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August 12, 2024

Dear Pinecrest Families,

The faculty and staff of Pinecrest Elementary extend a warm welcome and are thrilled to greet you as we begin the 2024-2025 school year. We are excited about the upcoming year and look forward to working with you and your child. In today's world it is important that there be a strong educational partnership between parents, school and community. We recognize that this partnership between home and school is key to our student's success. We invite you to join us in supporting your child's learning journey, whether it's through volunteering, attending school events, or staying in regular communication with teachers, your involvement is invaluable. We all have the same goal for your child to achieve at his/her highest potential.

The School District of Hillsborough County's Vision is "**Preparing Students for Life**". Pinecrest Elementary supports this vision and continues to hold high expectations for our students and our staff. With this year's theme: "**Game On: Level Up Learning**", Pinecrest Elementary will strive to reach our vision "**To be a learning community where everyone achieves success**". Our students will take center stage as they take the lead role in their learning so that one day they will walk across their own stage at graduation. We are dedicated to providing an engaging atmosphere in which your child will thrive academically and be excited to come to school every day.

In addition to excellent academic opportunities, we pledge to provide a safe environment for your child/children. Here are some important information about keeping Pinecrest healthy and safe:

Campus Access:

- **First Day Only:** Parents will be allowed to walk their child to class. We encourage only one parent to escort their child and say goodbyes at the door.
- Visitors to campus will be restricted to the front office only, Parents/guardians may come in to pick up an ill student or receive information from the office.
- To maintain a safe and healthy environment, students will walk to class with the assistance of staff members. Parents/guardians will not walk students to class or the lunchroom beyond the first day of school.

Volunteer

• All volunteers must complete a new application each school year. New forms are available after July 1 at www.sdhc.k12.fl.us/doc/1532 . When volunteering, please do not bring younger children with you.

- All volunteers and/or visitors on campus must present a valid picture ID and sign-in through the RAPTOR safenet system.
- Volunteer access will be limited for the safety of our students and staff. Due to limited access to campus, volunteers may only be on campus with approval when specific projects are going on (i.e. fundraisers, parent partner day, field trip).

<u>Arrival</u>

- Students drop off is located in front of the main office using the paved car line to enter through the back of the parking area.
- Instruction begins promptly at 7:40 am. All students should be present and in their classroom, no later than this time.
- Busses ONLY are allowed in the bus ramp lanes from 7:10-7:40 am. If your child rides a bus, please be at the bus stop 10-15 minutes early to greet the bus.

Dismissal

- Dismissal is at 1:55 p.m. T-F, 12:55 p.m. on Early Release Mondays for all K-5th grade students. Students may be signed-out early until 1:25 p.m. Tuesday-Friday or 12:25 p.m. on early release Mondays.
- All Pre-K students dismiss in the car line at 1:40 p.m. Only Pre-K/ESE cars may enter the car loop before 1:55 p.m.
- K-5th grade cars will enter through the back gate of the car line at 1:55 p.m. A staff member will check and collect tags and call for students to line behind the double doors.
- Students will only be released to those listed on the emergency card. This is for your student's safety.
- For the safety of all students, a child's mode of transportation may not be changed over the phone. We must have a written note.

Student academic success is the main goal of every staff member at Pinecrest. Our dedicated teachers work hard to create a curriculum that challenges and inspires. We ask for your support and participation in this effort by sending your child to school daily, encouraging your child to read at least 20 minutes every evening, monitoring your child's classwork, and asking your child to share what they learned each day. Be sure to stay connected and maintain constant communication with the teacher regarding your child's progress.

Once again, we welcome you to another wonderful school year. I cannot tell you how much I appreciate this community and our families. I know you understand how deeply the staff at Pinecrest cares about our students and how seriously we take their health and safety coupled with academic strides. We greatly appreciate your partnership and support as we work together to meet the needs of your child. Together, we can help our students level up and achieve great things.

Yours in Education,

Henne Marti

Denise Mobley Principal