



CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

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August 2023

Greetings Falcon Students and Families!

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year. I hope that everyone had a safe and relaxing summer, and you all are rested and ready to start the new school year. It is my privilege to continue as the principal of Central High School for a fourth school year. I look forward to working with all of our families to help our students have a successful high school experience. Our goal is to prepare all scholars for future employment, enlistment, and/or enrollment post-graduation. We hope to instill in each of you a love of learning, a desire to be kind and courteous in all circumstances, and a sense of curiosity to continue learning new things throughout your life. We live in a global society that requires not only mastery of our academic subjects, but successful mastery of people skills as well as developing an appreciation for all cultures and people.

We have worked diligently this summer to prepare for the new school year. As you prepare to return for the first day of school, we need all students and parents/guardians to review the following information so we all have a successful school year.

Student Uniform Policy

CHS has been a uniform school since 2006. As a uniform school all students are required to be in a complete and proper uniform every day. The official school uniform is:

- Polo style shirt (long sleeve or short sleeve) in **grey for all first time 9th graders only** and navy blue, light blue or white for 10-12 grade students
- Khaki pants - not just tan jeans or sweatpants - khaki pants (think dockers or dickies brand pants as an example). Your pants should fit at your natural waist -not hanging or sagging in a manner in which your undergarments are visible.
- If you are cold - you may wear a matching long sleeve shirt under your polo shirt. You may also wear a **hoodless** sweater, sweatshirt or a lightweight jacket in light blue, navy blue or black. No hoods are allowed inside of the building as a part of your uniform. Heavy coats and jackets must be stored in your locker during the school day.

Full uniform details are available on our Central High School home page.

Clear Backpacks

This year we are moving to clear book bags for students. Like schools across the DMV region and around the country, clear book bags will allow students to carry the items they need for learning and decrease opportunities for concealing items that should not be at school. Clear book bags are readily available online and from many local merchants. Also, as another measure to increase security and safety, there will be a maximum bag size imposed on bags that can be carried throughout the school day.

Chromebooks



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All PGCPS students should have a chromebook in their possession every day. These were loaned to you by PGCPS until you graduate or leave our school system. It is expected that you will return your chromebook in good condition. If your chromebook is lost or damaged, please let us know so we can make arrangements for repair or replacement. The costs can be provided at the time of your inquiry. All Central Scholars should have a fully charged chromebook (and the charger) at school every day.

School Meals

Breakfast and lunch are served for all students every day. If you previously participated in the free meals program, you must apply again for the new school year. You can apply for free and reduced meals online at MySchoolApps.com.

Students who pay for school lunch can apply money to their account at MySchoolBucks. By using MySchoolBucks you eliminate the need for students to carry money and you can also pay for other school related expenses. You can even set up your account to notify you when your scholar's balance is low.

Lunch costs for the 2023-2024 school year are:

	Daily	Weekly	Monthly
Breakfast	\$1.60	\$8.00	\$32.00
Lunch	\$3.00	\$15.00	\$60.00

Student Schedules

Student schedules will be available on SchoolMax by August 20, 2023. If you have a question about your schedule you will be able to ask once school begins on August 28th. Scheduling questions will be addressed by the grade level Professional School Counselor. Please note that registration completed after August 9, 2023 may result in students receiving a temporary grade level schedule with selected general classes until September 4, 2023.

Bus Schedules

Student bus schedules for the 2023-2024 school year can be found by using the Stopfinder app. This app is available for Android and iPhone users. You can also see bus schedules on the PGCPS transportation webpage. To secure bus transportation for the start of the school year, make sure you are registered by August 9th. Registrations after August 9th will have transportation in place on August 31th.

Important Dates

The **first day of school** for the 2023-2024 school year is **Monday, August 28, 2023**. All students should be present, dressed in full uniform and ready to learn starting on Monday, August 28th.



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Orientation for all new 9th graders is August 25, 2023. Transportation and meals will be provided for students. This is a three-hour early dismissal day for students.

All schools and offices will be closed on Monday, September 4, 2023 in observance of Labor Day. The last day of school for students is Friday, June 14, 2024. There are 180 school days for students between August 28th and June 14th. It is important that you attend every day in order to be successful. Learning takes place in the classroom and you must be present to participate.

Schoolwide Picture Day will be held on **September 11 and 12, 2023. All students will be expected to participate in Picture Day for ID and yearbook purposes.** Students will be issued an ID and will be expected to wear it as a part of the uniform policy beginning September 13th.

Back to school night will be held on September 13, 2023. More details to come.

The [calendar for the 2023-2024](#) school year is included with this email and available on the PGCPS and Central High School websites.

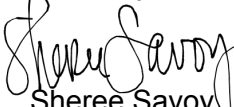
Home School Communication

Parents/guardians, have you updated your contact information in Schoolmax? Teachers and administrators rely on the information available in SMAX to contact you about academic, attendance and behavioral matters. It is important that we have up to date information in order to communicate positive updates, medical emergencies and/or any concerns. Most school communication will come through messenger - as a phone call, text message or email.

We look forward to a positive and productive school year. We hope every scholar who graces the doors of Central High School in August, exit in June, closer to graduation - with more credits earned, more lessons learned and a better, more productive person all around.

On behalf of the administration, teachers and staff, we welcome you to the new school year and look forward to partnering with our scholars and our Falcon families. If we can be of service please contact us at 301-499-7080.

Sincerely,


Sheree Savoy,
Principal