

Whoo's News



Ms. Julie Gittelman, Principal
Mrs. Suzan DeMeo, Assistant Principal
AUGUST 2019

The School Board of Broward County, Florida, prohibits any policy or procedure which results in discrimination on the basis of age, color, handicap, national origin, marital status, religion, or sex.

PRINCIPAL'S GREETING

Welcome back to the 2019-2020 school year! This year we are celebrating with the theme, "A"ll Star School, One Team One Dream!" Our plan is to continue to work towards our school mission to provide a safe environment that fosters 21st Century lifelong learners. Our team will continue to help each student continue to learn and grow. *We are here to serve!*

We are off to a great start! School grades were released and PPE earned an "A" by the Florida Department of Education. Thank YOU for all of your hard work. Individuals play the game, but teams win championships. Working together, we can accomplish any goal that we set our mind to. Our challenge remains for every student to succeed as we collectively strive to foster a high quality education. We are all part of the *PPE Dream Team!*

The School Board of Broward County approved a change of school locations for select administrators. Dr. Ingrid Osgood, Intern Principal, has transferred to Tradewinds Elementary and Mrs. Suzan DeMeo, Assistant Principal, has joined our team. She brings a wealth of knowledge and is excited to be at PPE!

We need your help to maintain our "A"ll Star status! It is important to be involved in your child's education. Having your child practice the skills learned at school will assist your child's learning toward mastery of the state standards. Your best resource is your child's teacher. Attend Open House to hear about the wonderful things planned in your child's classroom. We will offer childcare for children ages five years and older. If you are able to provide childcare at home, it would be helpful as the number of volunteers is limited.

Our strategic plan sets forth an ambitious path to reach new heights of excellence as we focus on high quality instruction, continuous improvement, and effective communication. We are continuing going digital with the majority of information being delivered electronically. Please make sure we have your correct information on file. If you don't receive something from us by the first few weeks of school, please notify the front office.

Take time to view our school website. plantationpark.browardschools.com We are constantly adding information that will assist parents and students as we progress through this school year. If you haven't already, please "LIKE" our Facebook page (facebook.com/plantationparkelementary) and follow us on Twitter (twitter.com/PlantationParkE).

I look forward to meeting our new PPE families and reconnecting with our returning families. If there is anything I can do to assist in your transition back to school, don't hesitate to ask!

"A"ll Star School, One Team, One Dream!"

Julie Gittelman
Proud Principal

DATES TO REMEMBER

August 13	Meet and Greet 8:00-9:00am
August 14	First Day of School
August 14	PTA Breakfast 8:10am
August 21	PTA Membership Drive Starts
August 22	Fall Pictures
August 28	Ice Cream Sales Begin
August 28	Open House (PK-2 grades)
September 2	No School-Holiday
September 4	Open House (3-5 grades)
September 6	Volunteer Breakfast 8:15am
September 6	PTA Membership Drive Ends
September 10	PTA Fundraising Kick-Off
September 11	SAC /SAF /PTA 6:30pm
September 13	Interim Reports
September 30	No School-Holiday

Open House

August 28th (PreK-2nd)

September 4th (3rd-5th)

6:30pm-7:30pm

Open House is for adults only!

A special invitation will be going home!

WHOO'S NEWS CHANGES

The Whoo's News is getting a much needed makeover! Beginning September 2019, we will be posting quarterly newsletters on our school Facebook, Twitter, and website. The Whoo's News contains important information, so make sure you are receiving and reading our events to stay on top of our school news!

GOOD-LUCK

Dr. Osgood, Tradewinds Elementary
Nurse Kim, left District
Mrs. Gross, Retired
Officer Bill, Plantation Police Road Patrol

WELCOME TO PPE

Mrs. DeMeo, Assistant Principal
Nurse Medina, Part-time Nurse
Captain Gallagnani, Plantation Police SRO

EVALUATION INPUT

In accordance with F.S. 1012.34, parents have a right to provide input into an employee's performance evaluation. If you would like to submit feedback, please do so in writing to Ms. Gittelman, Principal, before the end of April 2020.

CLASS SIZE

Due to the State Class Size Reduction law, students may need to be moved between teachers after the start of school to ensure compliance with the required student limits. All classes are TENTATIVE. Additional information on core classes or anything related to Class Size Reduction is available on the BCPS website. If you have any specific questions, please call the school. We appreciate your flexibility and patience. Your child's high quality education will continue.

SPIRIT DAYS

Every Friday students and adults are encouraged to wear something with an owl on it, a school t-shirt or school colors-green and white. New t-shirts have been ordered! **Special thanks to PTA President, Stefanie Smith, for designing our shirts and new school logo.** The Owl Shop will be open during Open House or you can stop by the front office to place your order! A special order form will be sent home. Show your Owl Pride!

JCC AFTERCARE

Are you looking for homework assistance, healthy snacks, character education, sports, games, computers, reading, science, arts and crafts, and more, then look no further than your PPE cafeteria door! The JCC Afterschool Program provides these services for the PPE families from 2:10pm - 6:00pm. They also offer siblings discounts, scholarships and SBBC employee discounts. Early Release Day hours are from 12:10pm - 6:00pm at no extra cost. For more information, call (954) 792-6700.

AGENDA BOOKS / TAKE HOME FOLDERS

Students in grades 1st-5th will receive an agenda book. **We ask that you initial the agenda book daily.** This will also be used as a communication tool between parents and teachers.

Students in grades PreK-DG-5th will have a folder to take items back and forth weekly. It is very important that you check your child's take home folder every **Wednesday**. If they lose or damage their folder, they may purchase a similar one from the store. *Disclaimer: Sometimes it may be necessary to send home papers on other days (i.e. interim reports, report cards, etc).*

VOLUNTEER PROCEDURES

Keeping students safe is a priority. When school opens, STAR (Security Tracking And Response) will continue to be used at all schools. The STAR System provides schools with high-speed security checks against local, state and national sex offender databases and against state and local law enforcement files. When visitors come to school, the office staff will swipe their driver's license, verify the name, take a photo and print a badge.

Volunteers must complete the on-line application before helping in any school. Go to <http://browardschools.com/getinvolved> to complete the application. The first time volunteers come to assist, the front office will ask for the identification used in the online application. Volunteers who provided service throughout the 2018/19 school year with an ACTIVE status (as recorded in the STAR system), may have been automatically screened for Level 1 clearance for the 2019/20 school year. Please contact the school office to receive your 2019/20 volunteer badge. If you do not have access to a computer or you need assistance with the online application, let us know!

FREE BREAKFAST

The Breakfast Program is still being offered FREE in all Broward County Schools. This allows all students to participate at no charge, regardless of the student's meal eligibility. The overall goal is to increase student academic achievement, while supporting student performance. ***Our cafeteria will be open for breakfast from 7:25am-7:55am.***

PARENT GROUPS

Parent involvement at Plantation Park is critical to our success. Get involved this year in our many parent groups. We welcome new ideas!

1. Parent Teacher Association (PTA) serves as a type of forum where parents, teachers, administrators, and other concerned adults discuss supporting a quality education, and encourage community involvement.

2. Plantation Park Singers Booster Association (PPSBA) is a not-for-profit organization for the Plantation Park Singers Chorus. Membership is free. The purpose is to make chorus the highest quality educational experience possible for the children by handling non-musical aspects of running a choir.

3. School Advisory Forum (SAF) functions as a liaison between the school, the community, and the district. The School Advisory Forum provides parents, citizens, teachers, and students an opportunity to participate in the development of educational priorities, policies, assessment of school needs, and the identification of local resources.

4. School Advisory Council (SAC) consists of elected parents, teachers, non-instructional representatives, community representatives, and the principal. SAC meets at various times during the school year to discuss the school's programs, achievements, goals, and needed improvements.

CAFETERIA REMINDER

Did you know that you can add money to your child's school meal accounts via the internet? This website accepts credit cards for payment into student meal accounts. You can also stay up-to-date with your child's spending in the cafeteria by seeing what your child has purchased. In addition, you can receive notifications, so you no longer have to worry about your child's account balances. Go to myschoolbucks.com. You can link from our website and/or download the app.



**ICE CREAM SALES WILL BEGIN ON
Wednesday, August 28, 2019**

FREE AND REDUCED APPLICATIONS

www.myschoolapps.com is the only way for parents to submit free and reduced applications. If you need help, please contact the school and we will help you. You will need the following: name and income of every member of your household and the school, grade, student number, and birthdate of every student in your household. Children who do not attend Broward County Public Schools should be listed under the "Household Members" section, last four digits of your Social Security Number if you have one, a phone number in case we have to contact you for information, and a valid e-mail address for you to receive notification of your child's meal benefits. All applications must be done on the computer. PPE will have access for parents to complete the online application here or you can call the department at 754-321-0215. **It is best to complete your application within the first ten days of school!**

ASBESTOS HAZARD EMERGENCY

Throughout the year, the School Board of Broward County have performed a substantial number of asbestos abatement projects. The documentation referencing these abatement projects have been added to each school’s management plan. A copy of the plan is located at each of the facilities. If you have any questions, please call 754-321-1638.

INSTRUCTIONAL FOCUS

PPE has established a school procedure of “Do Not Disturb” instruction time. Research shows that if a student is distracted and loses focus, it takes twice as long to refocus the child. Therefore, we will not interrupt instruction unless it is an emergency. Please remember to give your child his/her lunch, ice-cream money, and any special message he/she may need before school begins. Thank you for helping keep our students on task!

FIRST DAY PACKETS

Please return your first day packets by August 30th. We need to have several of the forms included in the packet in case of an emergency. Also, please notify the school during the year if your phone number(s) / address changes!

ATTENDANCE POLICY

A strategic goal of Broward Schools is expecting all students will achieve their highest potential. In order for your child to be successful in school, he or she needs to attend school every day. Policy 5.5, Attendance, states both excused and unexcused absences along with tardiness and early sign-outs will be counted when determining a student’s pattern of non-attendance. A student has a “pattern of non-attendance” if he or she is absent from school a total of 30 hours (5 days) in any one marking period or 60 hours (10 days) within 90 days. If a child has unexcused absences, excused absences without acceptable documentation, tardies or early sign-outs that add up to a “pattern of non-attendance,” and it is clear that the absences are a sign of early truant behavior, consequences may be imposed. In the event your child accumulates numerous absences or tardies, you may be contacted to discuss a solution. If you have questions, please call Mrs. DeMeo, Assistant Principal.

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE PTA

Back to School items: curriculum items, Agenda Books Grades 1st-5th, Take Home Folders, Teacher Start-Up Funds, School Calendar/Parent Handbook, Owl Shop Items, Welcome Back Lunch, and “Boo Hoo Ya Hoo” Breakfast. **We couldn’t do what we do without your support. THANK YOU!**

TITLE I

According to the U.S. Department of Education the purpose of Title I funding, “is to ensure that all children have a fair, equal, and significant opportunity to obtain a high quality education and reach, at minimum, proficiency on challenging state academic achievement standards and state academic assessments.” The basic principles of Title I state that schools will receive supplemental funds to assist in meeting students’ educational goals. The number of students enrolled in the free and reduced lunch program determines low-income students. For an entire school to qualify for Title I funds, at least 50% of students must enroll in the free and reduced lunch program. Plantation Park is currently a Title I school. If you would like more information, please contact Mr. Apodaca, Title I Liaison.



SCHOOL SCHEDULE

8:10 AM to 2:10 PM.....	School hours
7:25 AM	Children permitted on campus if eating breakfast in cafeteria.
8:00 AM	First Bell. Supervision will not be available before 7:40 AM. Children should not be on campus unless they are eating breakfast.
8:10 AM	Classes begin
2:10 PM	Dismissal of all classes. Supervision will not be available after 2:40 PM.
7:40 AM to 3:10 PM.....	Office hours
7:40 AM to 3:10 PM.....	Teachers on campus
12:10 PM.....	Early Release Day Supervision will not be available after 12:40 PM



SCHOOLWIDE AGREEMENTS

- Mutual Respect**
- Active Listening**
- Right to Pass**
- Appreciations**
- No Put-Downs**

BCPS MOBILE APP

The Broward County Public Schools Mobile App is available to download to your mobile device. This app includes an option for parents to log in and review transportation, food and nutrition, and academic information for your child. Registration is required to ensure parents are given safe and secure access. You will be able to receive information in the way you want it: text, email, or by phone. As a school, we will be able to send alerts and notifications anytime, anywhere, to parents using a smart phone or tablet. Download the app at the App Store or on Google Play.

EARLY DISMISSAL

Early dismissal should be avoided. No child will be released from school between 1:40 PM and 2:10 PM without administrative approval. We ask parents to make doctor and dental appointments after school hours whenever possible. Only parent/guardian or persons listed on the school emergency form are permitted to sign out students. For security reasons, we do not accept telephone requests or notes from parents to release students from school; they must be picked up by parent/guardian. Students will not be called to the office until parent/guardian arrives with proper identification.