

Parsippany-Troy Hills Township Schools

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Dear RedHawk Parents and Guardians:

The start of the 2021-2022 school year is right around the corner! We are excited to welcome our students back into the building and have been working hard all Summer to prepare the building for a safe, healthy, and happy return. The following information will provide you with a good understanding of what the first several weeks of school will look like for your child and what to expect for how the building will run:

Freshman Orientation

Wednesday, September 1 - ***Freshman Students Last Names A-K***

Thursday, September 2 - ***Freshman Students Last Names L-Z***

- Half-day schedule 7:40am - 11:45am
- Transportation will be provided for all busing students
- No lunch will be provided
- Students will report to auditorium when they arrive at PHS
- Students should check their school emails for additional information later this week

Wednesday, September 1 - Freshman Parent Night

- All parents of 9th grade students are welcome to attend
- PHS Auditorium @ 7:00pm
- Much of the same information as PHS Open House
- Recording of the presentation will be available on the PHS Website

Back To School Forms

Please see the Genesis Parent Portal and Student Portal to view and provide a digital signature for all required documents. Students will be unable to receive their Chromebooks and/or Genesis will be inaccessible if required forms are not reviewed and digitally signed. The required forms are:

- Acceptable Use Policy
- PHS Student Handbook
- Chromebooks Agreement

Chromebook Distribution

The schedule for Chromebook distribution should have been sent to you by our TSS department via email. If for some reason you did not receive that email communication or were unable to attend your child's time slot for Chromebook distribution, students will have another opportunity

to pick up their Chromebook during Freshman Orientation on 9/1 or 9/2. If students still do not have the ability to pick up their Chromebook, students will also be able to receive their device during the first few days of school in the PHS Media Center.

Return to School Schedule

The first day for all students and staff will be Wednesday, September 8th. 9/8 we will be running an 8-Period Day Schedule (see below). For 2021-2022, we will be returning to our standard rotating drop block schedule. The rotating schedule will begin on Thursday, September 9th with an “A Day.” Please click [this link](#), see the Parsippany High School website, or contact PHS directly if you have any questions about how the rotating daily schedule works. For a complete calendar of the 2021-2022 rotation days, please click on [this link](#).

September 8th - 8 Period Day

| Eight - Period | |
|----------------|------------------------|
| Class 1 | 7:40 – 8:23 (2 min HR) |
| Class 2 | 8:27 – 9:08 |
| Class 3 | 9:12 – 9:53 |
| Class 4 | 9:57 - 10:38 |
| LUNCH | 10:38 - 11:28 |
| Class 5 | 11:32 - 12:13 |
| Class 6 | 12:17 - 12:58 |
| Class 7 | 1:02 - 1:43 |
| Class 8 | 1:47 - 2:28 |

September 9th - Start Rotating Schedule (Day A)

| | CLASS ROTATIONS | | | |
|-------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | DAY A | DAY B | DAY C | DAY D |
| 7:40 - 8:38 | Class 1 | Class 2 | Class 3 | Class 4 |
| 8:42 - 9:38 | Class 2 | Class 3 | Class 4 | Class 1 |
| 9:42 -10:38 | Class 3 | Class 4 | Class 1 | Class 2 |
| 10:40-11:30 | Lunch & Labs | Lunch & Labs | Lunch & Labs | Lunch & Labs |
| 11:32-12:28 | Class 5 | Class 8 | Class 7 | Class 6 |
| 12:32 -1:28 | Class 6 | Class 5 | Class 8 | Class 7 |
| 1:32 - 2:28 | Class 7 | Class 6 | Class 5 | Class 8 |

If you have not had a chance to visit our building this Summer, click [this link](#) for a virtual tour.

Genesis Parent and Student Portals & School Messenger

We strongly encourage you to keep separate Genesis Parent and Student Portal accounts and for parents **not** to provide their child with login information for the Parent Portal account.

Please review your contact information in Genesis and make sure it is current. Please also sign up for our School Messenger so you can receive up-to-the-minute information about school and district operations including snow closures.

Student schedules are currently available through the [Genesis Parent](#) and [Student Portals](#). **Schedule changes will, at this time, only be honored for instances of clerical error, a missing required course, a schedule conflict of courses running the same period, or a Child Study Team recommendation.** Schedule requests will not be considered for teacher preference, movement in study halls or free periods, or a change in academic interests.

Bus Transportation information for students eligible for bus transportation will be available through Genesis.

Back To School Night

Back to School Night will be held on Wednesday, September 22nd at 7:00pm. Parents will be able to follow their child's schedule and meet with their teachers. For 2021-2022, we will be limiting capacity to **one parent per child**. There will be no large group introductory presentation in the PHS auditorium. More details to follow with a schedule of times and other important information including a link to a virtual video introductory presentation.

Student ID Cards

Starting for the 2021-2022 school year, students will be required to carry their official school identification card with them at all times. Students will receive new photo ID cards at the start of the school year. Student IDs will be used for late-to-school attendance as well as check-in/check-out to various building locations e.g. the media center, health office, main office, guidance office, and Child Study Team. ID cards will also be linked to student lunch accounts for maximum convenience when purchasing food items. Students will be responsible for maintaining their ID cards. Missing ID cards will result in possible disciplinary action and lost ID cards will result in a replacement fine.

Senior Free / Senior Unit Lunch Off Campus

12th Grade students in good academic and disciplinary standing will be eligible for "Senior Free" periods on the days when those study halls occur during either Block 1 or Block 6. Seniors with Block 1 free will be allowed to arrive at school at the start of Block 2 (8:35am). Seniors with Block 6 free will be allowed to leave school at the end of Block 5 (1:28pm). All 12th Grade students who wish to utilize the Senior Free option must complete the [Senior Free permission slip](#) and have that permission slip signed by a parent or guardian (regardless of the student's age).

Beginning in October, eligible 12th grade students in good academic and disciplinary standing will be eligible for Senior Off Campus during Unit Lunch. Seniors will be allowed to leave campus during the Unit Lunch period. We will be scheduling mandatory parent/student meetings during the month of September to review the specifics of this program. Any student who wishes to take part in the Senior Off Campus must attend one of these mandatory sessions with a parent or guardian and complete a liability waiver.

Both Senior Free and Senior Off Campus are subject to suspension or revocation at any time by PHS administration should a student fall out of either good academic or disciplinary standing.

Smoking/Vaping

Smoking or vaping of any kind is prohibited on all school grounds and school-related activities by all students and other participants (regardless of age). Any student found to be in use or possession of an e-cigarette or "vape" will be subject to an immediate substance use screening (drug test urinalysis), as per school policy.

Athletic Events

At this time, all outdoor athletic events are “uncapped” in terms of spectator capacity. Mask wearing is highly encouraged, especially when social distancing is not possible. We look forward to seeing our parents and community members out supporting the RedHawks at this Fall’s athletic events.

Health and Safety Protocols

We are enthusiastic about our students and staff members returning to successful teaching and learning at Parsippany High School. But, especially considering last year and the ongoing battle with COVID-19 it is critical to ensure that their safety, health, and wellbeing are our first priority. Our District’s Return to School Health reopening protocols for health and safety have been carefully crafted through the guidance and directives set forth in the NJDOE and NJDOH’s “The Road Forward.” Please see the Parsippany-Troy Hills District website for more detailed information on these protocols, but here are some key points that are important for the first few days and beyond:

- **Masks** - Consistent with Gov. Murphy’s Executive Order 251, all students and staff members will be required to wear masks while participating and any indoor portion of the school day (including buses). Students who refuse to wear masks will be asked to leave the school building. Please see the district’s [Return to School Health and Safety Plan](#) for more information.
- **Absences & Quarantine** - Absences for students required to quarantine, either due to a positive COVID-19 test or a COVID-19 close contact, will be considered **excused**. All other absences will be considered unexcused. Lessons will **not** be live streamed and hybrid instruction will **not** be available for any absent students. Teachers may choose, at their discretion, to open web video access for students under certain instructionally appropriate circumstances, but this will not be considered an in-class day for students. Students who are absent for any reason are encouraged to use online means like Google Classroom to stay up-to-date with any work missed due to absence or illness.
- **Food Service:**
 - Breakfast and lunch will be provided to all students at no charge. All food items will be prepackaged and available in a “grab-and-go” fashion. Students choosing to eat breakfast in the school building should pick up their breakfast item at the distribution areas closest to their building entry point and *head immediately to the cafeterias to eat*. Eating in the hallways before school or while walking will be strictly prohibited. The main cafeteria kitchen will also be open in the morning for hot breakfast times. Those must also be consumed while seated in one of the cafeterias.
 - Lunch will be provided to all students at no charge during the Unit Lunch portion of the day. Lunch will be available at three (3) food-service locations throughout the building: the main cafeteria kitchen, the gymnasium, and a kiosk outside of the media center. All lunch will be prepackaged “grab-and-go.” Students will be allowed to eat in either cafeteria, the gymnasium (bleachers and cafeteria tables), the media center, the interior courtyards (weather permitting), and there will be

limited window sill seating in the main hallway. Students **will not** be permitted to sit on the floor and eat. Students will also be able to eat in classrooms with prior teacher permission and staff supervision present.

- During Unit Lunch, students will only be allowed to remove their masks while seated and actively eating lunch. Students will not be allowed to move throughout the building while eating or without masks.

- **Daily COVID Screening and Quarantine**

Parents will not be required to complete a daily health check form for children this year. Please monitor your children for signs of illness; parents are the “front line” for assessing the health of their children. Quarantine criteria are regularly changing as are the differences in protocols for vaccinated and non-vaccinated individuals. Please see the district’s [Return to School](#) plan for up-to-date information about how positive COVID tests, close contacts, and other potential COVID symptoms might impact your child’s attendance. **As always, if your child is ill, please do not send them to school.**

- **Visitors**

Visitor access to PHS will be limited. If possible, please try to schedule an appointment with whomever you want to meet prior to arriving at school. All visitors should enter the school through the main (flagpole) entrance and check in at the security desk. Visitors will be required to provide identification and contact information for security and contact-tracing purposes. Once checked in, visitors should report to the main office to await their appointment or contact. Visitors will not be allowed to circulate the building unescorted. **No visitors will be granted access to the building without a mask.**

Once again, we are thrilled to welcome our students back to Parsippany High School and thank you, our families and community members, for working with us during a challenging year and the possible obstacles that lay ahead. We are blessed with the best staff, students, and families, anywhere and I am more confident than ever that we will be successful *together*. We are grateful for your unending support and pledge to work with our entire community to ensure a healthy, happy return for all of our Parsippany RedHawks. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

In Red and Grey,

Mr. Keith Bush
Principal
Parsippany High School
973-263-7001



Go RedHawks!