



August 2018

Dear Leila G. Davis Elementary Parents,

Welcome to the 2018-2019 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 Monday, August 13th at 8:45 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.

- **Meet & Greet your new teacher will be Thursday, August 9th 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.
 - If you do not receive a postcard in the mail by ***today, August 8***, 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.
 - Postcards have been mailed with **tentative** student classroom assignments to each student. 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.**
- **School Safety and Security Update**

As a result of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act, a number of safety measures have been put into place in Pinellas County Schools which will result in changes to the daily operations here at Leila Davis. All staff participated in safety training and our School Security Officer (SSO) has already joined our team. All exterior school doors will remain locked at all times. Our school office will

be equipped with secure storefront glass. All visitors must be cleared to enter the secure area of the school through Badge Pass. 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.

- At Davis this will be a change from our previous volunteer and visitor process. Presently, we do not have supplemental staff or JLA2 volunteers to act as escorts for visitors at lunch. As a result, parents **may not** have lunch with their child at school at this time. We will be working with our PTA and SAC organizations at their August 28th meeting to come up with a solution and a subsequent schedule for lunch with your student.
- 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 week of school, August 13-15, only. **Beginning on Thursday, 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

Other Pertinent Information

- 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 **NEW** school hours are from 8:45 a.m. - 2:45 p.m. Students are not permitted on campus until 8:15 a.m. unless they are registered in the YMCA before care program. The first bell rings at 8:40 a.m. Students will be marked as tardy if they are not in their classroom by 8:45 a.m.
- 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.
- 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.

- 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 ask parents wishing to walk his/her child to school 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 car circle parking lot or bus circle.**
- **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.

Thursday, August 30

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**

Wednesday, August 22

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 both open house nights. You will have the opportunity

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.

to meet our other Specialist Teachers during Meet and Greet and prior to our first PTA General Meeting in September. More details will be posted on our school website very soon.

- 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 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.



Mr. Durst
William D. Durst
Principal

Mrs. Gualtieri
Kathryn Gualtieri
Assistant Principal

