FARNELL NEWS

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Dear Farnell Families,

My name is Wendy Rauld and I am honored and excited to join Farnell as your new Principal. I have heard so many wonderful things about this school, its dedicated staff, enthusiastic students, and supportive community. It is with great anticipation that I look forward to becoming a part of this exceptional team.

Having served as a Principal for the past three years at a school where we made significant strides together, I understand the importance of collaboration, communication, and a shared vision for success. I am committed to continuing the great work already being done at Farnell and to building on the strong foundation that has been established.

Students: I am excited to meet you and to support your academic and personal growth. Your success and well-being are my top priorities. I look forward to celebrating your achievements and helping you navigate any challenges that come your way.

Parents and guardians: I understand the crucial role you play in your children's education. Your involvement and support are key to our students' success. I am committed to fostering open communication and building strong partnerships with you to ensure we provide the best possible educational experience for your children.

School starts on Monday August 12th and we are excited to welcome our students back in just a few weeks for the 2024-2025 school year.

To our incoming 6th Grade Families, Welcome to Farnell!

I am proud to share that Farnell Middle School has earned a school grade of an "A" This is testament to our community of students, staff and supportive families. This newsletter provides information to help families begin to prepare for the new school year. Stay tuned for additional updates in the next few weeks. Please also review our website and follow our social media pages to stay informed.



Sincerely

Wendy Rauld

Principal

Summer Update July 2024

Principal Wendy Rauld

Assistant Principals
Isidoros Passalaris
Adam Fleischmann

School Counselors
Angela Robert-6th
Brittany Morgado – 7th
JJ Assal – 8th

Follow us for updates

Farnell Middle / Homepage (hillsboroughschools.org)

(@FarnellFalcons) / X

FARNELL MIDDLE SCHOOL

13912 Nine Eagles Drive Tampa, FL 33626 (813) 356-1640

NEW SCHOOL YEAR INFORMATION

Student Hours are 9:35 am - 4:30p.m Tuesday - Friday.

Monday Early Release hours are 9:35 am – 3:30pm. Campus will be open for students at 9:05 am. Please register for HOST if student care is needed prior to 9:05 am or after 3:30pm(Mondays)/4:30pm(Tuesday-Friday). Students will not be permitted on campus unsupervised prior to 9:05 am. Students must be picked up on time which is 3:30 p.m. on Mondays and 4:30 p.m. on Tuesdays

Open House

Open House will be on Wednesday August 7th

- Student schedules will be available in Canvas prior to Open House.
- Please go to your homeroom class to pick up your schedule
- Various vendor stations will be available in the cafeteria. PTSA
 preordered uniforms will be available for pickup in the cafeteria. If you
 would like to place new orders for uniforms or planners, those items
 will be sold in the Gym.
- Please adhere to the times allotted for each grade level
- Additional information will be communicated to families each week

 7^{th} and 8^{th} Grade Open House will be from 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm. Students should be accompanied by an adult for self-directed classroom visits.

 6^{th} Grade Open House will be from 4:00 pm - 6:30 pm. Families should plan to arrive in time to park and report to your students' Homeroom class. 6^{th} grade students and families should follow their students schedule and meet each teacher. Please stop by the cafeteria to visit the PTSA and our vendor stations.

Updated District Cell Phone Policy 2024-2024

The use of wireless communication devices is always prohibited during the instructional day, unless expressly directed by a teacher, staff, and/or administrative staff. Wireless communication devices (WCD) will remain on silent in the student's backpack, lunchbox, purse, pocket, or out of sight while the student is on school property or in attendance at a school function. Use of a device is restricted to before school and after school. Students In

restricted to before school and after school. Students In elementary and middle schools, cell phones may only be used during lunch with the express permission of the school's principal. At Farnell we will not allow cell phone usage during lunch or in holding areas.

Mark Your Calendar

August 7th
Open House

7th and 8th Grade

2:00p.m. -3:30 p.m.
6th Grade

4:30 p.m – 6:30 p.m.

August 12th
First Day of School
9:35 am - 3:30 pm
*Monday is an Early
Release Day

August 16th
PTSA Back to School
Bash
4:30 p.m. – 7:00 pm
Cost \$20 Presale \$25 At
the door

JOIN THE PTSA

We want 100%
participation to make our
goal!
Visit the PTSA link on our
website to join!

Farnell Sports Activities 2024-2025

Basketball (August-September)

Volleyball (October-November)

Track and Field (December)

Soccer (January-February)

Flag Football (March-April)

Prepare Now for Basketball Season. Tryouts will begin in August

Tryouts and practices are open to all students who meet the following requirements:

- 7th-8th grade students must have a 2.0 or higher GPA from the previous semester.
- 6th grade students are exempt from this requirement for the <u>first semester only.</u>
- Students must maintain passing citizenship grads through weekly eligibility forms.
- Three videos, Concussion in Sports, Sudden Cardiac Arrest and Heat Illness Prevention are now REQUIRED videos for ALL students athletes and must be reviewed each year.
- All students/parents must have completed all parts of the athletic packet online at https://www.planethscom
- Completed application for Athletic Participation
 - o Forms can be found at https://www.hillsboroughschools.org/athleticforms
 - Completed physical examination (Form EL 2) Physical must be on the EL 2 Form. Printed and taken to physician then scanned back into https://www.planeths.com
 - Proof of Purchase of Mandatory Insurance Coverage. Cost is \$25.00. Pay online at www.schoolinsuranceofflorida.com or money order (NO CASH or PERSONAL CHECKS). This is nonrefundable & required to participate in any extramural tryouts and athletics. Once purchased, it covers participation for that entire school year.
 - Certificates from three required videos
 - Medical Release forms
 - Consent & Release from Liability (Form EL 3)

Forms need to be completed only once for the school year to qualify for all sports.

Tryouts are scheduled after school and open to all athletes that have completed athletic packets on planeths.com. They are publicized through mass emails and announcements.

Visit the Farnell Website for additional information. If you have any questions regarding Farnell Athletics, please contact Mr. Fleischmann, Athletic Administrator at Adam.Fleischmann@hcps.net or 356-1640 ext. 225 All athletic forms must be completed online and approved by Mr. Fleischmann the Thursday before tryouts begin.

Farnell plays games against other area middle schools in our cluster: Davidsen, Hill, Martinez, Smith, and Walker. Seasons consist of weekly games against each of the above teams (5 games) except Track and Field which consists of a Cluster Meet against all the above teams, and a County Championship for qualifiers. Start time for games is 5:30 on Mondays or 6:00 on Tuesdays thru Fridays. Girls play first followed by Boys. Parents are responsible for transportation to and from game sites.

Student Sign Out Policy

Student Attendance to all classes is important. In the event you need to sign out early, student sign out will end at 3:00 p.m. on Mondays and 4:00 p.m. on Tuesdays-Fridays to ensure a safe and orderly dismissal. Loss of instructional time impacts student achievement so please refrain from signing out your student early.

Farnell Uniform Orders

The PTSA uniform ordering site is live! Please visit <u>farnellptsa.org</u> to purchase your school uniform tops and PE uniforms for 7th and 8th graders only. Please see the uniform policy detailed in this newsletter.

Farnell Uniform Policy

Uniform shirts and PE uniforms can be purchased at farnellptsa.org.

TOPS – Students may wear:

- Red or Black polo WITH or WITHOUT the Farnell logo
- Red or Black dry fit shirts WITH the Farnell logo
- Red or Black t-shirt WITH the Farnell
- Red, Black or Gray sweatshirts preferred, not required
- School Spirit or Club shirts on Fridays ONLY

BOTTOMS – Students may wear:

- Jeans no holes or tears above fingertip
- Pants no holes or tears above fingertip
- Shorts and Skirts must be fingertip length or longer, no holes or tears
- Leggings shirt must be fingertip length over leggings, no holes or tears

PE UNIFORMS – 7th and 8th Graders Only

- Gray t-shirt/dry fit shirt
- Black athletic shorts
- Athletic shoes (6^{th,} 7th and 8th graders)
- All attire must comply with Hillsborough County Public Schools Dress Code Policy.













Arrival and Dismissal Information

Hello Falcon Family! This is your friendly neighborhood Deputy here, fighting traffic one car at a time.

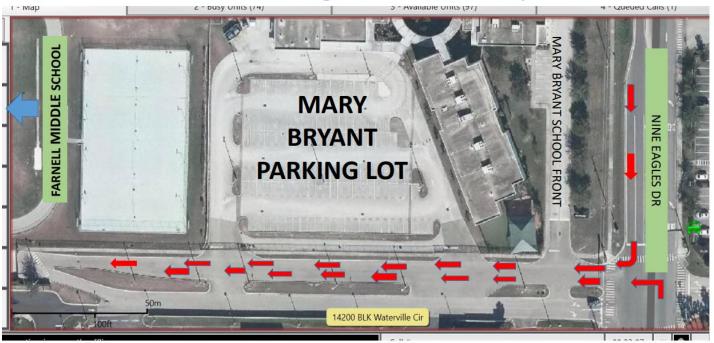
As you all know, traffic can be a maze and sometimes frustrating getting onto our campus. I want you all to understand that this is of no fault of our own. Unfortunately, someone made the executive decision to put two schools on a lot of land that really should be designated for one. To add to the issue, they are both schools where the students require transportation to be picked up. If this was a small high school, it may be more manageable as students would be able to drive themselves home. However, that is not the case. We are limited to the one road that we have, to allow parents access to both schools, so we need to work together to keep traffic moving as efficiently as possible.

If you were wondering why we don't use the parking lot in the morning, this is because the gates to the school have to be closed once school is in session because it offers direct access to their campus. Our school has a fully gated perimeter which is why we can afford to leave the main gate open throughout the day.

That being said, I have attached a lengthy guideline with pictures to help alleviate some of the stresses caused by our traffic. When you have time, please review and read the presentation in its entirety. For those of you who are new to Farnell, WELCOME and thank you for your time.

Deputy De la Cruz

Farnell Morning Traffic(Drop-off)



Farnell Morning Traffic

- Please review the picture above as you read the instructions for **morning traffic**. This system is as efficient as I can possibly make it considering the two schools and the limited space we have, so bear with me.
- Above you will see red arrows going in the direction of Farnell Middle School, passing Mary Bryant Elementary. These arrows
 represent your cars traveling towards Farnell. Please try to maintain the integrity of the lanes of traffic as you come down the
 "Driveway" as we call it. If you maintain your lane, I promise I will get you onto school grounds as soon as possible.
- ***BEFORE 9:00am DO NOT BLOCK THE BUS LANE*** Traffic will not be moving until your Falcons are clear to enter the school.

 Please stay in the lane closest to Mary Bryant Elementary, as buses will be pulling in before you get a chance to drop off your kiddo. If your vehicle is not able to pass the gate coming onto school property, please stop at the stop bar so buses can get around you.
- As you see, there are two lanes of traffic in the picture. That means that I would like for you mommy and daddy falcons to come all
 the way down both lanes after 9:00am, so that we may accommodate more parents as they enter the "Driveway". We will not be
 stopping at the stop bar after 9:00am. I will be controlling traffic so continue forward. You all know that traffic is impossible and it is
 already difficult to get off of Racetrack Rd or Nine Eagles as it is. That being said, please pay attention to the traffic movement and
 come as far forward as possible.
- After 9:00am, Please refrain from shifting from the right lane to the left lane and back to the left lane. I don't think we realize how
 badly this effects traffic. Please be honest and fair to the other parents waiting in line. Pick a lane and commit to it. I will allow you to
 merge or merge you myself and get you in on time if you let me. I promise (as long as you show up on time).
- ***BUSES TAKE PRIORITY*** The children on the buses account for half of our student body, so for every one child you bring, the bus
 is carrying 60 to 80 of them at a time. I understand that you may have been waiting a little longer than the drivers in the bus lane but I
 have to allow the buses to pass. Once the buses pass, I will alternate lanes into Farnell.
- ***DO NOT BLOCK MARY BRYANT EXIT*** Please treat this little cut out exit as a lane of traffic. We can not block any exits of travel.
- ****LOOK FOR THE GUY IN THE WHITE SHIRT AND THE GUNBELT*** If you get stuck trying to merge or forget that you can come all
 the way down, look for me at the end of the lane. I am probably waving at you to get your attention.

Farnell Afternoon Traffic (Pick-up)

MARY
BRYANT
PARKING LOT

"DRIVEWAY"

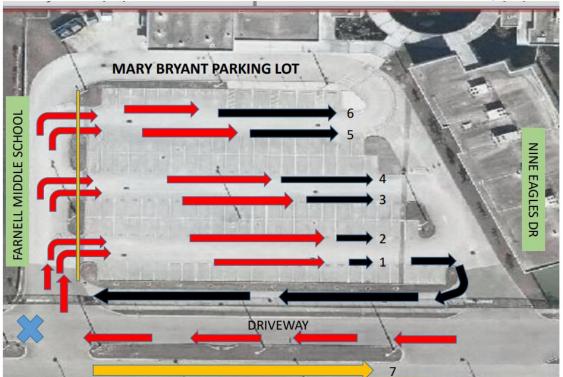
14200 BLK Waterville Cir

"DRIVEWAY"

Farnell Afternoon Traffic (Pick-up)

- Please review the above picture for afternoon traffic.
- Above you will see black arrows. That is the car line consisting of parents that have been waiting for their Falcons since 3:30pm and sometimes sooner. These arrows are black because they will most likely be stationary before dismissal.
- If you are not parked in the area where the large black arrows are, you need to move into the bus lane so I can park you into the over flow parking lot inside Mary Bryant Elementary parking lot.
- If you are driving south from Nine eagles you may either stay in the turn lane (black arrow) or go around to the bus lane for overflow parking in the parking lot.
- If you are coming from Racetrack Rd trying to turn left onto the "Driveway", you CAN NOT stay on Racetrack Rd, block the roadway for a merge or block the crosswalk. Drive down the bus lane for overflow traffic if you can not merge freely onto the car lane.
- The two blue large arrows show that you all will be turning onto the "Driveway". These blue arrows are off limits for parking. That
 means you need to be able to clear the roadway before attempting to get onto the "Driveway". Please don't contribute to the
 dangers of driving in school zones. There are students crossing so be mindful of the Crossing guard or Deputy manning the
 crosswalk.
- DO NOT encroach or attempt to come onto the "Driveway" if there is a Deputy or a Crossing guard in the crosswalk escorting children. Remain stationary.
- · Once you make it safely onto the "Driveway", drive down to me (Dep. De la Cruz) so we can get you into overflow parking.

Farnell Afternoon Traffic (Pick-Up)



Farnell Afternoon Traffic (Pick-Up)

- In the above picture you will see how our overflow should work in the afternoons. The <u>red arrows</u> are showing the direction and vehicles that are moving into each line. The <u>black arrows</u> show the start of overflow traffic, starting with the line that sits against the fence, facing Farnell Middle School. You will also see black arrows with a number next to it. That is the start of each lane of overflow traffic. The <u>orange arrow</u> on the opposite side of traffic is our very last lane of overflow. If we get here that means it's either because of bad weather or there are entirely too many mom and dad Falcons picking up their little Falcons. Lol If I send you to #7 then that means I have no options. The <u>orange bar inside</u> the parking lot is the end limit to each lane. Do not congest the area past this point unless we have directed you to.
- As discussed earlier, PLEASE remain in your lane when you are placed or drive there (Lane 1,2,3,4,5,6). Merging into another lane ruins the entire process and complicates traffic patterns. The more we follow this order the faster we can get everyone home. So if you are in lane 3 and you see lane 2 moving, stay in lane 3. We have to think for all of us. We are all one team. Merging makes it impossible to manage as you have already seen the chaos that our traffic issues can bring.
- There should be an administrator or myself leading you to which lane to wait in. If there is no one waving you down and you see no
 one other than myself, please help me and all of us be successful and move as far forward as you can, into the first lane that you see
 open.
- The lanes are numbered so that you can see there should be 2 LANES for each opening in the parking lot. That means no one should be driving down the center of the open area in the parking lot. Move as far right or as far left as you can depending on your lane (Lanes 1,3,5 should be to the very right of the opening. Lanes 2,4,6 should be to the very left of the opening of the lane). Do not drive over the parking spaces with white lines.
- Please remember, there is no possible way for us to account for who got on the "Driveway" first, if you are not in that initial, main
 parked line of parents. Be patient and understand that there are only 1 to 2 people controlling all of traffic depending on what staff
 is available.
- Thank you for being patient and making this process easier for everyone. We are aware of the restrictions that we have and we have adjusted where we were able to. I need all of us to follow these instructions for the benefit of us all.

OVERALL TRAFFIC CONCERNS



OVERALL TRAFFIC CONCERNS

- In the above picture you will see a red X, a red square and text highlighted in yellow.
- I have had several questions regarding these other spaces that appear to be available so I am addressing them here.
- Looking at the picture, you will see "Residents only with school pass" written in yellow. This area is only available to students who
 have a school pass to cross the teacher occupied crosswalk. As you can imagine we have had parents park within that community to
 drop their little falcons off. This causes a severe congestion within the community and frustration/ concern for the residents of that
 community. The reason the school administration enforces this rule is because the community has voiced their frustration with the
 traffic caused by the school. That being said, the school asks that you do not drop off at that area unless your child has a school
 pass. Do the right thing, we are all adults.
- Next, you will see a red square with yellow text of "NO DROP OFF/ PICK UP". This area is also off limits to the general population, specifically our Falcon family. The businesses within the plaza are asking the school to enforce appropriate traffic patterns and not let passing in this large open area. This area is where the Plaza takes delivery, and Tire Choice conducts it's business. This is a sincere complaint by the businesses as it interferes with their daily operation and use of the area. Please do not use this area to drop off or pick up your falcon. I would rather keep all contact with all of you awesome people as positive experiences and avoid any unnecessary confrontation by the school or its administration.
- To the very right of the picture there is a large red X. That simply is showing that exit from Mary Bryant can not be blocked. The buses and all traffic leaving Mary Bryant has to have access to the exit. Consider this a lane of travel.
- Last, As your Falcon Family is leaving campus be cautious of cross, walking traffic. There are times where we will have falcons not
 follow the rules and cross our traffic lanes without looking. The same applies once we approach the intersection of Nine Eagles. Do
 not enter the intersection if there is a Crossing guard or Deputy directing the children across the crosswalk. Your car should be
 stationary, waiting for the Deputy or Crossing guard to clear the crosswalk before you start to turn left or right depending on which
 crosswalk the crossing person is occupying. Once the Crossing guard or Deputy is clear of the cross walk you are free to turn. Thank
 you all for your patience and lets all be safe and make the best of our one lane road they gave us for both schools!
- Caveat: We have had issues with parents not being able to get to Farnell due to Mary Bryant's car line. I will not fault you if you have to take alternate routes or measures to get to Farnell. I only ask that you approach whatever roadway you use safely and you do not go over any medians. No playing chicken with on coming traffic. Thank you all for your time. GO FALCONS!!

No Drop Off Policy

In an effort to respect and maximize instructional time, we WILL NOT receive any non-medical items or call classrooms for deliveries at any time during the school day. Students are not allowed to order or have delivered outside food from local restaurants. Lunch from the cafeteria or lunch from home are allowed on school property.

Electronic Scooters

Students are discouraged from bringing electronic scooters on campus. We do not have covered parking for electronic scooters. If a student rides an electronic scooter to school, the scooter must be parked in the uncovered bike rack. The school is not responsible for any damage to the electronic scooter. Electronic Scooters. Bikes and Skateboards must be walked off campus. Students must wear a helmet and have a signed permission slip at Farnell. Please see permissions slip form in the first day packet.

Helmets Required by Law

In accordance with Florida Statute 316.2065(d), A bicycle rider or passenger who is under 16 years of age must wear a bicycle helmet that is properly fitted and is fastened securely upon the passenger's head by a strap and that meets the federal safety standard for bicycle helmets.

Bus Transportation

If your student lives farther than 2 miles from the school, bus transportation will be provided by the school district. Bus passes will be printed on the first day of school. Please check the district website for eligibility, bus routes and any other information. Transportation is a privilege and students who violate the code of conduct may lose their transportation privileges.

Canvas

Canvas is the main line of communication between teachers, students and families. Please see the attached Canvas guide to your Canvas account.

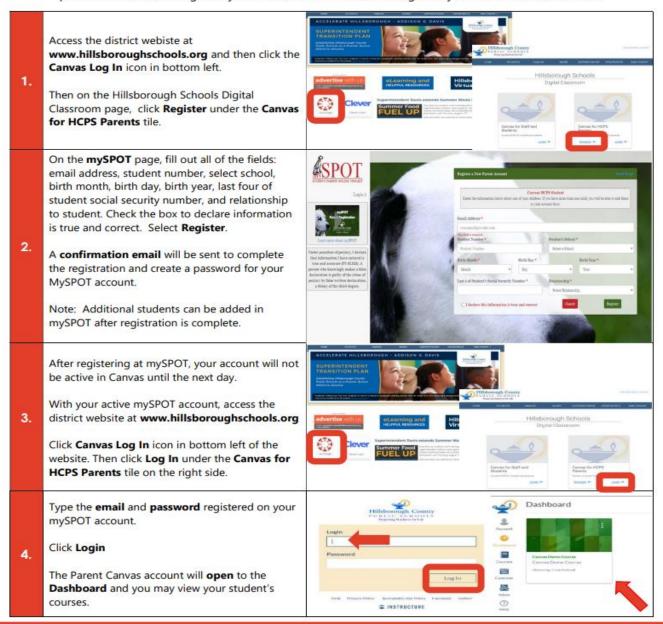




Creating a Canvas Parent Account

Note: If you have already created a mySPOT account, you do not need to complete this process

To create a Canvas Parent Account, you must register through the district mySPOT portal. The email and password created through a mySPOT account will be used to log in to your Parent Canvas account.



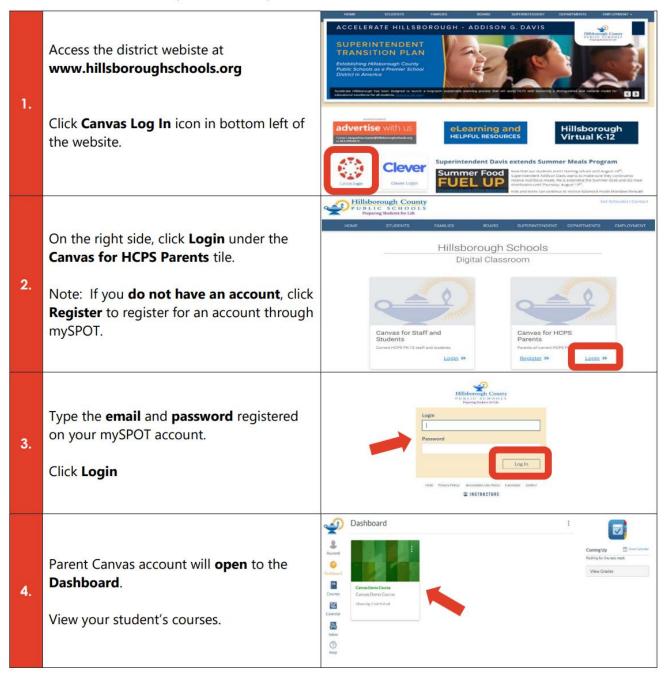
Access the Complete Hillsborough Schools Canvas Family Guide at: https://bit.ly/canvasfamilyguide





Logging in to Canvas Parent Accounts

Canvas Parent Accounts can be accessed with the same email and password used to create and login to in mySPOT accounts. MySPOT accounts are used to access district systems like Canvas, Online Report Cards, School Choice, and many other district systems.



every day MATTERS

Teaching and Learning Begins Monday, August 12

Every day matters when it comes to attendance! There is a strong link between regular attendance and academic success. Research indicates that missing 10% of the school year, which is 2 days a month, negatively affects a student's academic performance.

Compared to students who are chronically absent, students who attend school regularly have greater success in all grade levels.

Elementary school

students who regularly attend class are 1.7 times more likely to achieve grade-level scores in English Language Arts and 2 times more likely to achieve grade-level scores in Math.

> Chronic absenteeism leads to students struggling to read proficiently.

Middle school students who attend school on a regular basis are 2 times more likely to score on grade level in English Language Arts and Math.

> Absenteeism in sixth grade leads to students facing difficulties with their coursework.

High school students who are consistently in class are 1.7 times more likely to score on grade level in English Language Arts and 2 times more likely to score on grade level in Math.

> Chronic absenteeism for high school students leads to them being offtrack for on-time graduation.

If your student is facing any obstacles that affect their attendance, our schools and counselors are here to help. Please reach out to your school for assistance. You can also visit hillsboroughschools.org/attendance for additional resources. Let's work together to make the 2024-2025 school year the best one yet!

We'll see all students back on Monday, August 12!













Synergy

At the start of the new school year, Synergy's ParentVUE will replace MySpot as the HCPS parent application. Parents and guardians will need to create their ParentVUE accounts to view student information like reports cards, attendance, and graduation status. Parents and guardians will continue to use Canvas to view current class grades, assignments, and for communication with teachers. Parents/Guardians will receive an individual parent activation code letter during the first few weeks of school. We are not allowed to email parent activation letters to families. If the letter is misplaced, please stop by the main office for a printed copy.

Student Nutrition

All Hillsborough County Public Schools students can receive free breakfast each morning. Secondary school lunch is \$2.75. A la carte items are available as well. Free school meals for students has ended. Families can apply for free/reduced price lunch online at MySchoolApps-Getting Started on the district website. Lunch payment accounts can be set up at My Payments Plus on the district website.

School Supply Lists

Florida Back to School sales tax holiday is July 29th – August 11th2024. Students and non-students are eligible for tax-free purchases. Visit the Farnell website <u>hillsboroughschools.org/farnell</u> for general supply lists. Specific teachers may require additional items.

Immunizations

Students entering 7th Grade must submit an updated immunization record.

Go to www.hillsboroughschools.org/immunizations for more information.

We are looking forward to starting the school year with all our students. If you have any questions about the information in this flyer, please contact the Main Office.

