

August 2017

Dear Leila G. Davis Elementary Parents,

Welcome to the 2017-2018 school year!! We are ready for our Davis Scholars to DREAM BIG! We are looking forward to your family joining our journey towards 100% student success. We welcome back our returning families and extend a big welcome to our new families too! ***Our first day of school will be on Thursday, August 10th at 8:35 a.m.***

We want to be sure you have all the information you need to make the transition back to school easy for everyone. 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. Here is some information that we would like you to keep in mind as you prepare for the upcoming school year.



- We will be mailing postcards with tentative student classroom assignments to each student the first week of August. We kindly request you not call the front office and ask about your child's classroom assignment until August 8th if you do not receive a postcard. Please note that all classroom assignments are tentative due to state class size requirements. **No class changes will be made unless it is necessary to meet the state mandates.**
- If you do not receive a postcard in the mail by **August 8th**, there is a good chance the registration process is incomplete or we do not have the correct address on file. Please visit the front office to ensure all documentation and medical records are complete. Your child will not be placed in a class until all registration documents have been turned in.
- **A Meet & Greet will be held on Tuesday, August 8th 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, 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. Classrooms will not be open for visitations before 1:30. Keep in mind you may visit anytime from 1:30-3:00 so it is not absolutely necessary to arrive exactly at 1:30.
- 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.
- Our school hours are from 8:35 a.m. - 2:35 p.m. Students are not permitted on campus until 8:05 a.m. unless they are registered in the YMCA before care program or eating breakfast beginning at 8:00. The first bell rings at 8:30 a.m. Students will be marked as tardy if they are not in their classroom by 8:35 a.m.

- All students are eligible to participate in the Universal Free Breakfast program. Breakfast will be served from 8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m each morning in the cafeteria if you wish for your child to participate.
- A new parent welcome breakfast (**parents only**) will be sponsored by our wonderful PTA on the first day of school from 8:35 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. in the Media Center. We invite you to join us for a time to network with current and new Davis parents.
- 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.
- A current school supply list is posted on the Davis Elementary school website at www.pcsb.org/davis-es. 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. Office Depot and Target are just a couple of business partners that support education. Parents who pre-ordered school supplies online last spring will have supplies delivered directly to your child’s classroom before the Meet and Greet.
- Just a friendly reminder that all parents and visitors must visit our front office to sign in before entering the main building. We ask for your patience during the first week of school as we sign in visitors. We will have a few extra staff members to assist with visitor sign in during the first couple of days. However, it could take a little longer to sign everyone in using the computer in the front office. Please use the main lobby doors located on the car circle side to enter the front office. All visitors must have a photo ID to enter the campus. **All visitors are required to wear a visitor badge while on campus.**
- Students may purchase a school lunch for \$2.00 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.”
- Parking is extremely limited on campus! We encourage parents wishing to walk his/her child to class to please park at Heritage United Methodist Church and use the connecting sidewalk **AND** crosswalk from the church to the school to enter the campus. For obvious safety reasons, please do not allow your child to walk unescorted through the church parking lot. **No student drop-off will be permitted in the bus circle or church parking lot.**



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.

- **Please be sure your child knows how he/she will be getting home from school each day!!** We encourage parents picking up his/her child to use our car circle. We will have staff directing parents to the traffic patterns in the car circle. Please adhere to the directions from our staff. Safety is our number one priority and we need parents to follow the traffic patterns to ensure everyone's safety. We will be sending home hang tags with our new students who will be regular car riders during the first week of school. 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. This will help with a smooth dismissal.
- Students who are eligible bus riders 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
- Mark your calendars for our Open House Nights. See below for detailed dates & times.

Tuesday, August 22

6:00 - 6:45 p.m. for Pre-K, Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grade parents

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

Wednesday, August 16

6:00pm - Gifted Open House

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 during Open House. You will also have the opportunity to meet our other Specialist Teachers during Meet and Greet and at Open House.

- We have several ways for parents to stay connected with the happenings at Davis Elementary. 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 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.



Mr. Durst

William D. Durst
Principal

Mrs. Gualtieri

Kathryn Gualtieri
Assistant Principal

