

Meadowlawn Middle Parent Newsletter

Weekly Updates: Week of 11/16/2020

Reminders from Ms. Parris, Principal

- Face Covering Requirement- Scholars are expected to wear Face Masks daily in school. School staff will provide Face Coverings to scholars that report to school without a mask. Scholars that do not follow the Face Covering Policy will be enrolled in MyPCS Online Learning

- **Monday, November 23- Friday, November 27th School Holiday- No Classes**

- The Principal's Multicultural Advisory Committee (PMAC) is a multicultural student leadership program designed to empower students to have a positive, sustainable impact on the culture and climate of their schools and communities.

The multicultural committee members represent a balance of students by gender and grade level, and representing a cross section of the racial, religious, and cultural backgrounds of the students at the school.

- A. Act as an advisory group to the principal
- B. Engage in a facilitative dialogue about diversity centered concerns and make recommendations to the principal
- C. Promote multicultural activities and programs school-wide
- D. Learn and implement conflict resolution and mediation skills
- E. Provide service to school and community
- F. Improve school climate

If your child is interested, please complete the Questionnaire by accessing the link below. Forward any questions to Ms. Parris, Principal (parrisu@pcsb.org)

<https://tinyurl.com/PMAC-Interest-Questionnaire>

- (Rescheduled due to Last Week's School Closure)

Principal Let's Chat and PTSA Virtual Meeting, Thursday, November 19th at 5:30 PM

PTSA Meeting, Thursday, November 12th

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87127647338?pwd=U09pSFg3QWNGUC9SVHNPaHE1cXB2UT09>

Meeting ID: 871 2764 7338

Passcode: 8KUa5d

- Parent Questionnaire: <https://tinyurl.com/Parent-Questionnaire-Oct2020>

Please take a moment and complete the Parent Questionnaire.

[Meadowlawn Middle School Online School Store](#) is open and items available for purchase. Items delivered to your home address. Store is open until November 22nd. See link to access the store and video below.



https://stores.inksoft.com/meadowlawn_middle_school_fanwea/shop/home

Change Phone/Email Contact Information

Our school district requires accurate contact information to send parents phone calls and emails about:

- Emergencies or severe weather.
- School or district events.
- Special application opportunities.

To update your phone and email address:

1. Visit <https://reservation.pcsb.org> and log in with your parent username and password. If you do not have a parent ID or forgot yours, please contact Meadowlawn MS Main Office at 727-570-3097, ext. 2000 for assistance.
2. Select the option: "Change Phone and Email Address Only"
3. Enter your child's name and date of birth or student ID number, and update your phone number and email address.

Curriculum and Scheduling Info (Mr. Blanco, Assistant Principal of Curriculum)

8th Grade Families

At this point in the school year, our 8th grade scholars should start seriously thinking about which high school program/s they would like to apply for. **Each of the high schools will be holding a virtual discovery night on the dates listed below.**

They will all begin at 6:00 p.m. Feel free to attend as many as you would like. Scholars will be allowed to apply for up to 5 different programs during the application period.

Each year the district puts out a comprehensive catalog further detailing each program and the application process. Once that catalog comes out, I will be going into all of the 8th grade social studies classes to discuss the specifics.

Please strongly consider attending any of the virtual meetings for programs that may be of interest to your scholar.

Gibbs high school – 12/1 (PCCA) and 12/2 (Beta)

Hollins high school 11/9

Lakewood high school 11/13

Northeast high school 11/16

Pinellas Park high school – 11/12 (Criminal Justice) and 11/17 (First Responders)

St. Pete high school – 11/18 (Construction) and 12/3 (IB)

You can access the full county list at <https://www.pcsb.org/discoverynights>

If you have any questions, please contact Megan Stifnell at stifnellm@pcs.org

School Operations (Dr. Gordon, Assistant Principal of Operations)

- Our school safety and sanitizing procedures are in full swing. We are practicing **social distancing** in all areas of the school this includes **one directional hallways and stairways**. Each hall has hand sanitizer, and all classrooms are equipped with a **sanitizing station**. We have also implemented **staggered class transitions and dismissal** to minimize the number of students moving at one time. At the end of each school day, all classrooms are disinfected and sanitized.
- **Please remind your scholar to wear their mask so that it covers their mouth and nose. Also remind them to stay six feet apart from their classmates as they move through the hallways.**
- Please remind all scholars that have been issued a laptop to store it in their book bag when not in use. This will reduce the chance of damage and costly repairs that take time and leave the scholar without a device.
- **We have received the remainder of the devices for students. We will be setting up a procedure to distribute them to scholars. Please be on the lookout for corresponding paperwork to be filled out by parents.**

School Expectations (Mr. Wicks, Assistant Principal of Athletics, Activities and Behavior Management)

- **Picture day** for face-to-face students that was scheduled on November 11 has been **rescheduled for November 20**. There will be a make-up date in the second semester for students who are absent this date and for PCS students. Lifetouch will be emailing parents/guardians directly with purchasing information.
- **Athletics** for the middle schools will not be until semester 2 with three truncated seasons (volleyball; basketball, cheerleading; track). Please begin preparing ahead of time. In order to try out, all athletes will need an athletic physical within the last year on file with the school. Athletic eligibility is having a minimum GPA of 2.0 from the previous semester. Since our sports will not be until semester 2, this means that the GPA requirement is based on their semester 1 grades (not quarters). If grades are in question, it is time to begin working to make gains. **Take advantage of the ELP tutoring program before school for PCS scholars and after school for Face to Face scholars.**
- Parents/Guardians, we are looking for assistance in two areas. One, we are seeing an increasing number of students arrive on campus well before 9:00. Doors do not open into the building until 9:20 and we don't want scholars on campus before 9:15 as we want to ensure that they are properly supervised. This may sound crazy, but we see students on campus before 8AM! Please keep scholars at home longer in the morning to assist us. Two, please ensure that your scholars are coming with masks daily and keep extras in their backpacks. There are a number of students who show up daily without masks.
- With students having laptops, **cell phones** are not needed in the classroom. As a reminder, **phones should be turned off and out of site**. Parents/guardians, please help us by not texting scholars during the day. **Also, if you want to truly see how much your scholar may be using her or her phone or how distracted he or she may be during the day, take a look at his/her phone in the evening and go through the various texts, Snaps, social media posts, etc.** One of the best ways to know what is going on in the life of your student is **monitoring their electronics!**

Technology Updates (Ms. Putkonen, Media and Technology Specialist)

Wrapping Up Device Distribution for Scholars

We are wrapping up our distribution for our face to face scholars this week. At this point, ALL face to face scholars should have a touch screen 3190 2-in-1 computer or a brand new 5400 new laptop. If they do not have a new school device, please print and sign [this form](#) and send their old school computer (and charger) with them to school to get a new one.

Starting on Monday, November 16th, we will be distributing touch screens to the MyPCS (virtual) scholars according to the schedule below. Teachers should be excusing MyPCS students during their designated time since they will need to drop off their computer and pick up a new one. It may take longer than expected, so allow yourself plenty of time. Please plan accordingly.

MyPCS Distribution Schedule for Nov 16 - 18 (Mon- Wed)

11/16 – all 6th grade -in car circle

11/17 – all 7th grade -in car circle

11/18 – all 8th grade -in car circle

We will break up the distribution each day by scholar's last name. If you have multiple children, feel free to bring them at the same time but just let their teachers know ahead of time please.

A – G from 10 – 11 AM

H - M from 12 – 1 PM

N- Z from 1:30 – 2:30 PM

Meadowlawn Virtual Library

- With our library now open, both virtually and in person, scholars can now check out books from school and from home! If your child wants to check out physical books, they still can! They just need to log into Destiny.pcsb.org and search for the book they want and then place it on hold. When the book is ready, I will send them a message on Focus and reach out to the family to arrange a pickup.
- Face-to-face scholars can come and shop for books in the library between classes, or before or after school.

Family and Community Engagement (Ms. Covington, Family and Community Liaison)

MEADOWLAWN
MIDDLE SCHOOL

MENTORS NEEDED!

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PLEASE CONTACT: The Family & Community Liaison
JALISA COVINGTON -727-570-3097 EX. 2008
