



**THE GREATEST
SCHOOL ON EARTH
PARK RIDGE ELEMENTARY**

"Come One, Come All...To The Greatest School on Earth!"

Back To School Newsletter

August 2019

Parents & Park Ridge Community Supporters:

Welcome to the Grand Opening of the 2019-2020 School Year at Park Ridge Elementary! A new school year presents opportunities for various beginnings – new classes, new faces, and new learning opportunities. We hope that your summer was restful, filled with great memories, and that you are ready for the excitement and challenges of a new year. We hope that you are as excited and enthusiastic as we are about the 2019-2020 school year. Before our doors open for the new school year, we want to thank you for your commitment to our students and our school. We would like to extend a special welcome to all our new Park Ridge students and families and a hearty welcome back to the returning students and their parents. We look forward to our continued journey into the magnificent world of **LEARNING!**

Educationally yours,

Mr. Balchunas, Principal

Mrs. Whitehead, Intern Principal

Mrs. Brown-Curry, Acting Assistant Principal



New School Times and Safety Information at Park Ridge Elementary

Maintaining a safe campus is our #1 priority at Park Ridge. New guidelines and mandates are being implemented school and district-wide in an effort to better secure our campuses. The district has mandated that once the school day begins, all perimeter access must be locked except for one gate to allow for parent and visitor access to the school. Once our gate is open, it will be supervised by school personnel. If personnel are not assigned to the post, the gate will remain locked and visitors to the campus must call the school's front office to gain entry. Please help us to keep our children and campus safe by adhering to the expectations for arrival, dismissal and access to the campus.

- **The parking lot in the front of the school will be open for drop off beginning at 7:00 a.m. DO NOT drop off your child prior to 7:00 a.m. There is NO SUPERVISION!!!**
- The gate to the school's front parking lot **will open for breakfast at 7:00 a.m.** If for some reason the gate is closed when you arrive to school, **you will need to call the school at 754-322-7700.** We will send someone to open the gate. Please understand that this may take some time, so please plan accordingly.
- Please be ready to **show your ID** and state the purpose of your visitation. Our staff appreciates receiving a positive attitude during these procedures to ensure your child's safety and we will reciprocate with the same!

We kindly appreciate your cooperation and patience as we work together to keep our children and our staff safe.

PARK RIDGE HAS NEW SCHOOL HOURS!
Important Information on the Next Page!

NEW SCHOOL HOURS

Students Hours: Head Start 7:45 a.m. – 1:45 p.m.
PreK-5th Grade: 7:45 a.m. – 2:15 p.m.

Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

NEW SCHOOL SCHEDULE

7:00 a.m. – 7:40 a.m. Breakfast
7:40 a.m. First Bell
7:45 a.m. Tardy Bell-School Begins
1:45 p.m. Head Start Dismissal
2:15 p.m. Grades PreK-5th Dismissal
2:15 p.m.— 6:00 p.m. After School Care - ASP

SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

Office: (754) 322-7700
Attendance Hotline: (754) 322-7702
Fax: (754) 322-7740
Rumor Control Hotline: (754) 831-4000

Websites: www.browardschools.com/parkridge
www.browardschools.com

Follow us on Twitter: https://twitter.com/park_elem

WELCOME OUR NEW HIGH FLYERS!

Kindergarten: Ms. Lashonda Joseph
1st Grade: Ms. Jacqueline Kawarsky
2nd Grade: Ms. Jennifer Fiorenzi
3rd Grade: Ms. Jenna Klein
Ms. Althea Hunt
4th Grade: Ms. Deborrah Bell
Ms. Janeice Brown
Physical Education: Coach Tim O'Rorke
ESE Specialist: Ms. Jessica Brum
Speech: Ms. Tiziana Pereira
Campus Monitor: Ms. Antanette Simmons

Visitor and Student Identification

- 👤 All visitors must sign in and out at the front office via the STAR system.
- 👤 An ID is required when visiting PRE and to sign out students.
- 👤 All visitors must always wear an ID Badge or Visitor Pass while on campus.
- 👤 All Staff and students are required to wear an ID badge while on campus.
- 👤 Park Ridge will provide each student with ID badges and a lanyard. Student badges will remain at school.
- 👤 If your child comes home with their ID Badge, please help us out and make sure it is returned to their teacher the next day.
- 👤 Students wearing uniforms is another great identifier. Please make sure that students wear their uniforms daily.

ARRIVAL PROCEDURES

NEW SCHOOL HOURS: School begins for all students at 7:45 a.m. Students who arrive after 7:45 a.m. will be marked tardy and must be signed in at the front office.

STUDENT SUPERVISION

- PreK-5 AND Head Start student supervision will begin at 7:00 a.m.
- **STUDENTS WILL NOT BE SUPERVISED BEFORE 7:00 A.M.**
- **Main entrance gate will open at 7:00 a.m.**

MAIN PARKING LOT

Parents can start dropping off students in the carpool lane at 7:00 a.m.

All Kindergarten—5th grade students must report to the café prior to going to class. Our amazing staff will receive your children and they are welcome to have FREE breakfast. For safety and security purposes, parents are not allowed in the café.

All Pre-K and Head Start drop off is located at the front of the school. Staff will receive students and escort them to their classrooms for breakfast.

Safety is always our priority. To move traffic along, please **pull all the way up** and use caution when pulling around other vehicles to avoid accidents.

STAY OFF CELL PHONES IN THE CAR LANE!

Rainy Day Procedures:

During inclement weather, administration will assess the conditions of the weather prior to dismissal. Walkers will be released once the weather is clear and safe for student dismissal. Car Riders will remain indoors and will be called once parents arrive. We ask that all parents remain in their vehicles and display their child's name card. Please make sure that you plan for rainy days and communicate with your child and the school if dismissal methods change.

DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

DISMISSAL TIMES

- **Head Start** students dismiss at 1:45 p.m.
- **PreK—5th Grade** students dismiss at 2:15 p.m.
- Early Release
 - Head Start students dismiss at 11:45 a.m.
 - PreK—5th Grade students dismiss at 12:15 p.m.
- Per School Board Policy, students will not be released 30 minutes prior to dismissal, therefore there will be no dismissal after 1:45 p.m.
- Main entrance gates will open 30 minutes prior to dismissal times.

PARENT PICK-UP/CAR PICK UP

Any student picked up by car, must use the carpool lane in the front of the school.

Students will be organized by their grade level. For faster service, place your child's name card in your window. **Please make sure that you pull all the way up.** For your safety, please use caution when pulling around other vehicles.

BSO will ticket vehicles parked in the swale in front of the school.

We understand that dismissal may take time, however with everyone's cooperation, we will be able to load students in cars quickly and safely.

WALKERS

Students assigned as walkers will be dismissed at 2:15 p.m. and exit at the north side of the school. Parents will be able to pick up their child at the entrance of the walkers' gate. For safety and security, parents will not be allowed passed the walkers' gate.

Park Ridge Elementary is a Proud UNIFORM SCHOOL!

All students must wear the school uniform daily. Students' adherence to our dress code is important in helping us identify those that belong on campus. For more information on approved colors and types of clothing please refer to the flyer in your child's first day packet and our school website. We will gladly accept uniform donations. Please bring washed and folded clothes bagged to the front office. Students may wear their PRE shirts and uniform bottoms on designated Fridays only.

Go to our school website:

<https://www.browardschools.com/parkridge>



Save The Dates

Aug. 13 th	Meet & Greet the Crew! 9:00 a.m. Pre-K / Head Start 10:00 a.m. K—5 th Grade
Aug. 14 th	First Day of School For All Performers
Aug. 16 th	Independence Day for All Performers
Sept. 11 th	Open House 6:00 P.M.
Sept. 2 nd and Sept. 30 th	Intermission (No School)
Sept. 6 th	Performer's Picture Day
Sept. 13 th	First Quarter Interims

Make Us Greater!

How can you be a Ring Leader at PRE:

Stay involved in your child's education:

Monitor your child's classwork, attend school activities, sign your child's agenda nightly, and look for newsletters and flyers that tell you about things happening at Park Ridge.

Volunteer

We need your help with a variety of activities. If you can help open car doors in the morning, open containers in the lunch room, read to a child, answer phone calls, or even sign up to join the PTA or SAC committee, please do so. Please speak to Ms. Nero about volunteer opportunities. We Love Our Volunteers!

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Teaching children what to do in the event of different types of emergencies has always been embedded in your child's instruction. We conduct fire drills monthly and tornado drills twice a year. **"CODE RED"** lockdown drills will also be conducted monthly. In the event of an actual emergency, P.R.E. will communicate with the school community as soon as possible using the Parent Link System. To ensure that you can receive this timely communication, be sure that you keep your contact information up to date with the front office of the school.

“Let your motto then always be
'Excelsior', for by living up to it there
is no such word as fail.”

– P.T. Barnum

DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER FOR
FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH!



The online application is an easy and convenient way for parents/guardians to submit an online multi-child meal benefit application. The 2019-2020 online application is located at MySchoolapps.com website. The application is available in multiple languages.



Parents/Guardians can fill out your child's back-to-school forms online. The forms are easy to complete, and all data is protected and secure. Contact the school for more information.

Visit www.browardschools.com for more information

