

## START STRONG: STUDENT ORIENTATION IS FRIDAY!



**Student orientation day on Friday, Sept. 3** is in-person and will follow a half-day schedule. Students should arrive at the start time for their school. A “grab & go” breakfast and bag lunch will be provided.

### Who Should Attend Orientation?

- Pre-K, kindergarten and first grade. Transportation will not be provided and [schools](#) will share start times.
- Students transitioning to middle school this year or who transitioned to middle school last year
- Rising ninth graders
- Rising tenth graders
- Any student new to a school this year or last year (all grade levels)

## WHAT TO KNOW THIS WEEK

### Back-to-School Countdown!



The first day of school is Wednesday, Sept. 8.

[2021-22 Calendar](#)

### Next Up: Back-to-School Nights

Start strong! Attend your back-to-school night.

### LISTEN: Back-to-School Town Hall



Miss our back-to-school town hall? The

[Find Your School](#)

## TOP NEWS

## BACK TO CLASS: HEALTH & SAFETY



The health and safety of students and staff is our top priority. Our prevention strategies include universal masking in school buildings and widespread vaccination. [Learn more](#) about our safety strategy including masks and PPE, cleaning and disinfection protocols, air quality, quarantines and more.

## TOP RETURN TO SCHOOL QUESTIONS ANSWERED



**Q. If a COVID-19 outbreak happens in a classroom and a student has to quarantine, will that student then be allowed to participate in virtual learning?**

Students will be provided work to complete during that time, but will not be taught alongside students in our Virtual Learning Program/Online Campus.

**Q. Will masks be required for recess and will lockers be used?**

Lockers will not be used for social distancing reasons. Per county guidelines, masks will presently be required during recess — even outdoors.

**Q. What is being done for air filtration in classrooms without windows?**

We have installed 95,000 MERV-13 filters and are working to install a second set now. We also have more than 3,000 air purifiers for classrooms that do not get fresh air.

**Q. Why aren't you offering virtual learning options for 7-12 students beyond the specialty Online Campus?**

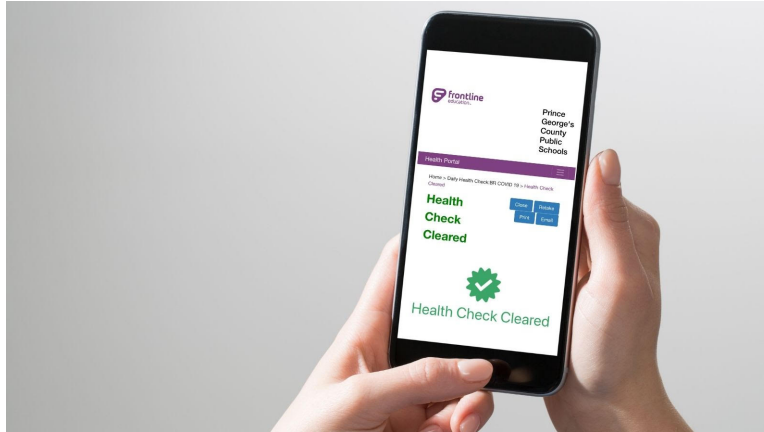
We do not have the staffing capacity to provide in-person and virtual learning at the middle and high school levels. Elementary students are generally in one cohort for classes, which is not the case for middle and high school students.

**Q. Is it too late to sign up for K-6 virtual learning?**

Yes. This program is at capacity and additional students cannot be added for staffing reasons. We have made every effort to accommodate as many students as possible.

[View More FAQs](#)

## DO IT DAILY! COVID-19 SYMPTOM CHECK



Families can conduct daily COVID-19 self-checks using the Frontline Health Portal mobile app to help minimize students who present symptoms from entering PGCPs buildings. All data will be kept confidential per HIPPA and FERPA regulations.

### How to Use the App:

1. Have a SchoolMax Family Portal Account and student ID number(s).
2. Download the Frontline Health Portal App from the App store or Google Play
3. Add student(s) to Frontline Health Portal App.
4. Answer questions for each student daily before entering PGCPs buildings.

## ROUTINE IMMUNIZATIONS & COVID-19 VACCINES

Don't forget about routine immunizations for back to school! The Prince George's County Health Department is hosting clinics to bring students up-to-date on vaccinations. Students with an appointment for routine immunizations may also receive a COVID-19 vaccination on site.

### Upcoming Clinics (All clinics are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.):

- Aug. 31** — Oxon Hill High School
- Sept. 1** — Fairmont Heights High School
- Sept. 8-10** — Bladensburg High School
- Sept. 11, 18 and 25** — Cheverly Health Center

[Make Appointment](#)

Students ages 12 and over are encouraged to receive a free COVID-19 vaccine ahead of the return to school. Parental consent is required for vaccination. Parents/guardians are welcome to accompany their child to clinics, but are not required to do so. Students must bring completed consent forms to be vaccinated.

### Find & Schedule a COVID-19 Vaccine Appointment

[Prince George's County Health Department clinics](#)  
[Prince George's County Vaccine Locator](#)  
[Maryland Vaccination Sites](#)

**FREE SCHOOL MEALS FOR ALL PGCPs STUDENTS FOR 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR!**



Student meals are **free for all** this school year! Families are still encouraged to complete the [meal benefit application](#), which determines eligibility for the Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer Program (P-EBT) and more.

#### **Meals for virtual learners**

Meal boxes consisting of breakfast, lunch and supper for five days will be available for pick up by virtual school students on Friday afternoons from 3 to 4 p.m. at regional meal distribution schools to be announced.

## **SCHOOL BUS REMINDERS**



#### **Bus Safety**

Face masks are required while riding the school bus regardless of vaccination status. To improve airflow, windows may be open to the maximum extent possible when weather permits. Buses will be cleaned and sanitized at the conclusion of each run, in between morning and afternoon routes and at the conclusion of the day.

#### **School Bus App**

Download the [StopFinder](#) school bus app from the App Store or Google Play to view student routes and bus location once school begins. Families must have an up-to-date email address in SchoolMax to activate the subscription. Questions about transportation may be submitted [here](#).

#### **Bus Delays**

Due to the national [school bus driver shortage](#), families should plan for delays and we urge parents to walk, drive or carpool children to school if possible.



- **Safety First: #TeamPGCPS Vaccine Mandate**
- **Back-to-School Surprise at Bladensburg Elementary**
- **Teacher Shares Her "Reasons for Hope"**
- **Students Gifted New Laptops at Rose Valley Elementary**
- **Bowie High School Cadet Graduates From Elite Navy Flight Academy**

[View More Stories](#)

## QUICK LINKS

- [2021-2022 School Calendar](#)
- [Student Meals](#)
- [SchoolMAX Family Portal](#)
- [Back-to-School Portal](#)
- [Bus InfoFinder](#)
- [Registration/Enrollment](#)
- [PGCPS-TV](#)
- [Vendor Managed Child Care](#)

## STAY CONNECTED

