

August 10, 2022

Dear Arlington Families,

It is an honor to welcome our Eagle family to the 2022-2023 school year! I am excited to announce my transition from Acting Principal during the 21-22 school year, to your official Principal of Pittsburgh Arlington PreK-8!



I am dedicated to continuing our commitments as a community school where student attendance, academics and social emotional well-being excels. I am eager to see our Eagles “SOAR to excellence” this year in an environment where *all* students feel welcomed, supported and challenged.

We would like to give a warm welcome to all of our new scholars joining the Eagle family for the 22-23 school year. We look forward to seeing new and returning families at our Back to School Night, as well as working in partnership with you throughout the entire school year!

Mission Statement

At Pittsburgh Arlington we are a community school where students **SOAR** to their highest potential of success.

Vision Statement

At Pittsburgh Arlington we strive to provide a quality education where students are energized, accountable and engaged in learning. Our school community celebrates individuality and empowers everyone to be life-long learners. In partnership with all stakeholders, our goal is to create relevant learning opportunities for students that help them develop the knowledge, critical thinking skills, and resilient character traits needed to succeed in a diverse and ever-changing world.

Staff

We are excited to announce some new staff members who have joined the Eagle Family! All contacts for staff can be found on our website pghschools.org/arlington

- Ms. Cara McKenna- Assistant Principal
- Ms. Noranne Yarbough - 1st Grade
- Ms. Megan Donnelly- Classroom Assistant in K-2 Autistic Support
- Clareta Brooks - Para Professional
- Tanitra Bradberry - Para Professional

We are in the process of interviewing for a new secretary and SDSS. We will update our school community once our candidate is approved by the School Board.

Teacher Placements:

Grade Level	Homeroom Teachers	
Kindergarten	Ms. Thear	Ms. Bruckman
1st Grade	Ms. Yarbough	Ms. Ventura
2nd Grade	Ms. Spadone	Mr. Branson
K-2 Autistic Support	Ms. Gurchak	
3rd Grade	Ms. Keller	Ms. McNary
4th Grade	Ms. Eagan	Ms. Byrne
5th Grade	Ms. Wasco	Ms. Goins
3-5 Emotional Support	Ms. Brady	
3-5 Life Skills		
6th Grade	Ms. Coughenour	Mr. Lemley
7th Grade	Ms. Groth	Mr. Porter
8th Grade	Mr. Wagner	Ms. Winters
6-8 Emotional Support	Ms. Glover	

First Day of School:

All classes for scholars in 1st grade - 8th grade will begin on Monday, August 29, 2022. The normal school day runs from 8:25am-3:10pm. Doors open at 8:00am with dismissal beginning at 3:10pm. Students are not permitted in the building before 8:00am. Pittsburgh Arlington does not provide a school based after school program.

The first day of school for Kindergarten students is Thursday, September 1, 2022. The normal school day runs from 8:25am - 3:10pm. Doors open at 8:00am and dismissal begins at 3:10pm.

Instruction:

Grades K-2 will continue being self-contained meaning that their homeroom teacher will be responsible for all academic subjects. Grades 3-8 will again be departmentalizing, meaning that students will have multiple teachers for academic subjects. The departmentalizing teams are as follows:

3rd Grade	Ms. McNary (ELA) Ms. Keller (Math/Science/Social Studies)
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4th Grade	Ms. Byrne (ELA) Ms. Eagan (Math/Science/Social Studies)
5th Grade	Ms. Goins (ELA) Ms. Wasco (Math/Science/Social Studies)
6th Grade	Mr. Lemley (English) Ms. Coughenour (Math) Mr. Porter (Social Studies) Ms. Groth (Science)
7th Grade	Mr. Lemley/ Ms. Winters (English) Ms. Coughenour / Mr. Wagner (Math) Mr. Porter (Social Studies) Ms. Groth (Science)
8th Grade	Ms. Winters (English) Mr. Wagner (Math) Mr. Porter (Social Studies) Ms. Groth (Science)

We will continue to use Schoology as our online learning system. If a child is on a medical leave / quarantine, all instructional materials will be posted on Schoology. Schoology can be accessed by visiting pghschools.org and clicking on "Clever." Use your child's username and password to log into Clever and access the Schoology app.

Back to School Night: "End of Summer Luau" 

Our Back to School Night will take place on Wednesday, August 31st from 5pm- 7pm. Doors will open at 5:00pm. All students and families can enter through the main entrance. Come join us for some music, food and fun!

Arrival

Doors open at 8:00am. Students should arrive at school no later than 8:25am. After 8:25am, students are marked late. Students arriving late should be accompanied by a parent or guardian, as well as a written excuse.

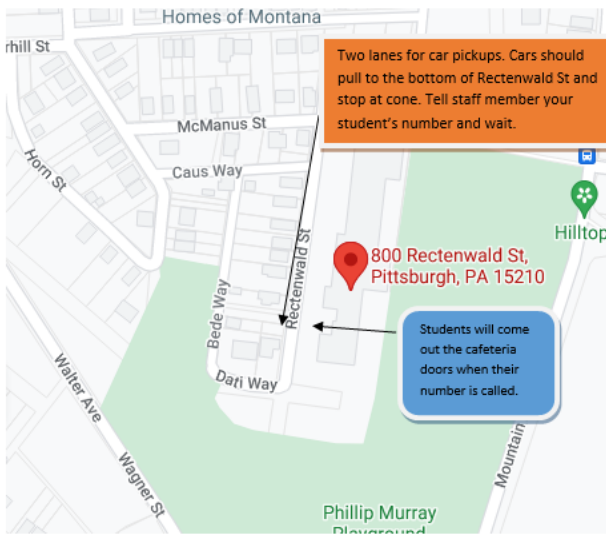
Grades K-5 scholars are to enter through the main entrance at the top of Rectenwald St. Grades 6-8 scholars are to enter through the cafeteria entrance at the bottom of Rectenwald St.



Dismissal

Dismissal begins at 3:00pm.

- **Car riders:** Car riders will be escorted to the cafeteria and wait to be called out to their car. Car riders will remain seated in the cafeteria at their assigned table with their educator. Once their name is called, they may exit the cafeteria and walk to their car.
- **Walkers:** Walkers will remain in their walker room until their walker group is called. When a student walker group is called, they will walk quietly to the main entrance to be dismissed. All walkers will walk up Rectenwald St. and immediately begin walking home.
- **Bus riders:** Bus riders will wait in their assigned bus room. Busses will be called over the loudspeaker. When a bus is called, students will be escorted by an educator to the middle school basketball court exit to their bus.



Cellphones

Student cell phones are collected at the door during arrival. If a student is found with a cell phone during the school day, it will be confiscated and held until a family member is contacted and can retrieve it from the school. There are no exceptions.

Student Handbook

All students and families will have access to Arlington's Student Handbook at www.pghschools/arlington and have received a physical copy in the welcome packet. All parents and scholars must complete and sign the student handbook agreement, the acceptable use form and the emergency contact form. All three forms should be returned to your child's homeroom teacher on the first day of school.

Home Access Center

We ask that all parents and families acquaint themselves with the Home Access Center (HAC) which can be found at www.pghschools.org under the Community tab, Families, Parents and Families page. You can access your student's schedule, interim reports, report cards and classroom academic progress here. Please be sure to grant teachers appropriate time to update new grades. You are always welcome to call your student's teacher directly with any questions or concerns

Masks

Pittsburgh Public Schools follows direct guidance on mask-wearing through the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention guidelines. All students, staff and visitors will be required to wear a mask when Allegheny County's community levels are reported at high or medium. The website can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html>. The CDC site is updated every Thursday so all families can check by state and county if interested.

Technology

As a one-to-one school district, all students will receive technology (laptop or tablet) and a charger within the first month of school. Students and families are responsible for keeping all technology in working order. Any issues or concerns with technology should be sent to our Tech Liaison, Ms. Byrne, at tbyrne1@pghschools.org. Students are required to bring their technology to and from school daily. No replacement chargers will be provided.

Keeping Up to Date:

Please continue to check your email for more updates as they become available and check our social media sites on Twitter (@PPSArlington) and on Facebook (@PPSArlington)

Important Upcoming Dates:

August 29 First Day of School, Grades PreK and 1 st -8 th grade (No Kindergarten)	September 5 All PPS Holiday-No School Labor Day
August 29-31 Kindergarten Assessments (scheduled by Kindergarten teachers, information to follow)	September 26 No School Rosh Hashanah
August 31st 5pm- 7pm Welcome Back to School Event (PSCC event for August)	September 30 Half Day for All Students Dismissal at 11:30 am
September 1 First day of Kindergarten	October 5 No School Yom Kippur

Contacting Us:

If you need anything please do not hesitate to reach out.

<u>Main Office Phone:</u> (412) 529- 4701	<u>Principal</u> Mrs. Smith-Berezo cberezo1@pghschools.org
<u>Assistant Principal</u> Ms. McKenna cmckenna1@pghschools.org	<u>Counselor</u> Mr. Medrano mmedrano1@pghschools.org 412-529-5403
<u>Social Worker</u> Mr. Henry ahenry2@pghschools.org 412-529-5203	<u>Community Schools Manager</u> Danielle Gill dgill1@pghschools.org 412- 529- 5376