

The Northwest Star

5601 22nd Avenue North, St. Petersburg, FL 33710
School Phone 893-2147 Cafeteria Phone 893-1236
September 5, 2017



Marie Brainard, Principal
Claire Townsley, Assistant Principal
Patricia Wright, Area 4 Superintendent

Northwest Families,

Welcome Back to School! We are off to a great start! We have been working on social skills training, practicing routines and procedures. We are implementing a new program focusing on restorative practices as a response to behaviors and conflict. We will share more information at Safety Night.

Northwest Elementary received a grade of C for the 2016-2017 school year. We are committed to making an A this school year. Teachers are working hard to deliver quality standards based instruction to all children. We have two content coaches for Literacy and Math to work with teachers on specific high yield strategies. We have STAR students, families and staff, and together we can achieve that A!

We are offering a variety of before/after school programs this year. Promise Time will be offered for students needing remediation only, at this time. We will be having a Graphic Novel Art Club, Modern Rock Band, STEM and Crazy 8's Math. Be on the look-out for the flyers.

On September 5th, we will have our second SAC meeting to go over the School Improvement Plan for approval. PTA is off to a fantastic start with the fundraiser and a Chuck E Cheese Spirit Night. The last day for the fundraiser is September 15th.

The first movie night will be September 8th featuring SING. Join us at 5:30 pm for the General Meeting and then sit back and enjoy the movie with some pizza and snacks! We will be giving away the movie as a door prize at the end of the evening, come join the fun.

Our 3-5 grade swim program will begin September 18th. Students in K-2 will have their turn in the spring!

Individual picture day is Tuesday, September 19th. Smile Bright!

Consider saving this newsletter with the information on our school based programs and contact information.

Visitors: All adults must have a dated VISITOR sticker or a PCSB ID badge in order to enter our campus. This is to ensure your child's safety.

Progress reports: the first monthly progress report will go home Sept. 7th. Your next progress report will be going out October 5th.

Attendance: Attendance matters! If students are not here learning, they will not make the necessary learning gains required for each year of school. Please have them here learning every day!

Breakfast Cart: We are now operating a breakfast cart for late car riders and walkers in the courtyard daily. It is open from 8:25-8:55. We need students ready to learn.

There is no supervision before 8:05. Please do NOT leave your child unattended.

NEW Dismissal begins at 2:35. Due to safety during transitions we will not be able to call students to the office for dismissal after 2:15.

Dates To Remember

September 5 - SAC, 5:30 pm in the Media Center
September 7th - Progress Reports
September 8 - PTA General Meeting/Movie Night 5:30 pm
September 15th - end of PTA fundraiser
September 18th - 3rd -5th grade Swim Program begins
September 19th- Picture Day
September 20th- Chipotle Sprit Night (66th St.)
September 26th- PBS Safety Night 5:30 pm

M. Brainard

Title 1 Tid Bits

We will continue with the Connect for Success laptop initiative for students in all grades. Computers will be distributed by Mrs. Brisson. If you would like more information please feel free to contact her at 893-2147.

Our Parent Involvement Plan will be posted on the school's website later this month. The District LEA Parent Involvement Plan will be available in our Title I Parent Station binder as well. Located in the front office, you can preview our "Title I Parent Station". This is a binder with all Title I documents: Parents Right to Know, missed meeting, Title I Annual meeting power point, flyers, parent tool kit, etc...



ESOL Program

The English for Speakers of Other Languages program (ESOL) is designed to meet the diverse needs of English language learners (ELLs) who come from home environments in which the native language is other than English. ELL students receive their language arts instruction from ESOL certified teachers using research-based, effective teaching methods. The goals of the ESOL program include:

- Helping students attain English language proficiency, so they can succeed and excel in academics.
- Providing instruction that satisfies diverse cultural and language needs
- Promoting an appreciation of different cultures and their contributions to our society.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact the teachers of the ESOL program, Ms. Denise Kennedy or Ms. Silvia Kusminova



Family and Community Corner

Welcome to a new, exciting year at Northwest. We are currently registering volunteers and would love to have you as part of our volunteer team. We have various volunteer opportunities available. If you plan to chaperone a field trip or want to volunteer this year, please submit your volunteer application now. Applications are available in the front office or you can contact me and I will send one home with your child.

We are also looking for individuals to be mentors. To be a mentor, you would attend a 2-hour workshop and be prepared to make a regular commitment to meet with a student. Please let me know if this is of interest to you.



Join us for **National Walk to School Day on Wednesday, October 4**. More detailed information will be coming home soon.

A huge thank you to Paradise Printing for making our car signs to help our car line move along swiftly.

We are continuing our contest collecting Box Tops for Education. **It's an easy way to help raise funds for our school.** Please submit your Box Tops to your child's teacher. Twice this year, the class with the most Box Tops submitted will win a prize.



Save the Date: Great American Teach-In, Wednesday, November 15

Michele Mollard
Family and Community Liaison
893-2147 x2101 or mollardm@pcsb.org



"What does Guidance Counseling look like, sound like, and who's it for, you ask?"

What a fabulous experience meeting all of the teachers and students during my classroom visits in the first week of school! I look forward to many more visits throughout the year which brings me to the topic at hand, "Guidance?" Guidance counseling could wear several different hats. However, if a time was to be scheduled for a classroom visit or if students were referred for a small group, someone would see the students engaged in activities like games, art, trivia, readings, etc. These activities would be in relation to what the student(s) are in need of. Someone would hear the students verbally responding about themselves, family, academics, and/ or friends or sharing within groups about their personal experiences. Guidance counseling could be and is for any student who could benefit from some extra engagement or maybe a student who needs a specialized atmosphere to share about his/ her personal experiences with others who might be going through the same thing. All in all, Guidance Counseling works as a positive contributor. Feel free to contact me for more information!

Ms. Spaights



Northwest Cafeteria News

Every Northwest student may have breakfast at no charge daily. This great opportunity is available at all Pinellas County Schools. We now have a breakfast cart offering "Grab & Go" breakfast to all students who are running late to school. Breakfast is the most important meal of the day and we want our students to have full tummies so they can focus on learning. Please Remember:

Parents can apply online now for the lunch program at www.myschoolapps.com. Applications need to be done yearly and applying on line is a much faster process. When we process applications for families online, the parent notification letter will be emailed back to the parent telling them of their child's meal status for 2017-2018 school year. These applications need to be renewed to be prepared for summer camps and other programs. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call me.

Debbie Alter
Cafeteria Manager
727-893-1236

Attendance Matters!

Welcome back to school families. My name is Chris Wood and I am the Social Worker assigned to Northwest full time. If you have any questions, or need assistance, please call me at 893-2147 x 2121.

If you follow the ABC's of attendance your child will be successful in school.

A is for **ALARM**: Set your alarm clock so you have plenty of time to get ready.

B is for **BACKPACK**: Put everything in your backpack before you go to bed and keep it by the front door so it is ready when you are!

C is for **CLOTHES**: Lay out your clothes the night before so you won't have to spend time picking out what to wear in the morning.






Communications Program

Now that we are back in school, you might be wondering: What can I do to help my child with their speech and language skills? If your child is in speech therapy, knowing what sounds they are working on will allow you to model and assist them with accurate production. Also, look for their weekly homework and be sure to practice it with them. With language, ask open ended questions, such as, "What was your favorite part of the school day" and "Why was that your favorite part of the day?" Ask your child to tell you about a book they are reading or the sequence of their day. Talk, talk, talk! Asking questions, talking about books read, and verbally interacting are among the best ways to increase language skills. If you have any questions about your child's communication skills, feel free to contact one of our speech-language pathologists here at Northwest, Teresa McGuirl or Steven Everling.

Northwest Elementary

September 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>8:05-8:25 every morning Free Breakfast Served to all Students</p>					<p>1 August SWB Board Games</p>	2
3	<p>4 No School Labor Day</p>	<p>5 3:00-4:15 Promise Time 5:30 SAC Meeting</p>		<p>7 3:00-4:15 Promise Time Monthly Progress Report</p>	<p>8 5:30 PTA Movie Night </p>	9
10	11	<p>12 3:00-4:15 Promise Time</p>	<p>13 2:35-3:15 Drumming 3:00-4:00 Graphic Arts Club</p>	<p>14 3:00-4:15 Promise Time</p>	<p>15 Fundraiser Ends 2:35-3:15 Modern Band</p>	16
17	<p>18 3rd-5th Swim</p>	<p>19 Picture Day 3:00-4:15 Promise Time</p>	<p>20 3rd-5th Swim 2:35-3:15 Drumming 3:00-4:00 Graphic Arts Club  5-9 Spirit Night</p>	<p>21 3rd-5th Swim 3:00-4:15 Promise Time</p>	<p>22 3rd-5th Swim 2:35-3:15 Modern Band</p>	23
24	<p>25 3rd-5th Swim</p>	<p>26 3rd-5th Swim 3:00-4:15 Promise Time</p>	<p>27 3rd-5th Swim 2:35-3:15 Drumming 3:00-4:00 Graphic Arts Club 3:00-4:00 Crazy 8's</p>	<p>28 3rd-5th Swim 3:00-4:15 Promise Time 5:30-7:00 Safety Night</p>	<p>29 2:35-3:15 Modern Band</p>	30