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## Mark Your Calendars

- 9/8 School Pictures
- 9/9 Grandparents' Day (during lunches)
- 9/9 PTO Spirit Shop during lunches
- 9/13 Boy Scout Info Meeting 6:30pm in the cafeteria
- 9/16 PTO Diversity Night, 6:00-8:00pm
- 9/20 PTO Meeting at 6:30pm

## **Welcome Back!**



## Principal Antoine's Monthly Message

We are off to a great start of the fall semester at PES! As we journey through this school year, we remain committed to maintaining our success and accomplishing even more in regards to meeting the needs of our students.

We are pleased to introduce some new staff members for this year. As many of you already know, Jerry Ortiz is our new Assistant Principal. Please join us in welcoming the following new teachers: Kelly Alexander/Kindergarten, Stephanie Althoff/1<sup>st</sup> Grade, Natasha Williams/1st Grade, Anna Rademaker/2nd Grade, Kelly Berry/3<sup>rd</sup> Grade, Jamye Jaco/4<sup>th</sup> Grade, Susan Kruger/Intervention, Sylvia Sharp/Student Support Specialist, and Christine Torres/Cafeteria Monitor.

Mr. Ortiz and I have enjoyed visiting classrooms and seeing how excited everyone is about this new school year. It's been great seeing our returning families again and we look forward to meeting those of you who are new to our learning community.

Thank you for a great start to our 2016-2017 school year!

## Children

F ollow directions

I nspire others

R espect others and self

S tay Safe

T ry their best

At Pflugerville Elementary School!

## Please Note:

- When arriving at school in the mornings, ALL students are to enter the building through the entrance by the cafeteria. **When dropping off your children, please stay within the parameters of the cafeteria hallway and do not walk your children directly to their classroom or the gym. This is for the safety of our children. Your cooperation with this is greatly appreciated.** The entrance doors by the cafeteria will be locked as soon as the tardy bell rings at **7:40am**. Students who are not in their classroom when the tardy bell rings must check in at the office and will be counted tardy. Students arriving after 9:30am are considered absent. Students who are late for school due to doctor appointments are not counted as tardy or absent as long as a doctor's note is turned into the office.
- All visitors must sign in and out through our Visitor Management System on the computer at the office counter. If you are new to the system, you will need to first present your license for scanning. The visitor's badge you receive must be worn and visible at all times while you are on campus. Upon leaving, you must sign-out and exit through the front doors of the school. This is for our children's safety. Your cooperation is appreciated.
- For all of our PES volunteers who assist school staff in day to day activities of the school, special events, student programs, field trips, etc., please be aware that district policy requires that all district volunteers complete an application and consent to a background check prior to volunteering each school year. Please go to the district web page and complete the volunteer application, which can be found by clicking on the Community tab located on the front page of the district website. When volunteering at school, please sign-in as a volunteer rather than as a visitor. Thank you for all that you do!
- As part of PISD's residency audit, all 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students will need to submit current proof of residency. If you have not already submitted the necessary residency documents for your 3<sup>rd</sup> grader, please do so by the end of this month.
- Homework Help is up and running after school from 2:50-3:20pm: 1<sup>st</sup> grade - 3<sup>rd</sup> grade only on Mondays and 4<sup>th</sup> grade - 5<sup>th</sup> grade only on Tuesdays and Thursdays. **There is no Homework Help on Wednesdays or Fridays.** If you feel that your child could use some extra assistance with his/her homework, please be sure to utilize this beneficial service. Just let your child's teacher know what days your child will be staying for Homework Help.

## Parking Lot and Crossing Guard Procedures:

We would like to ask for your help in making our parking lot as safe as possible. Please follow these procedures when dropping off and picking up your child(ren):

### In the mornings

Park and walk your child to the building by way of one of the crosswalks, or follow the flow of traffic around the parking spaces to the drop-off lane by the cafeteria walkway and allow our safety patrol to assist your child out of the car.

Please **DO NOT** drop off your child in any of the lanes with parking spaces or by the front entrance.

### In the afternoons

Park in a parking space or on the gravel by the baseball fields and walk up to the building to pick up your child. **DO NOT park along the curb as no child will be released directly to a vehicle.** When picking up your child, please use either of the two crosswalks - it helps ensure the safety of our children.

Because there is no bus that goes to Bohls Place and Bohls Crossing, the City of Pflugerville provides a Crossing Guard at the intersection of Pecan St. and Immanuel Road, in order to assist our student walkers through this intersection.

Additionally, for the safety of our student walkers from Cambridge Estates, please do not turn right from the parking lot onto Immanuel Rd. until all pedestrians have completely exited the crosswalk.



## Transportation News:

Durham Transportation has issued the following guidelines regarding bus services for the 2016-17 school year:

- For afternoon drop-off, Kinder, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students will only be allowed off the bus if they are met at the bus stop by a parent or designated adult with written consent that has been given by the parent to Durham, or if they are accompanied by an older sibling in 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade. Students will be allowed to go home on a bus other than their designated bus only in emergency situations, and only after the parent has called Durham. **Students will not be allowed to go home with friends on the bus.**
- Students will sit in assigned seats on the bus.
- Concerns regarding bus stops, pick-ups/drop-offs, and giving consent for emergency situations should be directed toward Durham at 512-594-0475.
- Concerns regarding discipline or safety issues should be directed to PES Assistant Principal Jerry Ortiz at 512-594-3800.



### Teacher Phones, Voice Mail & Conference Times:

Each PES teacher has a phone number that rings directly into the classroom before 7:30am and after 3:30pm. During school hours, calls made directly to the classroom will automatically roll to the teacher's voicemail. If you would like to speak with a teacher during her conference time, please call the front office and we will put you through to the classroom.

Kinder 11:15-12:05 1<sup>st</sup> 12:10-1:00 2<sup>nd</sup> 8:55-9:45

3<sup>rd</sup> 1:05-1:55 4<sup>th</sup> 9:50-10:40 5<sup>th</sup> 8:00-8:50

If you have a message that must be received by your child before the end of the day (how they are to go home that day, etc), please call the office before 2:00pm that day and we will make sure that the message gets to your child's teacher; do not leave such a message on the teacher's voicemail in case they do not check it before the end of the day.

### Library Notes

PES community grab your hardhats and toolboxes! Our reading theme for 2016-2017 is "Readers Under Construction!" This theme challenges students to take an active role as they build their confidence and skills as readers. All year long, we will learn about different tools to help students read, and how hard work, planning, and problem solving can help us during the reading process. I am looking forward to "building" great readers this year! Fabulous Library Volunteers Needed:

Do you get here early to pick up your child? Do you want to avoid the heat and cold while you wait? Luckily, the library is in need of volunteers who can help shelve books from 2:15-2:45pm. I am ready and willing to train all volunteers.

### Music News

We are looking forward to grade level musicals this year for 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grades, as well as our spectacular Veterans Day Ceremony. Be sure to mark your calendars: 3<sup>rd</sup> grade - October 25/"Goal!"

Veterans Day Ceremony - November 11

5<sup>th</sup> grade - December 13/"A Pirate Christmas!"

1<sup>st</sup> grade - February 28/"It's a Hit!"

### Tech Club News

The PES tech club is getting ready to start for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year! Mrs. Miller received a Pflugerville Education Foundation grant to buy equipment and software for the club!! If you are interested in joining the PES Tech Club stop by the bulletin board by the computer lab to get an application. The application will include information about the commitment you will be making **if your application is accepted**. Please fill out the application and return it to **Mrs. Miller in Room 101 by Monday, September 12**. Late applications will not be accepted. We have 4 spots for 5<sup>th</sup> grade and 8 spots open for 4<sup>th</sup> grade. This number is based on the amount of computers we have available in the lab. Mrs. Miller will be teaching basic computer coding and video/media skills.

### Cafeteria News

#### 2016-2017 Meal Prices

Breakfast is \$2.20

Lunch (includes milk) is \$2.75

Milk only is \$.50

Parents can place money on a student's individual meal account by sending cash or check (made out to "PISD") to the cafeteria manager. You may also make online payments and view your child's account activity by visiting [www.myschoolbucks.com](http://www.myschoolbucks.com). If your child's account begins to run low, the cafeteria manager will send a note home with your child. Students without any money on their account will be allowed to charge a complete lunch tray up to 2 times, after which a cheese sandwich and milk will be offered until the balance is paid. Also, if you would like your child to be able to purchase extras, please send a note to the cafeteria. If you have questions, please call Martha Mahtab, our PES cafeteria manager, at 512-594-3820.

### Nurse's Notes

Welcome back to another healthy and happy school year! As we get back into the swing of things, here is some helpful information to ensure your child has a great school day:

- Establish a daily routine. Eating breakfast, doing homework, going to bed and waking up at the same time everyday makes for a smooth transition from home to school.
- Get plenty of rest. According to the National Sleep Foundation, school-aged children need 9 to 11 hours of sleep.
- Wash your hands well and often. Good handwashing is one of the best ways to remove germs, avoid illness, and prevent the spread of illness to others. Remember to use soap!
- Flu season will soon be upon us. To protect yourselves and others, remember to do all of the above and also get your flu shot! The CDC has recommended that FluMist not be used this flu season and instead recommends the flu shot. Be on the lookout for information regarding a flu shot clinic for our students.
- Please don't hesitate to let me know of any pertinent health information or recent changes to your student's health. Remember to fill out this year's Student Health and Emergency Information sheet (pink form) and send it back to school. If you plan on sending any medication for your child to school, a Medication Administration Authorization form must be completed and all medications must be kept in the clinic.

Thank you for your help in keeping our PES Pfireants healthy!

### PTO News

-The Back to School Sock Hop was a lot of fun. Thanks to all who helped make it a success.

-All parents of children attending PES are PTO members. Please join us for our first meeting of the year on 9/20 in the school cafeteria beginning at 6:30pm.

-We have some open positions this year that need to be filled (yearbook, hospitality, Jingle Bell Boutique). Please contact us if you are interested at [rocioluper@yahoo.com](mailto:rocioluper@yahoo.com).

-Let's celebrate all the cultures that make PES a wonderful place! Look for a separate flier for our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Diversity Night scheduled for 9/16 from 6:00-8:00pm in the cafeteria.