

Sea Turtle Times

Safety Harbor Elementary
September 2020

Principal: Cecilia Palmer
Assistant Principal: Wendy Stryker
PTA President: Cristy Rittenhouse

535 5th Avenue N., Safety Harbor, FL 34649
(727) 724-1462

www.pcsb.org/safetyharbor-es
<https://www.facebook.com/shesseaturtle/>

Calendar



Mark Your Calendar:

**9/1- Virtual Open House,
2nd grade & PE 5:30 – 6:30**

**9/2 – Virtual Open House,
5th grade, Music and
Ms. Caggiano 5:30 -6:30**

**9/7 – School Closed,
Labor Day**

**9/8 – Virtual SAC Meeting 5-6pm
Virtual Open House
4th grade, Ms. O'Connor, Art,
Ms. Belejchak, VE 5:30 – 6:30**

**9/9 – Virtual Open House,
Pre-K, 3rd grade 5:30 – 6:30**

**9/9 – Virtual PTA meeting,
7 pm**

**9/10- Virtual Open House,
Kindergarten, 1st grade,
Ms. Lyons, VE 5:30 – 6:30**

Report Card Schedule

**9/17 – Midterm Period Report
10/23 – End of 1st Grading Period
11/3 – Report Cards Distributed**

Principal's Pen

Happy September SHES Families!

It was a great first week back! This year's opening was by far the most unusual, but in a way, the most welcomed. It was wonderful to have our Sea Turtles back in the classroom, whether on campus face to face, or virtually. It's been quite a while! Welcome to our new SHES families and to our returning families.

Thank you to all who made it possible for us to return in a safe way. Our Plant Operations team worked hard all summer to prepare and they continue to implement a cleaning regiment to ensure our staff and students are in a sanitized and healthy environment. The heaviest list and thanks has to go to our instructional staff, our teachers, who have completely changed a way of work to accommodate all students in both a face to face and virtual platform. This has not been an easy transition, but our SHES team has handled it both professionally and with care for students and colleagues.

Every first week of school has it's bumps in the road, and this opening was no different. We will continue to resolve technical issues and fine tune our practice. Thank you for the encouraging and positive feedback as we work to do this. If you are experiencing a concern that you cannot resolve yourself, contacting your classroom teacher with is the quickest way to get assistance and a possible simple resolution. As always, feel free to reach out to our office. We are here to help!

Over the next two weeks each grade level will host a Virtual Open House. Please mark your calendar for the dates that are applicable to your family. Links will be e-mailed and posted to our SHES Homepage. Be sure to participate to get important information related to classroom processes and academic expectations for your child's grade level.

**September
Character Trait:
Responsibility
Doing your best &
taking ownership for
your words &
actions.**

Finally parents, please take the time to join our very supportive PTA. Although first semester will look a bit different activity wise, our PTA is always finding ways to support our school community. Thank you for all you do!

Ms. Palmer, Principal

SHES PTA News



***We are here for you!
My PCS Online students
and Traditional
Face to Face Students!***

School Hours:

Mon – Fri

8:45am – 2:55pm

***8:15am – campus open for
free Grab & Go
student breakfast***

***My PCS Online Students –
Weekly lunch and breakfast
pick up, every Friday in the
bus circle from 9-9:30***

Front Office Hours

Mon.- Fri.

7:30 am – 4:00 pm

727-724-1462



Hello Safety Harbor Elementary Families. Welcome back. It has been a long break! We hope the first week went well for all our students, whether it was virtual or in person. We know many students were excited to be back. For our new families, welcome to SHES. You have joined an awesome community of students, teachers, staff and parents. Your PTA is very active thanks to all the volunteer hours of our families. While this year will definitely look differently, with many of our annual activities either canceled or postponed, please know that we are still here planning and ready to go once things are allowed.

Unfortunately, at this time we are not allowed to host any in person activities for the first quarter of the school year and possibly the entire first semester. We do have a couple of virtual programs planned so please keep an eye out for future announcements.

While we may not be meeting in person, we are still asking you to show your support and join your PTA. Membership fees are \$5 per person and support not just our PTA but the state PTA as well. Whether you are a virtual family or in person family, grandparent, aunt or uncle, business or community partner, we ask that you join your PTA. Since visitation to the school is extremely limited, we are asking that you join electronically at: <https://shes-pta.new.memberhub.store/store> . Please note, there is a small processing fee when purchasing online. If you would like to join the PTA but are financially not able to at this time, please reach out to us and we will be happy to assist (shespta1@gmail.com). Our goal is for all our families and staff to be a part of your PTA.

You are also able to purchase SHES merchandise online at the same web address. For those attending school in person, items will be distributed to your child's classroom; arrangements to pick up will be made for our virtual students. We ask for your patience as our access to school is very limited and therefore merchandise distribution will be done once a month.

We will be hosting our first general meeting via zoom on **September 9 at 7:00 pm**. The goal of our first meeting is to introduce ourselves, talk a little bit about our upcoming school year and approve our annual budget and bylaws. If you would like to participate in the zoom event, please register at the following link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B094EADA828A4F49-ptageneral>.

We look forward to this year. As always, if you have any comments or suggestions please reach out to us at any time. We look forward to hearing from you.

Shespta1@gmail.com
<http://www.ourshespta.org>
FB: Safety Harbor PTA



Bus Bulletin!

Sign up for
Bus Bulletin
and be informed!

Find out when a
bus is late,
when a route
has been
changed or if
there has been
an accident.

<http://busbulletin.com/parents/>



Find us on:
facebook®

https://www.facebook.com/shessea_turtle/



Pinellas County Schools Referendum benefits teachers and students. The renewal of Pinellas County Schools Referendum will be on the ballot for the Nov. 3 General Election. The Referendum boosts reading, art and music programs, provides up-to-date technology and textbooks, and helps recruit and retain quality teachers.

Voters have supported the Referendum every four years since its initial approval in 2004. An independent citizens committee oversees Referendum expenditures to ensure money is spent as voters intended. Every penny of the funding directly benefits Pinellas teachers and students.

The Referendum supports Pinellas County Schools nationally recognized music and arts programs. The Referendum funds music, theater and dance equipment, musical instruments, band uniforms and sound systems. Thanks to the Referendum, Safety Harbor Elementary has new theatre lighting, a new sound system, new risers and new theatre curtains in the Auditorium. Art supplies, school-wide art projects and books for each classroom to support character education were also purchased. The Referendum also funds the purchase of technology and trainers who help teachers integrate technology into their lessons.

Every penny of Referendum funding benefits Pinellas public school students and teachers. For more information, please visit www.pcsb.org/referendum.

Thank you SHES Classroom Partners!

*Michael Gamble
The Linehan Family
The Brown Family
Jessica Inman*

**Staff and students sincerely
appreciate your support!**



K-Kids information coming soon! Young leaders helping others and supporting our school and community.

Sincerely,

**Mrs. Baby, Mrs. Gazlay,
Mrs. Halstead, Mrs. Lyons**



Volunteer Corner!

Thank you to all the volunteers that have taken the time to reactivate your volunteer account for this school year. If you have not already done so, please log in and reactivate your account. If your account is NOT active you will not receive emails from me requesting help. I know things look much different this year but if we have a need for volunteers to work from home I will let you know via email.

**Thank you again for your support and patience.
Sincerely, Lisa Zollars**



Classroom birthday celebrations/treats are at the discretion of the classroom teacher and will not interrupt instructional time. See the attached for our district's Healthy Food Guidelines. Any item that does not meet these guidelines will be returned to the family. Please also check with the teacher in the event there is an allergy within the classroom. If your child is unable to carry items in themselves, please drop them off at the front office and we will be sure that the teacher receives it. Balloons or large items will be kept in the front office for pick up at dismissal. They will not be sent to the classroom.



Highlights

All components of the PCS Wellness Guidelines are in progress of being aligned to the guidelines from the Alliance for a Healthier Generation. www.healthiergeneration.org

NUTRITION EDUCATION: Instruction is required at all grade levels.

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY:

- Thirty (30) consecutive minutes of physical education is required. Students enrolled in PE in Grades 3 - 5 are required to complete the Being Fit Matters/Fitnessgram assessment, taught by a certified physical education teacher.
- On a daily basis, all elementary students shall have the opportunity of participating in a cumulative 20 minutes of physical activity beyond the physical education program.

OTHER SCHOOL-BASED WELLNESS ACTIVITIES: Schools should provide access to hand washing/hand sanitizing before and after students eat.

FOODS ON CAMPUS: Schools may not serve or provide access for students to low nutritional foods and all other forms of candy on school property until the end of the school day. This includes vending machines, school stores and school fundraisers.

MENUS AND CAFETERIA OPTIONS: Food services menus meet or exceed regulatory nutrition requirements. All beverages served will be milk, 0-calories flavored or unflavored water, 100% fruit and/or vegetable juice. Energy supplement beverages are prohibited.

SNACKS AND SPECIAL EVENTS:

- Parents who would like to send class snacks should call the school office or teacher to make sure the items are within the guidelines. School-provided snacks must comply with the Pinellas County Schools Nutrition Standards and may not contain any Foods of Minimal Nutritional Value (candy, gum, soft drinks, etc.). Classroom snacks may not exceed the maximum portion size designated for that item. Please refer to the suggestions for healthy snacks.
- With principal permission, students may be given low nutritional foods, candy items or other restricted foods during the school day for up to two different school-approved events each year. These food items may not be given while school meals are being served.

INSTRUCTIONAL USE OF FOOD IN CLASSROOM: As part of an instructional, prepared lesson, teachers may use low nutritional foods. Occasionally, students may consume food prepared in class for instructional purposes; however, food may not be provided or sold to other students or classes. Low nutritional items may not be served during meal periods.

STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS: Special needs students whose Individualized Education Plan (IEP) indicates the use of low nutritional foods or candy for behavior modification (or other suitable need) may be given low nutritional food or candy.

TESTING DAYS: Schools and parents may provide one additional snack per day for students taking tests. The school snack must comply with the district's nutrition guidelines and may not contain any low nutritional items such as candy, chips or desserts (cookies, cakes, cupcakes, pudding, ice cream or frozen desserts, etc.). The one exception may be peppermint hard candies.

FIELD TRIPS AND STUDENT COMPETITIONS: School approved field trips and competitions are exempt from the nutrition guidelines.

HEALTHY SNACKS

FRESH FRUITS

- Canned fruits in natural or light juices
- Raisins
- Other dried fruits

GRAINS (1.5 oz. or less)

- Whole grain crackers
- Unsweetened cereals
- Unbuttered popcorn
- Baked tortilla chips
- Unsweetened cereal
- Pretzel and nut mix
- Pretzels
- Graham/animal crackers
- Goldfish crackers
- Munchies Kids Mix
- Baked chips



CEREAL BARS (2 oz. or less)

- Multigrain bars
- Quaker Oatmeal bars
- Rice Krispies Treats

BAKERY ITEMS (3 oz. or less)

- Whole grain breads
- Bagels
- English muffins
- Mini muffins

MISCELLANEOUS

- Fresh vegetables
- Low-fat cheeses
- Peanut butter
- Salsa
- Sugar-free gelatin
- Yogurt (8 oz. or less)



BEVERAGES (12 oz. or less)

- Bottled water
- Flavored water (0-calorie)
- Low-fat milk, flavored or unflavored
- 100% Fruit juices



Frequently Asked Questions

HOW OFTEN ARE THE GUIDELINES CHANGED?

School districts participating in the National School Lunch Program and/or School Breakfast Program are required to develop a local wellness policy that addresses student wellness and the growing problem of childhood obesity. Each year the guidelines are reviewed and revised as necessary by the School Health Advisory Committee.

HOW DOES THIS AFFECT THE LUNCH THAT I SEND TO SCHOOL WITH MY CHILD?

These guidelines do not affect what you pack in your child's lunch. Parents may provide low nutritional or candy items for their own child but not for other children.

WHO DO I CALL IF I HAVE A QUESTION?

For more information, please contact the office at your child's school.