Good evening Panthers. This is Principal Athanson and I want to welcome everyone to the 2021 2022 school year. We are thrilled and excited to see each of you this Wednesday, August 11<sup>th</sup>. Our doors open at 9:20 and school starts at 9:40. Parents we ask that students are not dropped off prior to 9:15. We ask that students view their schedule on Focus on Tuesday after 3pm so they know where to report on Wednesday. If students are unable to view their schedules please direct them to the media center and we will provide them with a copy. Students will report to their 1<sup>st</sup> period class when the bell rings at 9:32.

For our incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders and our new students to our building I want to reassure our families that we have all of our staff on duty the first few days to assist students.

For those of you that will be car riders please take note that we <u>have two designated car lines</u>. The front car line that travels next to the bus line is for those persons who will make a right turn onto 19<sup>th</sup> street. No longer will left turns be permitted during school hours. The back, or traditional, car line is for those that choose to exit onto Tampa Road. This decreases the amount of students in one location and helps the flow of traffic at dismissal. Parents do your part and please pull as far forward as you can in the line. Please make sure your student knows which car line to use on day 1. For our bike riders we have two bike racks as well. All students should lock their bikes up each and every day.

We are continuing this year to use our one water bottle filling station in the cafeteria. Please send your student to school with a refillable water bottle. Students may purchase water bottles during breakfast or lunch as well.

This year students will be using backpacks and will not be issued lockers with the exception of PE. Please make sure your backpack is large enough to hold all of your supplies. You may use backpacks with wheels if you choose. I strongly encourage all families to go through the backpacks on a routine basis and help organize them as they can get heavy. All of our textbooks are available online and teachers provide room in their classes for students to store binders and folders. We continue to be a no cell phone school and expect students to turn off their phones and place them in their backpack during the school day.

Students will be issued computers beginning on Friday August 13th and we will start with our 8th graders. All students must have a filled out digital device agreement in order to be issued a computer. This form will go home on the first day of school but is available online if we wish to fill it out prior to the first day.

As everyone is aware the concern regarding COVID is still ever present. Our goal is to keep all students healthy and provide them with a quality education. We strongly encourage all students and adults to wear masks. Additionally, if your student or a family member is on contact or has COVID we ask that you call the school and speak with either the grade level clerk or the nurse. We thank you in advance for your cooperation and assistance.

Lastly, please review our dress code policy. It, as well as other pertinent information can be found on our website under news and events.

We look forward to seeing everyone when our doors open Wednesday August 11th at 9:20 am.