

WALKER AND BICYCLE PROCEDURES - Students who ride bicycles are required by law to wear helmets. Bicycles should be locked to bike racks. As part of our Sidewalk Stompers Program to encourage bicycling and walking to school, Pride Student Ambassadors will collect the number of students bicycling and walking to school each day to award a weekly trophy and monthly Physical Education equipment bundle to the class with the most participation. The following safety rules should be explained at home.

- Please practice the bicycle ride to school with your child if this is a new experience for them.
- Bikes and scooters must be locked at the bicycle racks.
- Children must cross the street where there is a crossing guard.
- Due to storage and safety, roller blades are prohibited
- Bike locks are recommended.

SEVERE WEATHER DISMISSAL- In the case of severe weather (tornadoes or lightning) students will not be released to Cross Creek Park, or to walk or ride their bikes home until the weather conditions improve. Please have a dismissal plan in place with your child's teacher in the event of SEVERE WEATHER. Classroom teachers will need to know if you prefer your child to wait until the severe weather has passed, or if they will be picked up in the car line. There is a severe weather plan option on the Afternoon Dismissal Form. Please be sure to choose a plan and return the form to your child's teacher.

ATTENDANCE

"If You Miss School, You Miss Out!" Please give us the entire day to teach your child by preventing tardies and early sign-outs. Schedule vacations using the county school calendar included in this packet. Days missed due to vacations are unexcused absences. If your child is going to be absent, please call the Absentee Phone Line, 558-5400 - Option 1. State your child's name, teacher's name, reason for absence, and anticipated number of days they will be absent.

BIRTHDAYS

We enjoy making every day special for all our students, however, please note that for birthdays, NO FOOD ITEMS or BALLOONS are allowed due to food and latex allergies. Please consider non-food items such as pencils, stickers, bookmarks, etc. Please contact your child's teacher with any questions. Student birthdays may be recognized on the school marquee by making a \$5 donation to our PTA (Parent Teacher Association) - <https://pridetampa.memberhub.store/store>.

BUS INFORMATION

The bus drop-off is in front of the school. CARS ARE NOT PERMITTED on the bus ramp while buses arrive from 7:10 a.m. – 7:40 a.m. or from 1:25-1:55 p.m. during dismissal. All students riding a school bus are expected to behave appropriately. It is the policy of Hillsborough County Public Schools to refuse school bus transportation to any student whose behavior on the bus or at the appointed bus stop is disruptive or endangers the safety of other children or himself. Students who misbehave will be disciplined and may be suspended from riding the bus.

CELL PHONES/ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Cell phones/electronic devices are not allowed at school unless directed by a teacher to assist with instruction. Students must keep cell phones/electronics secure as they are responsible for all personal items. Students must be responsible DIGITAL CITIZENS and use cell phones, the internet, and social media in responsible and positive ways.

CLASSROOM DISRUPTIONS

To limit classroom disruptions during the school day, please ensure homework, lunches and other belongings are sent in each morning with your child. Students without lunch, or lunch money, will be provided an emergency lunch and parents will be notified that it was necessary for him/her to charge lunch. To avoid interrupting instructional time, teachers will be notified via email of deliveries left for students in the main office. Although we make every effort to ensure all students receive the items delivered, teachers are only available to check their messages during non-instructional time, and therefore may not be notified prior to lunch or the end of the school day.

CLASS PARTIES

To maximum instructional time for all students, School Board policy states that elementary school classes may have two parties per year (winter break and end of the year). District policy prohibits parents from bringing or sending food items to celebrate individual student birthdays. Class celebratory food brought by parents or food provided by teachers/administrators for student incentives must be pre-packaged and factory-sealed, with the ingredient label visible on the individual/original packaging.

CONFERENCES AND VISITATIONS

Conferences with teachers are to be arranged prior to or after the student day. Only in an emergency will instruction be interrupted. Any parent desiring to visit in a classroom must make prior arrangements with the classroom teacher. All visitors must be issued a VISITOR PASS FROM THE MAIN OFFICE BEFORE VISITING A CLASSROOM AND BE ON THE APPROVED VOLUNTEER LIST.

CROSS CREEK PARK

Cross Creek Park is not part of Pride Elementary so please be aware that parents are responsible for the supervision of their children at Cross Creek Park at all times.

DISMISSAL CHANGES

It is imperative that anytime there is a change in your child's dismissal procedure that you notify the teacher in writing. Written notification from both households must also be received when a student is going home with another student. Students will not be permitted to go home with another student on the bus. Notification by phone or fax will not be accepted for any dismissal changes. Please send a written note to the classroom teacher if your child's dismissal procedure changes. TO AVOID DISRUPTION IN THE DISMISSAL PROCESS, PARENTS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO SIGN STUDENTS OUT AFTER 1:25 p.m. (12:25 p.m. on Mondays).

EMERGENCY CARD (STUDENT ENROLLMENT RECORD)

We will use the information you provide on your child's Student Enrollment Record (SER/Emergency Card) to contact you in case of illness or injury to your child. Regular ParentLink email messages with important school and classroom information will be sent to the email address you provide on the card. Please keep this important contact information up to date.

LOST & FOUND

Articles of clothing and other items lost at school will be placed in our Lost & Found Box. Items that are not picked up within 30 days will be donated to charitable organizations. Please label (on the inside) sweaters, coats, lunch boxes, etc.

MEDICATION

We are unable to administer over the counter medications to students. Our school nurse can provide you with information regarding procedures for administering prescribed medication that must be administered during the school day. Please see the Hillsborough County Public Schools Student Handbook for additional information.

SCHOOL BREAKFAST/LUNCH

Hillsborough County School District offers free breakfast to all students in every school, regardless of eligibility status. Students should arrive on campus no later than 7:30 if they would like to have breakfast in our cafeteria. Lunch may be purchased in the cafeteria. Information regarding the cost of lunch and free/reduced lunch eligibility can be found at www.hillsboroughschools.org/sns.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

School uniforms are mandatory at Pride Elementary. Parents may order uniforms with our school logo online at landsend.com/school. Our uniform options include khaki or navy shorts, skirts, pants, or jumpers and a burgundy or white collared shirt. Students may wear spirit t-shirts or college shirts and denim on Fridays only (School Spirit Day). Spirit shirts can be purchased from our PTA - <https://pridetampa.memberhub.store/store>. Torn or bleach spotted denim is not allowed. We have a "clothes closet" with donated uniform items. Anyone needing assistance can contact our guidance counselor at 558-5400 ext. 227.

TARDY STUDENTS

Please ensure that your child arrives at school in time to be in their classroom by 7:40 a.m. A STUDENT ARRIVING LATE TO THEIR CLASSROOM (AFTER 7:40 a.m.) MUST REPORT TO THE OFFICE, ACCOMPANIED BY A PARENT OR GUARDIAN, TO SIGN-IN AND RECEIVE A TARDY PASS.

VISITORS AND VOLUNTEERS

All visitors and volunteers must SIGN-IN and OBTAIN a VISITOR PASS in the main office prior to going to classrooms or other areas of the campus. A driver's license is required every time you sign in. All volunteers must have an approved volunteer application on file.

VOLUNTEER APPLICATION FOR HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY SCHOOLS

All volunteers and community partners must complete the HCPS online Volunteer Application each school year. Anyone who submits a volunteer application beginning July 1 will remain active in our system through June 30. The approval process takes four to six weeks to be completed. Visit our district website to complete the online application (www.hillsboroughschools.org/volunteer).

