



Ms. Sheree Savoy *Principal*

Mr. Keith Davenport
Assistant Principal

Dr. Raymond Miller *Assistant Principal*

Dr. Vivian Powers *Assistant Principal*

August 20, 2020

Greetings Parents/Guardians and Scholars:

WELCOME to the 2020-2021 school year! It has been my hope that every member of the Central High School community has been safe and well.

As you probably already know, the school year will be taught virtually, at least the first semester. The first full day of distance learning will be August 31, 2020 and will continue through to January 29, 2021. While the staff and I will truly miss seeing scholars, parents and community members in the school building, safety must be our top priority. With strong parental support together with our dedicated, hard working, and caring teaching staff, it is our intention that each child will receive a high quality education during this time away from the school building.

As we move into this virtual school year, we look forward to welcoming all scholars to Central High School. It is important that the school community, parents, teachers, administrators and most importantly, our scholars, work collaboratively toward the goal of a high school diploma. It is important that all scholars understand that even though we are not face to face, they are still earning credits towards meeting the Maryland State Department of Education graduation requirements to receive their high school diploma. This year will present unique opportunities and challenges for all of us. However, we are committed to making the best of this situation and ensuring all scholars are provided with the best education.

DRESS CODE AND UNIFORM EXPECTATIONS

During the first semester of distance learning, August 31 - January 29, scholars will not be required to wear school uniforms. However, scholars must adhere to the PGCPS dress code which requires scholars to dress appropriately. Appropriate dress includes shirts and blouses that are continuous from neckline to waist, no see-through, tank tops, muscle shirts, vulgar language, obscene picture, weapons, drugs/alcohol, drug paraphernalia or tobacco products. Pants should be secured at the waist with no exposure of undergarments.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Attendance will be closely monitored by teachers, administration and Pupil Personnel Worker. Per the PGCPS policy, scholars are not allowed to miss 18 or more days per school year and no more than 4 days per quarter. This policy is for excused and unexcused absences. Please make sure that when your child misses a day of instruction that they return with a note. Additional information will be provided via our website.

SCHOOLMAX FAMILY PORTAL CONTACT

The SchoolMax Family Portal will be critical in monitoring student progress during the distance learning portion of the school year. Parents/guardians and scholars must check the Schoolmax Family Portal regularly to

monitor grades and attendance. If you do not have access to the Family Portal, please sign up today. If you need

assistance, contact Ms. White, Guidance Administrative Assistant at tina.white@pgcps.org or Ms. Hill, Attendance Administrative Assistant at sharon2.hill@pgpcs.org.

TROUBLE LOGGING INTO TO EMAIL

During distance learning, scholars <u>must</u> use their PGCPS email accounts. If your child has any problems with logging into their PGCPS email account, they can contact Mr. Rose, IT Specialist, at <u>trose@pgcps.org</u>, Ms. White, Media Specialist, at <u>sheree2.white@pgcps.org</u> or Mr. Atowo, Testing Coordinator, at <u>joseph.asaforatowo@pgcps.org</u>.

SUPPLY LIST Grades 9-12 (suggested items for parents to purchase for their children)

scissors	Post-it notes	composition books / spiral notebooks	loose leaf lined notebook paper	
pencils with erasers	highlighters	3-hole pocket folder	3 ring binder (to be shared for all classes)	
pencil sharpener	pens	water based markers	glue bottle / glue stick (according to identified course)	
ruler	index cards	construction paper	primary color paints (red, yellow, blue, black and white)	

LOCKER CLEANOUT AND MATERIALS/TECHNOLOGY DISTRIBUTION DAY

In an effort to ensure our scholars are prepared for the first day of school, we have scheduled a date and time for locker cleanout, for rising 10th -12th graders and Chromebooks and supplies distribution for all scholars on August 24th and 27th. Please arrive at the scheduled time based on your child's last name. During distribution day, everyone must wear a mask and follow the procedures outlined in the parent letter. Please access the parent letter, on our school's website, for detailed information.

**SPECIAL NOTE: Nationally, there has been a high demand for the procurement of electronic devices, which has resulted in delay of receiving them for PGCPS. We have placed an order for our scholars and are awaiting delivery. If your child is currently utilizing a personal device in the home, we ask that they continue to do so until our order is received. We anticipate that additional devices will be available by September 21, 2020. Once received, you will be notified of the date and time scheduled for you to pick up a device. Your understanding is appreciated.

BREAKFAST/LUNCH

During distance learning, Central High School @ Forestville will be providing breakfast and lunch for scholars. However, since we are not currently at our school location, scholars may also pick up meals from a school closest to your community. Scholars will need to provide the school staff with their Name, PIN and school of enrollment. Meals will be available on Mondays and Wednesdays from 10:00am to 1:00pm. For scholars who live at least 1.5 miles from the nearest school, meals will be distributed at community locations during the days and times listed above. Please contact the PGCPS Department of Transportation for more information.

Meals will only be provided to PGCPS scholars and those not eligible for free and reduced meals will have to pay for breakfast and lunch as indicated below. Please take the time to complete the Free and reduced lunch applications online at www.pgcps.org/food-and-nutrition/cards/Apply-For-Free-or-Reduced-Price-Meals/. This link will be on the school website.

	Daily	Weekly	Monthly
Reduced Breakfast	No Cost to scholars	No Cost to scholars	No Cost to scholars
Full Priced Breakfast	\$1.60	\$8.00	\$32.00
Reduced Lunch	No Cost to scholars	No Cost to scholars	No Cost to scholars
Full Priced Lunch	\$3.00	\$15.00	\$60.00

PARENT CENTERS

PGCPS has implemented Parent Centers strategically located throughout the county where parents can receive assistance with technology, accessing and navigating platforms, and other troubleshooting beginning September 1, 2020 on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:00am-10:00am and 6:00pm-8:00pm. Parents may also call (240) 696-3315 during the above hours to receive live assistance. The location that is the closest to the Central High School Community is *G. James Gholson Middle School--900 Nalley Road, Landover, MD 20785.* If you do not live in the Central Community, please visit the PGCPS website and search Parent Centers to find the full list locations.

COMMUNICATION

It's very important that parents/guardians, scholars and the Central High School community follow us on social media to get all the updates. These are the following ways to stay tuned:

- 1. Sign up for Text Messages and Email Alerts on the PGCPS website under the Learn, Connect and Partner With Us
- 2. Receive school emails, robo calls and text messages via Blackboard Connect
- 3. Follow us on TWITTER @ CHSFalcons1

IMPORTANT INFORMATION/DATES: MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Friday, August 21, 2020 Parents and scholars will have access to schedules via the SchoolMax Family Portal
- Friday, August 28, 2020 @ 7:45am Systemic Orientation for <u>New 9th graders ONLY</u> and Mock Day for all other scholars. Additional information is forthcoming
- Monday, August 31, 2020: First Day of Virtual School for all scholars
- Monday, September 7, 2020: Schools and Offices Closed (Labor Day Holiday)
- Wednesday, September 23, 2020: Back to School Night. More information to come.
- Friday, September 25, 2020: Professional Development Schools Closed for scholars
- September 28, 2020: Yom Kippur Holiday* Schools and Offices Closed

In conclusion, we thank you for your willingness to follow the procedures and expectations during these times. As we continue to navigate through our new "normal," it is paramount that we continue to work together. I would like to welcome you all to the start of an exciting new school year! It is truly a pleasure to have this opportunity to work with each of you and your child(ren). Stay encouraged, safe and well.

Sincerely,