Meadowlawn Middle Parent Newsletter

Weekly Updates: Week of 11/02/2020

Reminders from Ms. Parris, Principal

- School Advisory Council Virtual Meeting, Tuesday, November 10th at 5:00PM
- Principal Let's Chat and PTSA Virtual Meeting, Thursday, November 12th at 5:30 PM
- Parent Questionnaire: https://tinyurl.com/Parent-Questionnaire-Oct2020
 Please take a moment and complete the Parent Questionnaire.
 - Online School Store will be Launched this Week Stay Tuned for Details



Pinellas County Schools Referendum benefits teachers and students

The Pinellas County Schools Referendum is up for renewal. 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 spending to ensure money is spent as voters intended. Every penny of the funding benefits Pinellas teachers and students. For more information, please visit www.pcsb.org/referendum.

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:

- 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.

<u>Curriculum and Scheduling Info (Mr. Blanco, Assistant Principal of Curriculum)</u>

The first grading period ended on Friday 10/23/2020. Report Period 2 begins Tuesday 10/27/2020. Lets get a good start on the second grading period. Report card schedule for the 1st grading period is as follows:

SECONDARY (GRADES 6-12) STUDENTS				
Mid Period Report			Final Grades	Report Cards
(for those students needing	End of Report Period	# of Days	and Comment Codes	Distributed
a mid-term report- see note below)			Due in FOCUS	
Thursday	Friday	44	Friday - 4:00 p.m.	Tuesday
September 17, 2020	October 23, 2020		October 30, 2020	November 3, 2020

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 <u>virtual</u> 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.

Boca Ciega high school – 11/4

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@pcsb.org

November SAC Meeting

November SAC Meeting will be held on Tuesday November 10, 2020 at 5:00pm via Zoom. Please utilize the below link to access the meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85237086475?pwd=c2140FpldFZ6S2dZdnNPVmdvbVgvQT09

Meeting ID: 852 3708 6475

Passcode: 6fXBQA

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.

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

- <u>Picture day</u> for face-to-face students in November 11. There will be a make up date in the second semester for students who are absent this date and 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.
- Mask and social distancing are still keys to our scholars and staff staying healthy. With an increase in face-to-face enrollment
 and with people in general becoming numb to the pandemic, we are noticing scholars not following these guidelines. Please
 continue to discuss the importance with them. This includes entering classrooms immediately as opposed to lingering in the
 hallways.
- With students having laptops, <u>cell phones</u> are not needed in the classroom. As a reminder, they 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, 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)

Computer Forms Need Signatures

- 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.
- If your child did not receive a form, but needs a computer, please have them check their Focus Messenger for a note from Ms. Putkonen. I have many scholars who still have a device checked out from last Spring that needs to be returned before I can send them home with a new device. Please send these devices to school with your child so that they can return it (face-to-face only).
- If they borrowed a desktop and they are a face-to-face student, please reach out to Ms. Putkonen directly to arrange for drop-off of the desktop computer. Her number is 727-570-3097, extension 1030.

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 <u>Destiny.pcsb.org</u> 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 MIBBLE SCHOOL

MENTORS NEEDED! MENTORS NEEDED! MENTORS NEEDED! MENTORS NEEDED!

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