

## Meadowlawn Middle Parent Newsletter

Weekly Updates: Week of 11/30//2020

### Reminders from Ms. Parris, Principal

- It is our hope that you and your family are healthy and safe during these unprecedented times. If your child exhibits **symptoms relative to coronavirus, COVID**, please **seek medical attention**, **do not send your child to school** and contact the school for proper attendance reporting. If there is a member of **your family that has tested positive for coronavirus**, **please do not send your child to school** and contact the school for proper attendance reporting. If you have further questions about our COVID Health and Wellness Protocols, please visit <https://www.pcsb.org/Page/32652>.
- 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**
- 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](mailto:parrisu@pcsb.org))

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

### **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)**

#### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Families**

At this point in the school year, our 8<sup>th</sup> 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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)**

**St. Pete high school – 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](mailto:stifnellm@pcsb.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 digital devices for students. By now most scholars should have a device. if you still do not have a device and would like one, please contact the school.**

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

- Picture Day for face-to-face scholars was rescheduled to Nov 20 from Nov 11 due to the tropical storm. We will have two make up days in January for scholars who have not taken pictures: **PCS scholars will take pictures the morning of Jan 19 (non-student attendance day) and Face-to-Face scholars will take pictures the morning of Jan 20.**
- **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.** Athletic participation packets are in the cafeteria and are on the website under quick links. **All completed packets should be returned to Jerry Wicks in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade office.** Scholars interested in boys volleyball should email Mr. Woods ([woodsmik@pcsb.org](mailto:woodsmik@pcsb.org)) and scholars interested in girls volleyball should email Ms. Guyotte ([guyottek@pcsb.org](mailto:guyottek@pcsb.org)). **Volleyball tryouts begin when we return from winter break.**
- Bells will be utilized when we return from Thanksgiving break to note when scholars should be in class. We will still release classes by areas manually. As scholars walk immediately to their next class, there will be two bells: a **1-minute warning bell and then the bell which notes whether scholars were on time or not.** Tardies will be marked and consequences assigned for scholars who are not meeting expectations of being on time. There is plenty of time to make it to class on time, even with the longest distances, if students don't stop for excessive socializing or horseplay.
- Parents/Guardians, we are looking for assistance. 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. Unfortunately, we see students on campus before 8AM! Please keep scholars at home longer in the morning to assist us.
- 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)

### Battle of the Books Reading Challenge

This week is the official start of the **school-wide Battle of the Books reading challenge!** All ELA and Reading classes are included. How many Battle of the Books titles will your child read? [Here is a list of titles.](#) Please make sure that they take a Reading Counts quiz after reading each book for it to count in the totals.

*To take a Reading Counts quiz, go to Clever >> search HMH >> Click on Reading Counts.*

### NEW Makerspace Challenges

In our Meadowlawn Virtual Library, we have a new Makerspace Challenge for the month of December. Visit our Meadowlawn Virtual Library Canvas course to see what it is!

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

MEADOWLAWN  
MIDDLE SCHOOL

MENTORS NEEDED!  
MENTORS NEEDED!  
**MENTORS NEEDED!**  
MENTORS NEEDED!

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

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