

August 15, 2019

Dear Pennekamp Dragon Families,

Welcome Back! We hope your summer was filled with family, fun and relaxation! School starts this Wednesday, August 21st and the Pennekamp Staff is eagerly awaiting your arrival! Please read on for additional information that will be helpful as we start off the year.

Class Lists/Teacher for 2019-2020

To view your child's new teacher for the 2019-2020 school year, simply log onto your AERIES account Saturday, August 17, 2019, after 9:00 a.m. The steps are:

1. Log into www.mbusd.org
2. Click "Parents"
3. Click "AERIES Portal"
4. Log into your AERIES account with your email and password.
5. Once you log in, click on "Student Info" and "Profile". You will find the assigned teacher's name at the top right-hand corner.

Dismissal Procedures

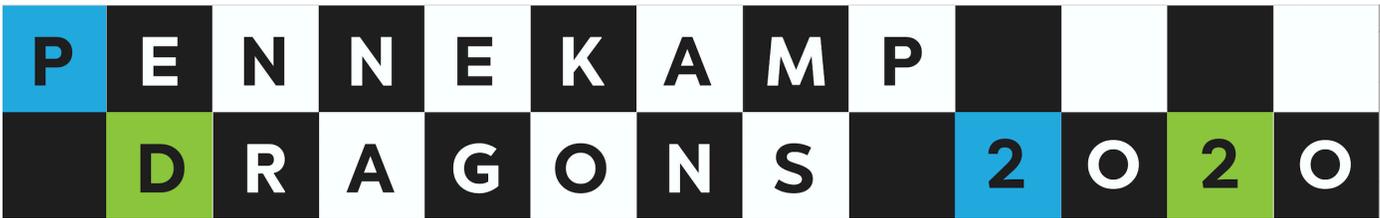
With our new fence complete, the dismissal procedures for this year will be different to maintain a secure campus. The campus will be locked every morning at 8:35 a.m. All individuals on campus will need to exit by that time. The gates will open again at 2:10 p.m. for the 2:15 p.m. dismissal. Transitional kindergarten and kindergarten students will be walked up to the gates and released to parents. Room 6 will be released out of the gate on Rowell Ave. Room 7 will be released at the top of the ramp around the corner from the front office, and Room 9 will be released out of the gate by the front office. TK students will be released out of the gate on Rowell Ave. At 2:10, the gates will be unlocked for 1st-3rd grade parents to come onto campus for the 2:15 pick up time. If those families have an upper grade student in 4th or 5th grade and will be waiting for them, they will need to wait on the primary playground close to the EDP portables. Any student that is on the playground waiting must be accompanied by a parent or care giver who is responsible for their supervision.

First Day of School

Join us to kick off the start of the year on August 21st! First through fifth grade students will begin the morning together where students will line up by class on their assigned number on the blacktop when the bell rings. Assigned class numbers will be posted on the blacktop to direct you. We will open the day with a short assembly. Students are encouraged to wear their class color T-shirt or any PK T-shirt they have. School starts at 8:15 a.m. and ends at 1:30 p.m. for 1st-5th graders. TK and kindergarten students will go directly to the classroom upon arrival. TK will be released at 11:45 a.m. and Kindergarten will be released at 11:35 a.m.

TK and Kindergarten

TK and kindergarten students will be on minimum day schedule from August 21st through September 6th. They will begin their full day schedule on September 7th and will be released at 1:35 p.m. for kindergarten and 1:45 p.m. for TK. When they begin attending full days, they will need to bring a snack and a lunch if they are not ordering from the cafeteria.



Mindful Mornings

We have Mindful Mornings on Wednesdays where we have a short assembly. All other days, students will meet on the upper playground and line up at their assigned classroom number when the bell rings. As students arrive, they can drop their backpacks in two single file lines beginning at their class numbers. Each day, teachers will come down to the blacktop to meet their students. We will participate in the Pledge of Allegiance and teachers will then walk students to their classrooms to start their day. Parents will exit out the Peck gate by the blacktop or the Rowell Gate by the EDP portables by the primary playground.

Dismissal Times

Please see the dismissal times below for the different types of days throughout the year. Please note that since kindergarteners will be released out the gates on Rowell Ave., tables have been placed at the front of campus for parents who are waiting for a later pick-up time. Once the gates open at 2:10 p.m., families can enter if picking up 1st-3rd grade students. If waiting for a 4th-5th grade student, the location designated for waiting will be the primary playground. We would like to honor the students who are still in class and have a quiet campus. Everyone on campus will be directed to the primary playground. Please note, this is not a time to allow students to play if you are not waiting for an upper grade student.

| Grade | Regular Release | Early Release Wed. | Minimum Day |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Transitional K | 8:25 a.m.-1:45 p.m. | 8:25 a.m.-1:45 p.m. | 8:25 a.m.-11:45 a.m. |
| Kindergarten | 8:15 a.m.-1:35 p.m. | 8:15 a.m.-1:30 p.m. | 8:15 a.m.-11:35 a.m. |
| 1 st -3 rd | 8:15 a.m.-2:15 p.m. | 8:15 a.m.-1:30 p.m. | 8:15 a.m.-12:45 p.m. |
| 4 th -5 th | 8:15 a.m.-2:45 p.m. | 8:15 a.m.-1:30 p.m. | 8:15 a.m.-12:45 p.m. |

*****Please note that the first day of school is an Early Release Wednesday.**

Back to School Night for TK and Kinder

TK and Kindergarten Back to School Night will be held on Tuesday, August 20th. The TK presentation will be in Room 8 beginning at 4:30 p.m. The Kinder presentation will be in the cafeteria beginning at 4:30 p.m. **These events are for parents only.**

Back to School Night for 1st-5th Grades

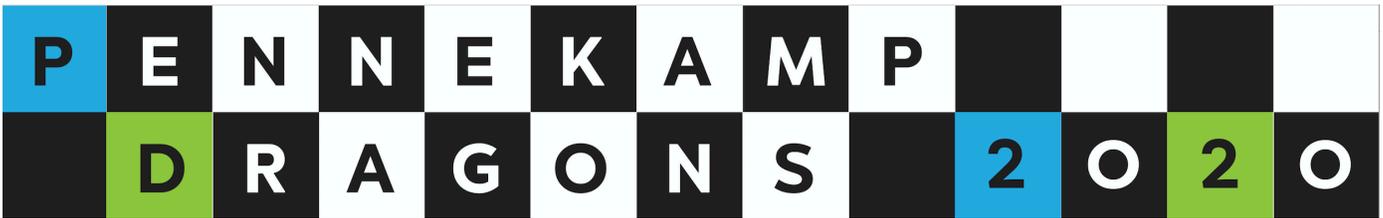
Back to School Night for 1st-5th grades will be on September 12th. It will begin with a General PTA meeting followed by a presentation in the PK Cafeteria at 5:00 p.m. This will be followed by classroom presentations. 1st-3rd grades will run 5:45-6:15 p.m. and 4th-5th will run 6:15-6:45 p.m. **This event is for parents only.**

School Supplies

If you have not purchased school supplies yet, you can Google “Target School List Assist” and click to locate Pennekamp Elementary and your assigned grade. Any supplies that they have in stock, you can purchase. The items that are not in stock, are listed at the bottom of the page.

Wednesday Envelope

The PTA works diligently to ensure that parents consistently receive information about school happenings. The Wednesday envelope is sent to each family the first Wednesday of each month. Because there is an abundant of information at the beginning of the year, watch for the first envelope on the first Friday of school.



PK 101/Pride Day

Join us for our PK101/Pride Day on Saturday, August 24th, from 8:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m. Breakfast and coffee will be provided. We will have a PTA expo where you can join PTA membership, purchase Dragon Swag, and sign up for volunteer opportunities and learn more about our wonderful school. If you have any questions regarding PK101/Pride Day, please contact pkptapresident@gmail.com.

Volunteering at Pennekamp

We LOVE volunteers! If you plan to volunteer on campus or for any event, please pick up a volunteer application in the Pennekamp front office. Negative TB test results are required to be able to volunteer on campus.

Scholar Chip Identification

A new identification system is set up in the front office. In order to enter campus, individuals must check in at the front desk and provide a valid driver's license, which will be scanned/checked in the secure database. A badge will be provided that must be worn on campus. Anyone without a badge will be directed to the front office. You must also check out when you leave campus. If you do not check out and try to check into another school in the district, you will not be able to enter.

See you Wednesday!

Dr. Gerger and the PK Staff

Thank you to our PTA and MBEF for all of their support of our school!