a very significant correlation between good attendance and academic success. Please partner with us to ensure that your child is in school on time every day. If your child has to miss school, please report their absence to Ms. Howard at [howardd@pcs.org](mailto:howardd@pcs.org) or call the school at (727) 545-6405 x. 2007. Attendance matters…

I hope all of this information is timely and useful to all Tech High families as we start the 23/24 school year. We are really excited for all the awesome things that we have planned for this year. We will always do our best to keep Tech High families informed with all the things you need to know regarding school. “**We are... Tech High!”**