



Central Park Elementary

Welcome to Central Park Elementary, the best in the west. At least, that's how we feel. A popular slogan here is "Central Park Elementary - where parents, students, staff, and community members are working together to make good things happen". It's true. We have a unique spirit of cooperation and mutual respect that creates an atmosphere in which children can thrive and be successful.

At our Open House event, your child's teacher provided a packet of very important papers that need to be filled out and returned no later than Monday, August 23rd. Our primary form of communication with you will be electronic via emails and text messages. Also, if you want to receive important messages and reminders about events from the District through the BCPS mobile app, please register at <http://browardschools.com/MobileApp>. The only items that will be sent home are sign and return forms or money collections that need to be submitted through estore.browardschools.com. Also, all field trips will be paid online. The school's web site will be updated frequently and contains important policies, procedures, information, links, and handbooks. It is your "go to" site. This back-to-school newsletter and weekly announcements will be emailed throughout the school year. Sign up for this on our web site at centralpark.browardschools.com (look for the icon that says "Join Our Email List - CLICK HERE").

On the School Board web site, you will find the Code of Student Conduct Handbook, which gives information you and your child should know to be in compliance with policies and procedures that schools follow. The signature pages that need to be signed and returned to your child's teacher were in the packet you received at the Open House event.

Please don't forget that all stakeholders visiting the school **MUST** sign in through our RAPTOR System with a photo ID to receive a badge before entering our campus and you **MUST** come back to the office to sign out and return your badge when leaving. Also, please make sure that your badge is visible at all times so that we can ensure the safety and security of everyone on our campus.

All staff and students are required to wear their mask and ID badge at all times during the school day. Students are permitted to purchase their own ID lanyard for their badge. Should your child lose their badge, they will be given no more than 3 replacement badges. If they should then lose their badge, they will be required to pay a \$5.00 fee for a new badge. The fee must be paid through the estore.browardschools.com website. If the fee is not paid, an obligation will be placed on your child's account.

Students will continue to register for several weeks. After Labor Day, class size usually stabilizes. It may be necessary to make changes in September to balance class size. Sometimes we must dissolve or add classes to be in compliance with state law class size targets. We appreciate your cooperation should that become necessary.

Parents interested in providing input into the performance evaluation of Central Park instructional and/or administrative employee evaluations, may contact our office at 754-322-5700.

We keep a professional environment always on campus, thus all adults that enter our building are required to act and behave in a manner that is suitable for all children. Any adult visitor who uses profanity, makes threats to others, or acts in an inappropriate manner will lose the privilege of entering our building while students are present. We do appreciate our parents and guests who model respectful behavior in front of our students. Parents are asked not to engage with others who act inappropriately, and, that if you witness such violations, you report it to an administrator or support staff member immediately.

This newsletter will provide some helpful information for the first week of school and our safety procedures. The next newsletters (Happenings At The Park) will be published weekly.

The District has decided that only pre-kindergarten and kindergarten parents will be permitted to walk their child(ren) into school on Wednesday, August 18th. All Broward County Elementary Schools will be following this same guidelines. We want to thank you in advance for coming to Meet Your Teacher Day. It does eliminate many of the worries and jitters associated with the first day of school. By working cooperatively, we can make this a terrific year.

Sincerely,
Cherise Coleman, Principal
Jennifer Kinggard, Assistant Principal



ARRIVAL

If your child will be a car rider, there is only one car loop used in the morning. It is the driveway entered and exited from Cleary Blvd. The bus loop facing Nob Hill Road is only for buses and the south driveway is for deliveries, cafeteria, and maintenance only. Drivers should use our car loop off Cleary Boulevard. Traffic volunteers assist with morning arrival to keep the car line running smoothly. Please follow their directions because it does improve traffic flow. Pull up as far as possible to drop off. **HAVE STUDENTS READY TO EXIT THE VEHICLE WHEN THE CAR COMES TO A COMPLETE STOP.**

Only pre-kindergarten and kindergarten parents may walk their child(ren) to class the FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL. During the school year, kindergarten students wait inside building 6 or outside room 130 with adult supervision.

Students in other grades wait either inside or outside their buildings/classrooms with adult supervision as well. Encourage your children to be independent and walk to their waiting area on their own. They will be proud of having that responsibility.

Only students who live in the West Port Community, will be permitted to enter and exit through the back gate. Each student will be tagged with a back gate tag to ensure your child has permission to use that

gate. Also, please be reminded that this is ONLY a walk up gate. No one should be driving up and dropping off or picking up students. There will be a Plantation Police Officer patrolling that area during arrival and dismissal. Please make sure to follow the Florida State Law Road Rules so that you are not given a citation.

DISMISSAL

Children will be dismissed according to the directions on the form you received at Meet Your Teacher Day. We prefer not to make any changes in a student's dismissal unless we have been notified by the parent. This is for safety reasons because students may be confused as to how they go home. It is best for them to follow the same procedure EVERY DAY. Establish those routines early. **All dismissal changes MUST be received no later than 12:00 PM. If you need to make a dismissal change, please send a note to your child's teacher, send an email to centralparkes@browardschools.com, or stop by the front office and fill out a "Change of Dismissal" form. Students shall not be released within the final 30 minutes of the school day unless the principal/designee determines that it is an emergency or the student has a medical/dental appointment that cannot be reasonably scheduled at another time.**

Walkers, back gate students, and after care students are dismissed to their areas. Crossing guards are posted by Sunset Park on Cleary Boulevard and at the corner of Nob Hill Road and Cleary Boulevard to assist walkers and bike riders.

The car loop beside Sunset Park will be utilized for afternoon pick up **only for grades 1-5**. Kindergarten car riders and walkers, and their siblings will be picked up at the blue gate area. Staff will be directing traffic to help drivers know where to go. Please be patient. Things are usually slower the first two or three weeks of school as procedures are being learned. **DRIVERS MUST STAY IN THEIR CARS.** If you walk up to meet your child, you must park.

Grade 1-5 car riders are walked out to the car loop and staff will wait with them until their car arrives. The car line moves slowly, but is mostly done by 2:20 pm. Drivers should remain in their cars, pulling up slowly, and keeping traffic moving. Parking is available at the Sunset Park next door for students who get picked up at the walker gate by Cleary Boulevard.

During dismissal, all car rider parents **MUST** hang the plastic car tag from the mirror every day. This will help expedite the process and ensure that your designated person is permitted to pick up. Student dismissal begins at 2:00 PM. Students picked up after 2:30 PM, will need to be signed out in the front office.

If your child attends the Central Park After Care Program, we are asking that you pick up your child after 2:30 PM, unless it is an emergency. During the first 30 minutes, we are taking attendance, eating snack, getting prepared for our activities, and students are working on their homework. Also, the rest of the school is dismissing students. We greatly appreciate your cooperation.



Severe Weather Dismissal

As we are aware, we often have inclement weather at dismissal. We wanted to remind you of our **SEVERE WEATHER PROCEDURES**. Below is the message you will receive via email, text, and mobile App to inform you that we are implementing this procedure when we have weather that does not permit us to do our regular dismissal procedures.

Message:

It is 1:30 pm and we are having severe weather in the area. We will be doing severe weather dismissal

today, which means our kindergarten walkers and Sunset Park gate walkers will become car riders in their carloop areas (kindergarten walkers need to be picked up by car at the blue gate and grades 1-5 Sunset Park gate walkers need to be picked up by car in the back carloop). The only students that will be dismissed from the Sunset Park gate, once it is safe to do so, are students that walk home without an adult or ride their bike home. Please use the car tag that was provided to you and hang it on your rear view mirror.

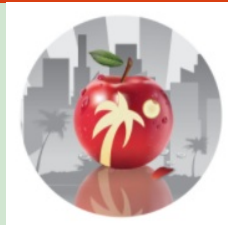
All car riders and Sunset Park gate walker students now going home by vehicle due to severe weather, will be walked to their carloop areas by classroom teachers **ONLY** when an announcement is made by the front office that our school weather bug radio indicates it is safe to do so.

No parents will be permitted to walk onto the school campus. Please stay in your vehicle until we bring the children out to the carloop areas.

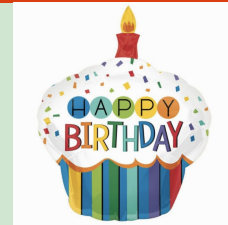
VISIT OUR WEBSITE - <https://www.browardschools.com/centralpark>



Click the link above to access our website to view the upcoming events calendar and Happenings at Park.



Parents are invited to review the Code of Student Conduct Handbook on the Broward Schools' webpage at: <https://www.browardschools.com/Page/38107>.



Please **DO NOT** bring in food/treats, balloons, or goodie bags for your child's birthday. All children will be recognized on their birthday by having their names announced on morning television. They will also receive a birthday pencil.



Working all morning at school burns up a lot of energy, so children need healthy lunches to

It's time to **POWER UP!**
Broward County Public Schools
Food and Nutrition Services



APPLY ONLINE!
FREE OR REDUCED LUNCH

Free and reduced price lunches are available to students that meet economic eligibilities.

 **MYSCHOOLAPPS.COM**

The online meal application is available in English, Spanish, Haitian Creole, and Portuguese at MyschoolApps.com. For more information on Meal Benefits, contact the Food and Nutrition Services Department at **754-321-0250**


FREEANDREDUCEDMEALS@BROWARDSCHOOLS.COM

The School Board of Broward County, Florida, prohibits any policy or procedure which results in discrimination on the basis of race, color, disability, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, ancestry, marital status, pregnancy, religion, sex, or sexual orientation, unless it is a clear and necessary action to ensure equal opportunity for all students. Complaints should be filed with the Office of Equal Opportunity, Department of Student Services, 2500 NE 1st Avenue, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33304. For more information, contact the Office of Equal Opportunity at 754-321-1234. This notice is posted in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008. ADAAG may get Equal Opportunity, Department of Student Services, 2500 NE 1st Avenue, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33304. www.browardschools.com

Breakfast and lunch will be free for all students for the 2021-2022 school year. If your child(ren) will be taking part in the free breakfast and/or lunch program, please complete the lunch application at the website on the above flyer.



In an effort to limit disruptions to instructional momentum, we will call classrooms only for forgotten lunches. Please ensure that your child leaves home with all necessary items such as their lunch, agenda, homework, projects, jacket, raincoat, etc. PLEASE pack a poncho in your child's backpack for rainy day dismissal.



**APPLY ONLINE
BECOME A
BCPS
VOLUNTEER**

refuel. Children also need lunch to provide enough energy and nutrients to keep healthy and grow as well as possible. Be sure you encourage your child to eat a nutritious lunch every day, either from the school cafeteria or brought in from home.

If your child is bringing a lunch from home, please make sure to pack lunch items in containers or Ziploc bags that students can open unassisted.



If you are eligible for bus service, you will receive a card in the mail, which is your bus pass. Please give the pass to the driver the first time the child rides. Only eligible students may ride a bus, and only ride their assigned bus. If you live more than two miles from the school and did not receive a pass, please contact Central West Transportation at 754-321-4150 to determine eligibility to ride.

VOLUNTEERING AT SCHOOL

Any adult wishing to volunteer in a Broward County Public School, must apply as a volunteer and complete the application at <https://www.browardschools.com/Page/32043>. Once completed, it takes about 5-7 business days for you to receive an approval

email that you have been cleared to volunteer at the school.

Once you receive the approval email, you will need to come to the school to take your picture for your volunteer badge.

Volunteer badges will remain at the school unless you are volunteering at another school in Broward County. Please make sure that once you are finished volunteering for the day, that you return back to the front office to return your badge and sign out.



BACK TO SCHOOL TOOL KIT

To help families prepare for the new school year, BCPS created a Back to School online toolkit. Please visit <https://www.browardschools.com/backtoschool> to peruse the Back to School information, including links to important information and resources, details on what's new in 2021/2022 and informative videos to help families gear up for the new school year.



All visitors **MUST** first report to the office when coming to school. There you will sign in and receive a visitor badge. Parents who have conferences must be announced over the intercom. Visitors on campus should wear their badges, visit their designated location, and then sign back out in the front office. This is a school safety procedure and it also protects instructional time. **You will need photo ID for the visitor badge.** We request that you not stop by the classroom without a prior appointment.



There will be adult supervision on campus between 7:30 to 8:00 am and 2:00 to 2:30 pm. Please **DO NOT** drop students off before 7:30 am. State law specifies supervision is required 30 minutes before and after school hours. We must adhere to this state regulation. If you need Before School care from 7:00-7:30 am, call the front office at 754-322-5700 for more information.

When is "SICK," TOO sick for school?

Send me to school if...

- I have a runny nose or just a little cough, but no other symptoms.
- I haven't taken any fever reducing medicine for 24 hours, and I haven't had a fever during that time.
- I haven't thrown up or had any diarrhea for 24 hours.

Keep me at home if...

- I have a temperature higher than 100.4 degrees even after taking medicine...
- I'm throwing up or have diarrhea.
- My eyes are pink and crusty.

Call the doctor if...

- I have a temperature higher than 100.4 degrees for more than two days.
- I've been throwing up or have diarrhea for more than two days.
- I've had the sniffles for more than a week, and they aren't getting better.
- I still have asthma symptoms after using my asthma medicine (and call 911 if I'm having trouble breathing after using the inhaler).

IF YOUR CHILD WILL BE ABSENT DUE TO ILLNESS, PLEASE REPORT TO YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL TO LET US KNOW. PARENTS MAY CALL, BRING A NOTE TO SCHOOL, OR SUBMIT ELECTRONICALLY FROM THE SCHOOL WEBSITE. UNDER CONTACT, SELECT REPORT AN ABSENCE.

BROWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ATTEND TODAY, ACHIEVE TOMORROW

GOOD SCHOOL ATTENDANCE MEANS...

PRESCHOOLERS Build skills and develop good habits for showing up on time

ELEMENTARY STUDENTS read well by the end of third grade

HIGH SCHOOLERS stay on track for graduation

COLLEGE STUDENTS earn their degrees

WORKERS succeed in their jobs

Too many absences—excused or unexcused—can keep students from succeeding in school and in life. How many are too many? 10% of the school year—that's 18 missed days or 2 days a month—can knock students off track.

Attendance Works
Attendance Works is a national organization.



ABSENCES AND TARDIES

There are many ways to report your child's absence. For your convenience, the Attendance Line is available 24/7. The direct number is 754-322-5702. Also, you are able to send an email to our Attendance Clerk from our school website. Go to centralpark.browardschools.com. Scroll over the "CONTACT" heading and click on Report an Absence. Once you are on that page, click on "Report Absence Online" to fill out the form or click on Attendance Hotline: 754-322-5700 which will allow you to call the hotline directly. You may also send a note to your child's teacher.

We are required to enter on the computer all absences unexcused until we hear from the parent. When calling in an absence please make sure to include the following: Name of child, classroom teacher's name, date of absence, and reason for absence. It is imperative that you state the reason of absence so that we can code the absence correctly. Without the reason for absence, your child is still marked unexcused.

The State Attorney's office pulls our attendance data and will contact parents by letter about truancy after 3 unexcused absences. That letter has a serious tone. Please understand that we do not write it. Call us immediately so we can correct our data. Excused and unexcused absences, along with tardiness and early sign-outs will be counted when determining a student's pattern of non-attendance. A "pattern of non-attendance," is defined as a student being absent from school a total of 30 hours (5 days) in any one marking period or 60 hours (10 days) within 90 days. This policy can be found on www.browardschools.com. Students will be marked tardy after **8:00 am** and must come to the front office to get a tardy pass.

Please be reminded that only the following reasons will be considered an excused absence:

Illness. Students who expect to miss at least 15 consecutive school days due to illness, a medical condition, or for social/emotional reasons, or who would miss excessive days intermittently throughout the school year for the same reasons and could benefit from instruction, should obtain a copy of the Hospital/Homebound referral packet from the Hospital/Homebound contact person at their school.

- Illness of an immediate family member.
- Death in the family.
- Religious holidays of the student's specific faith.
- Required court appearance or subpoena by a law enforcement agency.
- Special event. Examples of special events include important public functions, education enrichment activities, conferences, state/national competitions, college/university campus tour/visit as well as exceptional cases of family need.
- Scheduled doctor or dentist appointments, and you must provide documentation from the visit.

Students having or suspected of having a communicable disease or infestation that can be transmitted are to be excluded from school and are not allowed to return to school until they no longer present a health hazard (F.S. 1003.22). Examples of communicable diseases and infestations include, but are not limited to, fleas, head lice, ringworm, impetigo, and scabies. Students are allowed a maximum of five (5) days excused absence for each infestation of head lice.

Students on field trips, students who attend alternative-to-suspension programs, or internal in-school suspension programs are not considered absent.



ANONYMOUS TIPS

"IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY OR SEND SOMETHING"

Ways to Contact:

- Call us at 754-321-0911 (24 hour hotline).
- Send an email to school911@browardschools.com (not anonymous).
- Online at <https://browardschools.com/Anonymous-Tips>
- Send a text to CRIMES (274637). Type SBBC then your message.
- SAFERWATCH - developed by Broward Sheriffs Office <https://www.saferwatchapp.com/broward/>
- FortifyFL - developed in partnership between FLDOE, FL Attorney General, and FL Law Enforcement <https://getfortifyfl.com/>

RUMOR CONTROL HOTLINE

Updates for Broward County Schools can be heard at the Rumor Control Hotline phone number, 754-321-0321, which operates 24 hours a day

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

Mary Barth, from the Plantation Police Department, is assigned to Central Park Elementary Monday through Friday. She assists with traffic, teaches lessons on drug resistance curriculum and internet safety to fifth grade students, ensures safety and security on the campus, and

BROWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS EMERGENCY CODES

We have many codes that signal a particular type of emergency and what to do. The Plantation Fire and Police Department assists us should we ever have an emergency on campus. Here are the codes used:

BLACK (Bomb Threat) - Evacuate facility.

RED (Imminent Danger) - Threat/Incident to the facility when the best course of action is to keep everyone in place to include the School SAFE Team. The following are sample incidents that could occur but are not limited to: Drive-By-Shooter, Outside Disruption, Terrorist threat, etc.

YELLOW (Limited Movement) - Threat/Incident to the facility, when the best course of action is to keep everyone in place but requires the School SAFE Team or others depending on the nature of the situation to react. The following are sample incidents that could occur but no limited to: i.e. Neighborhood Incident/Police Directed.

BLUE (Medical Emergency) - When the best course of action is to notify SAFE Team of a medical emergency.

BROWN (Shelter-in-place/Evacuate/Lockdown) - Threat/Incident to the facility, when the best course of action is to implement a shelter-in-place, lockdown, or evacuation. Procedure depends on nature of school emergency (i.e. chemical, toxin release, explosion).

ORANGE (Evacuate) - When a situation warrants beyond previous codes.

The Special Investigative Unit (SIU) is the law enforcement and investigative agency for Broward County Public Schools (BCPS). SIU supports district-wide safety and security training, emergency and incident response and many other law enforcement and public safety services. SIU oversees and coordinates the operations and contracts with numerous county law enforcement agencies that provide school resource officers to our school locations. SIU functions as a conduit between the various BCPS departments and

is our liaison with the Plantation Police Department.

schools and federal, state and local law enforcement agencies and other first responders.

SIU is the internal law enforcement agency for BCPS that provides diverse and valuable services to the school district and its many community partners.

EMERGENCIES

If school closes early, the Superintendent of Schools makes that decision. It will be announced via local media.

Evacuations - we routinely practice fire drills (two in the first two weeks of school and once per month thereafter), tornado drills (beginning of the school year and in February), and other evacuations. This gives students practice in knowing what to do if an emergency occurs.

Lockdowns - in rare instances, a school must go to "lockdown". This happens when Plantation Police call us about an incident occurring near the school. In a lockdown, parents will not be able to come into school or leave until the "All Clear" is announced.

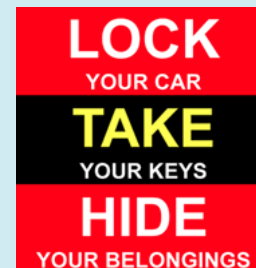
We will use Parent Link to send out an email and text message to inform parents when we have to call a code red during the school year. Please understand that the situation is continually changing in an emergency. Our first task will be maintaining the safety and security of our students. When the emergency ends, we will send an "All Clear" message out to our families.

In addition to fire and tornado drills, we will be conducting a monthly practice emergency drill, emulating a code yellow or red, as required by the Florida Department of Education and Broward County Public Schools.



SAFE TEAM

The school's Safe Team consists of the principal, assistant principal, office manager, data processor, micro-tech, secretaries, ESE Specialist, literacy coach, head custodian, school resource officer, and guidance counselor. We meet regularly to review scheduled or unscheduled drills and discuss procedures. All Safe Team members have received special training on Emergency Preparedness.



VALUABLES IN CARS

The Plantation Police Department advises parents not to leave valuables in cars, especially purses, bags, etc. Always lock your vehicle and do not leave the ignition on when leaving your car.

The School Board of Broward County, Florida, prohibits any policy or procedure which results in discrimination on the basis of age, color, disability, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, marital status, race, religion, sex or sexual orientation. Individuals who wish to file a discrimination and/or harassment complaint may call the Executive Director, Benefits & EEO Compliance at 754-321-2150 or Teletype Machine (TTY) 754-321-2158.

Individuals with disabilities requesting accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008, (ADAAA) may call Equal Educational Opportunities (EEO) at 754-321-2150 or Teletype Machine (TTY) 754-321-2158.

Central Park Elementary
777 N. Nob Hill Road
Plantation, FL 33324
754-322-5700 Office
754-322-5702 Attendance Line
754-322-5725 After Care

