Good morning Chargers,

Bags are packed. Lunches are ready.  Desks and cubbies are full. It’s time: tomorrow is the first day of school!  Here. We. Go!

Tomorrow will be the first day for a lot of our families, so please take a few minutes to review our arrival and dismissal procedures.  We expect a number of delays with the start of school; we appreciate your patience and kindness as we make sure all of our students arrive and dismiss safely each and every day.

**Drop off in the mornings:**

* Parents may walk their children to their classrooms on the first day of school only if they choose. (Kindergarten is an exception. Please see kindergarten section below).
* We ask that you drop your child at the classroom door and say your quick goodbye as you head back outside. Please do not linger.
* Our students can arrive to school between 8:00-8:25am (no earlier). We recommend that you aim more towards 8 am so you are not held up trying to manage the drop off lines. They both get longer the closer it gets to school start time (8:25).
* *We will be flexible the first two days of school, but beginning Wednesday, August 14th, we will begin tracking morning tardies for students.*
* Students may be dropped off in the morning in either lot- red lot (entrance on Long Leaf Pine Pkwy) or blue lot (entrance on Islesbrook). Both are open to all ages in the mornings. Our students enter using two doors in the front of the building only- one in the red lot and one in the blue lot. Bikers and walkers head to the front and enter with the car line students.
* **Access Classroom students** are to be dropped off in the blue lot in the mornings. That is where we will have additional staff ready to take your child to class. Please have your pink cards in your windshields so we can see that you are pulling up. If your child needs a bit more time to get out of the car, you are free to use the two handicapped parking spots in the blue lot to allow you more time.

**Dismissal in the afternoon:**

* Please know that to follow new state law, *our red lot gate will remain closed and locked from 8:30 am – 2:00 pm every day*.  Please plan to park in the blue lot if you need access to the front office, and our end of day pick-up line will be allowed on campus starting at 2:00 pm.
* **Elementary:** Please be sure that your child’s teacher knows how your child is getting home. [Complete the dismissal change form here if there is a change](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Ftrack.spe.schoolmessenger.com%2Ff%2Fa%2FPSd4m_1UJacKXuv3jh8whA~~%2FAAAAAQA~%2FRgRomfd9P0QtaHR0cHM6Ly93d3ctcG9hLnN0am9obnMuazEyLmZsLnVzL2F0dGVuZGFuY2UvVwdzY2hvb2xtQgpmq_3DuGaPyC_YUiBMZWlnaC5TY2hvdWVzdEBzdGpvaG5zLmsxMi5mbC51c1gEAAAAAQ~~&data=05%7C02%7CLeigh.Schouest%40stjohns.k12.fl.us%7Ca27d843a5ffe4180da9d08dcba0df5ce%7Cb3b3d057fc124f3f92f472be6e844351%7C0%7C0%7C638589816382111959%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ZLxJHysxnBK6ViLdEQVENkXvmy5ODkLvmHZWpHOmgWE%3D&reserved=0). All early dismissals need to be completed prior to 2:15 (1:15 on Wednesdays).
* **Bikers and walkers:** Parents, meet your children across the street from campus. We will get them settled with their bikes at their exits and then get them to you. Parents are asked not to cross onto campus.
* **Parent Pick up:** Elementary students are picked up in the red lot (entrance on Long Leaf Pine Pkwy). **Middle schoolers with siblings in kindergarten or 1st grade also are picked up in the red lot.** Middle School students will sit on the red benches and wait for their car to be called. Please make a sign for your front windshield or use the sign given to you when you joined PTO. **Write large (filling the sign) and in thick black marker** so we can see it from a distance! Your sign needs to have your child’s/children’s names and grades clearly written like below (Signage for your windshield is only needed for the red lot).

**Grade**

**Student first name and last name**

* **Middle schoolers and middle schoolers with elementary sibling(s) grades 2-5 are picked up in the blue lot** (entrance on Islesbrook). Middle school students are instructed to watch for their cars and keep their siblings with them.
* **Access Classroom students:** Your children will be dismissed at 2:30 in the blue lot. If they are bus riders, we will escort them to the bus. If you are picking them up, please have your bright pink placard in your windshield and Deputy Beasley will wave you through the car line in blue lot so you can get to the curb where we will assist your child in getting in the car. We ask that you are here at 2:30 so we can safely have your children in the car and on their way prior to the rest of the school dismissing. If you have other children at the school, we ask that you pick up your ESE child first and then join the blue lot line or red lot line to pick up your other children.
* **Rainy-day dismissal:** In the case of inclement weather, watch your phones as we send out messages about delayed dismissals via text message. We will always delay dismissal for lightning within 2 miles of the school. Please opt into my text messages on HAC so we can stay connected. I dismiss students as soon as it is safe.

**Student absences:**

[To excuse an absence, a note must be received digitally within 48 hours of the absence](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Ftrack.spe.schoolmessenger.com%2Ff%2Fa%2FPSd4m_1UJacKXuv3jh8whA~~%2FAAAAAQA~%2FRgRomfd9P0QtaHR0cHM6Ly93d3ctcG9hLnN0am9obnMuazEyLmZsLnVzL2F0dGVuZGFuY2UvVwdzY2hvb2xtQgpmq_3DuGaPyC_YUiBMZWlnaC5TY2hvdWVzdEBzdGpvaG5zLmsxMi5mbC51c1gEAAAAAQ~~&data=05%7C02%7CLeigh.Schouest%40stjohns.k12.fl.us%7Ca27d843a5ffe4180da9d08dcba0df5ce%7Cb3b3d057fc124f3f92f472be6e844351%7C0%7C0%7C638589816382123592%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=9Wp%2BaMZMMPAh2U49j8ga9kAMGkGa7yZnso1aCcbYgr4%3D&reserved=0). This is district policy. We will strictly adhere to the policy so that our attendance is accurate. Please be prompt in completing the form. Thank you for understanding.

**Kindergarten:**

Kindergarten parents may walk their child to class on their staggered start day and then again on the first day of school for all kindergartners. We have many adults present in the morning, both outside and throughout the building, to be sure everyone gets to where they need to go.

As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call, or email. As a reminder, do not reply to these mass emails as any reply does not get to me. Please reference my contact information below if needed.

Until tomorrow: Work Hard, Learn Something, Be Kind!

Mr. Drew Chiodo, Principal

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