



## Did You Know Newsletter

A Newsletter for Parents and Students of Scotchtown Hills ES

Website: <http://www1.pgcps.org/scotchtownhills/>

Office Phone: 301-497-3994 Fax 301-498-6421

Cafeteria: 240-547-4672

Health Room: 240-547-4675

**PGCPS Weather Line: 301-952-6000 Option 1**

February, 2022

### Important Dates:

**1/18/22** - Temporary Distance Learning ends (non-virtual students)

**1/21/22** - 3 hour Early Dismissal for students and teachers

1/24/22 - SHES Parent Orientation for returning virtual students @ 6PM.

[Parent Orientation Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 870 5448 9224

Passcode: 355701

**1/31/22** - Virtual Students Return to the School Building (All virtual learning ends).

**2/2/22** - End of Second Quarter (45 Days)

**Family Portal Information** – Family Portal is a feature of SchoolMAX that allows parents to view contact information, attendance, grades and discipline. If you need access, please contact our Family Portal Administrator Ms. Dorn-Pekins (Assistant Principal) at [nic.dornpekings@pgcps.org](mailto:nic.dornpekings@pgcps.org) or call the school. Please provide the student's name, grade and teacher. Passwords

### General News & Messages

It will be wonderful to see students return to Scotchtown Hills for in-person learning on **January 31st**. We hope the transition will be a smooth one for all involved.

We are encouraging families of current virtual students to contact their teacher to review a plan of transitioning back into the building. Virtual families should begin to contact the **Department of Transportation** to confirm or schedule their child's ability to ride a designated bus once they transition back to the building. Please do this **prior to returning** from virtual learning. It takes a little time for the Transportation Department to schedule bus pick up. Be prepared to provide a ride to and from your child's school until Transportation gives you confirmation of a designated bus for your child.

To help your child **reacclimate** to being in the school building, think about picking a consistent day to have them come into the building to get used to the daily structure, class environment, learn the school building and meet classmates in person. More importantly, it helps to establish a routine of getting ready for school, riding the school bus (if that's your choice) to and from school, etc.

Reach out to your child's teacher to discuss further :)

Our teachers will continue to use Google Classroom as a means of supporting instructional activities like class and home assignments. Be sure to accept the invite when you receive it. Parents are able to view the platform when they accept the Guardian invite!

will not be sent by email or by telephone call. Passwords will only be sent home.

**Scotchtown Hills ES PTO Officers:**

Devonne Powell, PTO President

Byron Moran, PTO Vice President

Melissa Seibert, PTO Treasurer

Shaundel Saunders-Powell, Fundraising Chair

Natalie Ross, PTO Secretary

Jessica Harvey, Social Media

Melissa Barach-Ruff Teacher Liaison

Scotchtown Hills PTO

Email: [scotchtownhills@gmail.com](mailto:scotchtownhills@gmail.com)

Scotchtown Hills PTO

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/scotchtownhills.pto](http://www.facebook.com/scotchtownhills.pto)

Scotchtown Hills PTO Twitter: @ScotchtownHillsPTO

We want to make sure that contact between school and home is clear and consistent. Let's make sure that we have a current phone number (home/cell), home address and email address in **SchoolMax**. Parents/Guardians should have a current Family Portal account and check it weekly. When you don't, the system may just disable your account temporarily.

We use School Messenger as our means of communicating with our school community (which is another reason to make sure we have your correct information).

SHES Staff

**Keeping up with your child's progress:**

Be sure to check-in with your child's teacher throughout each quarter. Look at the information in your child's Google Classroom (GC). You should have Guardian access to the GC. This will allow you to see assignments (complete/incomplete) & grades. It is a great tool to help you in seeing what your child is doing in school. Contact your child's teacher for more information.

**School & County Website:**

Be sure to check our SHES website, as well as the PGCPs site. Lots of information can be found there to help navigate throughout the school year.

Check in with your child's teacher frequently:

- to discuss your child's current progress
- keep contact information current
- establish a rapport and best way to keep in touch
- show you are interested in what your child is doing
- keep up with assignments, activities and projects

Transportation (Morning & Afternoon): How students get to school is very important. Particularly when riding county school buses. Please be sure to know the time your student is to be at the bus stop in the morning, as well as when they will be dropped off at the bus stop in the afternoon. This is extremely important for our younger students Pre-K thru 1st grade. Arrange for an emergency pick-up plan in the event you are not available.

Reminder: All Pre-Kindergarten & Kindergarten bus riders are expected to wear their safety vest each day (AM/PM buses).

Currently, breakfast & lunch will be provided at no cost. Be sure to check the county website:

<https://www.pgcps.org/offices/food-and-nutrition>

Front Office Appointments: Due to current COVID19 restrictions, we will continue to provide access to parents via appointments only.