

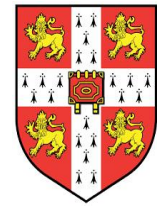
GIRLS PREPARATORY ACADEMY

FERRELL MIDDLE MAGNET SCHOOL

TIGER TIMES

Welcome to Ferrell Girls Prep! - School starts Tuesday, August 10, 2021

It is my pleasure to welcome you and your daughter to the Girls Preparatory Academy (GPA) at Ferrell Middle Magnet School. Girls Prep offers a dynamic community of learning which challenges girls to stretch their minds and explore untapped potential in their journey to become confident, successful students.



Ferrell GPA is being recognized as a **Cambridge International School**. The Cambridge International approach focuses on helping students to become confident, responsible, reflective, innovative and engaged. One of the key components of being a Cambridge International School is to teach our students to embrace their learning environment through a global perspective. This year students will

participate in whole-school Global Perspective Challenges.

Ferrell GPA has received brand new Evolve laptops. Each student will be assigned an individual laptop and carrying case for the school year. Laptops will be distributed starting September 7, 2021.

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In this newsletter you will find information about the steps GPA is taking to make our campus safer in regards to **COVID-19** (see page 4). The safety of our students and staff is of the utmost importance.

Students that are car riders should be dropped off and picked up from the circle drive only. Please do not use the faculty parking lot to drop off or pick students up. (See

page 5 for further details.)

Uniform ties and school spirit t-shirt will be available for purchase during Open House on August 6, 2021. (See page 8 for details.)

Please take some time to review the information in our newsletter carefully. It contains a wealth of information I'm sure you and your daughter will find useful. In addition, you may contact us at (813) 276-5608 if you have any questions.

Finally, I personally invite you to take an active role in your daughter's education at Ferrell GPA. Your continued support is so important and appreciated in helping everyone at Girls Preparatory Academy achieve success.



Volume 11, Issue 1

July 2021



Inside this issue:

Important Dates	2
Daily Bell Schedules	3
COVID-19 Information	4
Immunization Records and Clinic Info.	4
Drop Off and Pick Up Procedures	5
Sign In/Out Procedures	5
Attendance, Procedures	5
Uniform Information	6
Parent Involvement	7
School Supplies List	7
Transportation	8
Tiger Cub Camp	8
Extramural Sports	8
PE Uniforms & Spirit T-Shirt Sale s	8
After-School Enrichment Program	9
HOST	9

GPA OPEN HOUSE – FRIDAY, AUGUST 6, 2021

Seventh & Eighth Grade

Open House is from
9:30 AM –12:00 PM

Sixth Grade

Open House is from
1:00 PM—3:00 PM

- Pick-up your schedule and tour the campus
- Meet your teachers
- Purchase uniform ties, PE uniforms, and spirit shirts **(CASH ONLY – no bills over \$20)**
- Get teacher-specific school supplies information





FERRELL GIRLS PREPARATORY ACADEMY

2021 – 2022 IMPORTANT DATES

Ferrell GPA Conference Night Dates

September 14, 2021	November 16, 2021	February 8, 2022	April 26, 2022
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Ferrell GPA Progress Report Dates

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
August 30, 2021	October 25, 2021	January 18, 2022	April 4, 2022
September 13, 2021	November 8, 2021	January 31, 2022	April 18, 2022
September 27, 2021	November 29, 2021	February 14, 2022	May 2, 2022
October 4, 2021	December 13, 2021	February 28, 2022	May 16, 2022

Semester One Exam Dates: 12/13/21, 12/14/21, 12/15/21, 12/16/21, 12/17/21

Semester Two Exam Dates: 5/23/22, 5/24/22, 5/25/22, 5/26/22, 5/27/22

All students must take exams in order to meet promotion requirements.

Students must be present and take all their exams on the scheduled days in order to attend Field Days on 12/17/2021 and 5/27/22

HCPS STUDENT CALENDAR & IMPORTANT DATES

Students' First Day of School	August 10, 2021
Labor Day Holiday/Non-Student Day	September 6, 2021
End of 1st Grading Period	October 8, 2021
*Veterans Day/Non-Student Day	November 11, 2021
*Fall Break/Non-Student Days	November 22 – 26, 2021
Students Return to School	November 29, 2021
End of 2nd Grading Period (End of 1st Semester)	December 17, 2021
Winter Break/Non-Student Days	December 20, 2021 – December 31, 2021
Non-Student Day	January 3, 2022
Students Return to School	January 4, 2022
Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday/Non-Student Day	January 17, 2022
Non-Student Day	February 18, 2022
Presidents' Day/Non-Student Day	February 21, 2022
Non-Student Day	March 7, 2022
End of 3rd Grading Period	March 11, 2022
Spring Break/Non-Student Days	March 14 – 18, 2022
Non-Student Day	March 21, 2022
Students Return to School	March 22, 2022
Non-Student Day	April 15, 2022
Last Day of School/End of 4th Grading Period (End of 2nd Semester)	May 27, 2022

* Hurricane Day(s) if needed: November 11, 22-24, and 26, 2021

DAILY BELL SCHEDULES

Regular Bell Schedule (Tuesdays—Fridays)

Period	Descriptions	Start Time	End Time	Minutes
All	School Hours	8:30 AM	3:33 PM	7:03
	<i>Study Hall</i>	<i>8:15 AM</i>	<i>8:30 AM</i>	<i>0:15</i>
AM HR		8:30 AM	8:33 AM	0:03
1		8:33 AM	9:21 AM	0:48
2		9:25 AM	10:13 AM	0:48
3		10:17 AM	11:05 AM	0:48
4	Grade 6 Lunch	11:09 AM	11:57 AM	0:48
5	Grade 7 Lunch	12:01 PM	12:49 PM	0:48
6	Grade 8 Lunch	12:53 PM	1:41 PM	0:48
7		1:45 AM	2:33 AM	0:48
8		2:37 AM	3:25 AM	0:48
PM HR		3:29 PM	3:33 PM	0:04

Early Release Day Bell Schedule (Mondays)

Period	Descriptions	Start Time	End Time	Minutes
All	School Hours	8:30 AM	2:30 PM	6:00
	<i>Study Hall</i>	<i>8:15 AM</i>	<i>8:30 AM</i>	<i>0:15</i>
AM HR		8:30 AM	8:33 AM	0:03
1		8:33 AM	9:13 AM	0:40
2		9:17 AM	9:57 AM	0:40
3		10:01 AM	10:41 AM	0:40
4	Grade 6 Lunch	10:45 AM	11:25 AM	0:40
5	Grade 7 Lunch	11:29 AM	12:09 PM	0:40
6	Grade 8 Lunch	12:13 PM	12:53 PM	0:40
7		12:57 PM	1:37 PM	0:40
8		1:41 PM	2:21 PM	0:40
PM HR		2:25 PM	2:30 PM	0:05

Students may enter campus starting **7:55 AM**. Sixth Graders report to the cafeteria, Seventh and eighth graders report to the courtyard.

Breakfast is served starting 7:55 AM. Sixth graders eat the cafeteria. Seventh and Eighth graders eat in the courtyard.

Students report to AM Homeroom at 8:15 AM for Study Hall. **All students should be in their homeroom class by 8:30 AM.**

All students report PM HR at the end of the day to turn in their school-issued laptop.

COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

- PPE provided for staff
- PPE provided for students: 3 re-useable masks
- Masks are strongly recommended where social distancing guidelines cannot be accommodated; they will **not** be mandatory.

SOCIAL DISTANCING

- Controlled movement where possible (classes, hallways, common areas)
- Designated traffic patterns have been routed for entering school, class change, and dismissal.
- Assigned seating will be in place at all times in cafeteria, classrooms, and school busses.
- COVID-19 hygiene education will be implemented starting the first day of school.

SCHOOL SANITATION

- Increased cleaning of frequently touched surfaces and items
- Nightly disinfecting of classrooms and common areas

- Increased installations of hand sanitizing stations at entrances and common areas
- Sanitation wipes provided in every classroom with procedures to wipe down desk surfaces at the end of every class

FOOD & NUTRITION

- Breakfast will be served in multiple locations (cafeteria and courtyard) in order to increase social distancing
- Increased social distancing between seats where possible during school lunch (cafeteria)
- Six water bottle refilling stations has been installed on campus.

TRANSPORTATION

- Masks recommended where social distance recommendations cannot be accommodated with seating.
- Bus drivers provided disinfecting sanitation wipes to clean bus seats and handrails between morning and afternoon runs

IMMUNIZATION RECORDS AND CLINIC INFORMATION



Students **will not** be able to start **seventh grade** unless they are compliant with immunizations in accordance to

Florida State Law. Florida Certificate of Immunization (**blue card**) must be provided to the school by **August 31, 2021** or your child may be excluded from class.

The following immunization are required for seventh grade entry:

- **TDAP** (tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis) - 1 dose
- **MMR** (measles, mumps, rubella) - 2 doses
- **Hepatitis B Series**—3 doses
- **Varicella** (Chicken Pox)- 2 doses or date of disease

Contact your physician or the Hillsborough County Health Department. Immunizations are provided **FREE** at the Health Department.
Main Health Department:
(813) 307-8077
Main Hargrett Building
Immunization Clinic
2002 E. 26th Avenue, Tampa, FL

School Clinic

All prescription and non-prescription medications will be administered by the school nurse. Students should not have ANY medication in their possession at school (prescription or non-prescription). Medications must be checked in with the nurse in the original containers with the doctor's instructions. Students may carry Epi pens with the proper paperwork completed in the clinic. This is the only exception to students having medication on their person. Please note that once-a-day medications containing narcotics will not be administered by the school health personnel.

If you have questions or concerns, please call Ferrell's Clinic at [813-276-5608 ext. 235](tel:813-276-5608).



DROP OFF AND PICK UP PROCEDURES

Morning Drop Off begins: 7:55 AM

AM HOST begins 6:30 AM

(Mandatory parent sign-in in the main office)

Afternoon Dismissal: 3:35 PM

Students must be picked by 3:50 PM

(Early Release Day Dismissal 2:30 PM, pick-up by 2:45 PM)

1. Car rider vehicles are to use 22nd Street to access Chelsea Street and make **RIGHT turns only into Ferrell**, using our **CIRCLE DRIVE** ramp. Vehicles are also to make a **RIGHT turn only back onto Chelsea Street to exit** the car rider line. Students may not be dropped until 7:55 AM. Morning HOST students must be signed in the cafeteria by parent/guardian.
2. Please drive all the way forward to the end of the sidewalk and be careful not to park on the crosswalk.
3. The speed limit posted is 5 MPH.
4. Due to safety reasons, students may **NOT** be dropped off or picked up along either side of Chelsea Street. Students may **NOT** be dropped off or picked from the faculty parking lot or 24th Street in the back of the school. Please do **NOT** drop off or pick your student up in the middle of road, or by the vacant houses and corner lots across the street from the school.
5. Please make sure that your car rider is prepared for the day and ready to get out of your vehicle immediately upon entering our car rider line.
6. U-Turns in the middle of Chelsea St are not permitted per Tampa Police Department policy. Drivers violating that policy will be subject to a traffic citation by the Tampa Police Department.
7. Please do not use the driveways of the residents' on Chelsea Street to back up and turn around. Please be respectful of their private property.

SIGN IN & SIGN OUT PROCEDURES

SIGN-IN PROCEDURES:

Any student arriving to school after school has begun **MUST** report to Office of Student Affairs. A tardy pass shall be issued indicating excused or unexcused tardy or absence.

Students with excessive UNEXCUSED tardies will be subject to disciplinary action.

SIGN-OUT PROCEDURES: (PRE-APPROVED AND EMERGENCY)

During school hours a principal or designee shall permit a child to leave school only in the custody of one of the following adults:

- **LEGAL GUARDIAN OF THE STUDENT, WITH PHOTO ID;**
- Person listed on emergency contact card, with photo ID;
- a law enforcement officer;
- an authorized worker from the Department of Children and Families.

Students may not be signed out after 3:00 PM. Regular dismissal is at 3:30 PM. **On Early Release Mondays, students may not be signed out after 2:00 PM.**

We appreciate your cooperation as we minimize classroom interruptions at the end of the school day.



ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES

ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES:

Please help your child understand the importance of an education and that daily attendance is absolutely essential! Please refer to your child's student handbook for attendance and absence reporting requirements.

If your child is absent, a phone call is required.

The telephone number for our 24 hr. automated system is: **(813) 276-5608 press 1.**

Please leave your child's first and last name and your own first and last name on the recording.

MANDATORY SCHOOL UNIFORM INFORMATION

Girls Preparatory Academy is a **mandatory** uniform school. Uniforms are mandatory beginning Day 1 of the school year. Uniforms must be worn Monday through Friday. The dress and grooming of pupils shall be that which contributes to the health and safety of the individual and which is non-disruptive of the educational activities and processes of a school. Uniforms must be clean in appearance and all clothing must meet the Hillsborough Public Schools' dress code requirements. All items, except for the neck tie, may be purchased from a local store like Target, Wal-Mart, Old Navy, JC Penny, etc. **The following items are the mandatory uniform pieces for Ferrell Girls Preparatory Academy.**



UNIFORM SHOPPING LIST

TOP VARIETIES:

- White button up oxford or white polo shirt (short or long sleeve)
- School crest logo is not required, but is the **ONLY** one that can be displayed.
- All tops must be tucked into bottoms appropriately.
- Undershirts should be a solid neutral color (white, black, beige)
- Undergarments should **not** be able to be seen through the white shirt.
- Tops may not be altered by student, i.e. tied in the back, cut, etc.
- Approved school t-shirt may only be worn on Early Release Days (Mondays).

NECK TIE:

- Neck ties (ascots) should be worn under the collar and fastened with the snap.
- Jewelry should not block or cover the neck tie.
- Neck ties must be visible at all times. Jackets and sweaters may not cover up the tie.
- Neck ties can be purchased from Educational Outfitters Uniform Store.

BOTTOM VARIETIES:

- Khaki pants, skorts, skirts, jumpers or shorts (no leggings or jeggings)
- Pants and shorts shall be secured at the waist with a belt.
- Belts should be a uniform belt (grade level color), or solid neutral color: black, brown, beige, or white.
- Hemlines shall not be shorter than fingertip length when students' hands are held to the side of the body.
- No logos can be displayed.
- Bottoms **MUST NOT** be altered with cuts or holes.

SHOE VARIETIES:

- Shoes must be closed toe and heel.
- Upper part of the shoes must be solid dark color (Approved colors: black, brown, tan, white, or gray).
- Solid white or solid black socks only.
- No boots of any kind are allowed.
- Solid black or solid white athletic shoes (tennis shoes / sneakers) must also have black rubber soles/sides and black laces if they are worn for daily use other than PE class.
- Examples of Shoes: Mary-Jane's, loafers, topsiders, flats, solid black athletic shoe

JACKETS & SWEATERS:

- Jackets and sweaters should be a **solid color** (Approved colors: burgundy, white, black, heather gray, charcoal gray)
- **No logos or design patterns** should be displayed other than the school logo.
- Jackets and sweaters may not cover up or block the school tie.
- Pull-over jackets / hoodies are **not** allowed.
- Winter coats should only be worn outside (not classrooms) during the appropriate season.



Ties (ascots) can be purchased at Educational Outfitters or during GPA's Open House for \$10.

- 2 - 4 White, button-down collared shirts or white polos (school crest is optional)
- 2 - 4 Khaki pants, skorts, skirts, jumpers, capris, or shorts
- 1 pair of **solid color** black, brown, tan, white or gray close-toed / closed heel shoes (no logos)
- 4 or more pairs of **solid color** white or black socks
- 1 **solid color** black, brown, beige, or white belt
- 1 **solid color** burgundy, black, white, or gray zip-up or button-up jacket/sweater with **no logos** (school crest is optional)
- 1- 2 grade-level ascots (neck ties)
- Neutral color undergarments (as needed)
- School spirit shirt (optional)
- PE uniform (if taking PE)

*Note: HCPS Dress Code Policy states: Hair shall be clean and neatly groomed. Head coverings shall **not** be worn in the building unless required for religious observance or health-related reasons.*

PARENT INVOLVEMENT



Here are some ways you can be involved at Ferrell GPA:

- Join Tiger Band Booster (contact Haley.Conerly@hcps.net)
- Join Athletic Booster (contact Tavonda.Lucas@hcps.net)
- Join the School Advisory Council—S.A.C. (contact Shayla.Cason@hcps.net)
- Chaperone field trips and/or dance (contact Shayla.Cason@hcps.net)
- Volunteer for school sponsored events: Field Days, Mother Daughter Day, Father - Daughter Dance, FSA Saturday Schools, etc. (contact Lori.Bartholomew@hcps.net)

2021 - 2022 GENERAL SUPPLY LIST

ALL STUDENTS will need the following general supplies. The majority of these items will need to be replaced throughout the school year. We recommend stocking up in order to replenish them when needed. Grade level specific items are also listed.

Pencils #2	Colored pencils	Pens (blue, black, red ink)
Pencil pouch	Handheld pencil sharpeners	Glue sticks (multiple packs)
Post-its	Ear buds (headphones)	Highlighters (yellow, green, blue, pink)
Index cards (3 x 5)	Blunt nose scissors	Loose leaf paper (college rule)
Wireless mouse	Refillable water bottle	

Sixth Grade

- **Three** – 1-subject spiral notebooks
- **Two** – 3-subject spiral notebooks
- **Two** - Composition notebook
- **Four**– 2-pocket 3 prong folders
- **Optional Novel**– Walk with Two Moons



Seventh Grade

- **Two** – 1-subject spiral notebooks
- **One** – 3-subject spiral notebook
- **Two** - Composition notebook
- **Three**– 2-pocket 3 prong folders
- **Optional Novel**– Tangerine
- **One**– 1-inch binder
- **One**– TI-30XA calculator

Spanish: One 3-subject spiral notebook

AVID: One 3-inch binder, ring binder 3-whole punch

Eighth Grade

- **One** – 1-subject spiral notebooks (100 pages)
- **One** – Packet of graphing paper (Science class)
- **Two**- Composition notebooks
- **One**– 2-pocket 3 prong folders
- **Optional Novel**– The Giver
- **One**– 2-inch binder
- **One**– Packet 8-tab dividers
- **One**– TI-30XA calculator
- **One**– Sheet protectors (one pack)

Spanish: One 3-subject spiral notebook

AVID: One 3-inch binder, ring binder 3-whole punch

TRANSPORTATION

Bus Route information is mailed directly to your home from HCPS Transportation Department.

Please contact the HCPS Transportation Department for questions regarding bus routes and bus stops.

(813) 982-5533 OR (813) 982-5515



Carpooling is a great optional for many families. If you would like to connect with other GPA families in your area, see the transportation kiosk at Open House for more details.

TIGER CUB CAMP



The transition to middle school can be a little scary no matter which school you attend. There are many changes that occur: going from one teacher to seven, dealing with lockers, and how to deal with a new environment and students.

Come meet other students and discuss your concerns as you learn about ways to make a smooth transition to being a successful GPA student!

This workshop will feature topics like:

- Managing multiple teachers/ classes
- Friendships/ Bullying/Gossip/ Peer Pressure
- Staying organized
- How and where to get help if you need it.
- Hall Locker Help
- Campus Scavenger Hunt
- And much more!

WHO: Students NEW to GPA

WHEN: July 20th & 21st

TIME: 8:30 AM—12:30 PM

WHERE: GPA Cafeteria

Please register by 7/16/21

<https://forms.office.com/r/uGMLbGXQDg>

(Link is also available on the school website)

EXTRAMURAL SPORTS

Student may choose to try out for extramural competitive sports at GPA. Basketball, volleyball, track, soccer and flag football are played in a competitive format against other middle school teams throughout the school year. A complete sports packet and physical is man-

datory in order to try out and compete in any sports. The online sports packet can be accessed via the district website at <https://www.sdhc.k12.fl.us/departments/39/athletics/about/>

Informational Zoom sessions will be

held at 6:30 PM on **August 4th and August 11th**

(Zoom links will be sent out to families prior to the event.)

If you have any questions, contact Assistant Principal Carla White at 813-276-5608 x 226.

AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE DURING OPEN HOUSE

UNIFORM TIES \$10

SCHOOL SPIRIT T-SHIRT \$10

School Spirit T-Shirts can be worn on Mondays in lieu of the regular uniform shirt and tie.

PE UNIFORMS \$20 per set & OPTIONAL BAG \$5



AFTER-SCHOOL ENRICHMENT ACADEMIES

Girls Preparatory Academy is pleased to offer After-School Enrichment Academies. These academies are offered from **3:45 – 4:45 PM**, Tuesday through Friday most weeks throughout the school year.

We offer 4 different sessions of Enrichment Academies that align with the grading periods. There are a wide variety of academies that are designed to allow students to discover, explore and develop their interests.

Enrichment activities include Academic Skill Tutorials, Art, Golf, Dance, Edible Science, Strategic Games, and other activities based upon the interests of the students at Girls Preparatory Academy.

Bus transportation is not provided.

Students should be picked up from the car rider line by no later than **5:00 PM** unless they are attending HOST.

Students may sign up for enrichment academies during the first week of school. A link for sign up will be posted on Canvas and emailed out to parents during the first week of school.

The first session of after-school enrichment academies begin on Tuesday, August 24, 2021.

2021-2022 Enrichment Dates	
Quarter 1	August 24 - October 8, 2021
Quarter 2	October 12 – December 17, 2021
Quarter 3	January 11– March 11, 2022
Quarter 4	March 22 – May 20, 2022

HOST INFORMATION



In addition to the Enrichment Academies, we offer the Hillsborough Out of School Time (HOST) program to your child for a **fee**. Families have several options offered by HOST. HOST Options are listed to the right. Please note: prices could be subject to change pending School Board approval. You can register for HOST at www.sdhc.k12.fl.us (under the Families tab). Please contact Tajana Joyner-Wilson at 813-276-5608, ext. 236 for more information.

HOST Options	Cost
My child will attend HOST Before School* from 6:30– 8:00 AM <small>* a minimum of 10 is needed for a Before School Program to be offered</small>	Weekly \$15.00
My child will attend HOST After School from 3:30 – 6:00 PM, and/or when the Enrichment Academies end, from 4:45 – 6:00 PM . <small>(This weekly price includes Early Release Mondays)</small>	Weekly \$27.00
My child will attend HOST for both the Before and After School Programs.	Weekly \$42.00
My child will attend HOST for Early Release Mondays only , from 2:30 PM – 6:00 PM	Monthly \$20.00

SOCIAL MEDIA

Are you following us on Twitter or Facebook? Like and follow us at:



<https://www.facebook.com/ferrellgpa>



<https://twitter.com/HCPSTGirlsPrep>



Girls Preparatory Academy
 at Ferrell Middle Magnet School
 4302 N. 24th Street
 Tampa, FL 33610
 813-276-5608



AUGUST 6TH OPEN HOUSE

8th Grade 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM
 7th Grade 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM
 6th Grade 1 PM to 3 PM

CASH ONLY SALES	
SCHOOL UNIFORM TIES	\$10
SPIRIT SHIRTS	\$10
PE UNIFORM	\$20

Available During Open House

Check out our Website:
<http://ferrell.mysdhc.org>

School Board of
 Hillsborough County, Florida
 Post Office Box 3408
 Tampa, FL 33601-3408
 Ferrell Middle Magnet School



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