



Seabrook Elementary

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A High Performing PGCPS

Mrs. Clareta Spinks
Principal

Mrs. Jamila McIntyre
Assistant Principal

August 27, 2019



Greetings Seabrook Family,

Seabrook Elementary Vision: We will foster a positive school climate by promoting academic growth, providing a safe and supportive environment, and building effective home-school partnerships to ensure that all students will be college and career ready.

As a staff we work hard to fulfill this vision each day.

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the 2019-2020 school year. I hope everyone has enjoyed their summer and are ready for our students to return back to school. We are excited about some new changes that are happening at Seabrook. In an effort to reduce class sizes, we are adding two additional classes. We will have (three) 1st and 3rd grade classes.

Additionally, we have regained the funding to purchase our Parent Engagement Assistant to support our parents, provide resources, and facilitate parent workshops. Mr. Riggins will be returning to Seabrook Elementary and is willing to assist you in any way possible. We will also have new reading textbooks for grades 3 through 5. This year we will have a Reading Specialist, (3) ESOL Resource Teachers and a Math Resource Teacher to support students. Seabrook will continue to receive Title 1 funding to support our instructional program and we are glad that Ms. McKoy will be returning to provide that assistance.

If this is your child's first year at Seabrook Elementary, we welcome you to the Seabrook Dolphin family. Seabrook continues to be a High Performing school in Lanham. I continue to stand firm on my educational philosophy that all students can learn and deserve to receive a quality education. Everyday I work hard to ensure that effective teaching occurs in each classroom for every student. I am also confident that Seabrook will continue along its successful path as we move into this new school year. Everything is progressing smoothly to provide a great opening of school on **Tuesday, September 3, 2019**. All students should arrive by 9 am. I recommend that bus riders and day care riders start the first day of school with their established form of transportation.

**** Bus stop information will be made available via access to the SchoolMax Parent Portal and Bus Stop Finder on the PGCPs website. Bus stop information will not be mailed to parents/guardians this year from the Transportation Office.**

I know that many of you will bring your child to school the first day of school and want to meet their teacher. ***Per Prince George's County Public Schools Safety Policy, all visitors must present a photo identification to enter the school building. Identification cards will be scanned through the school's security system and upon successful clearance, a visitor's pass will be issued and parents can visit the classroom. In order to accommodate the large volume of parents visiting Seabrook, we are asking that parents arrive early to be scanned through the school's electronic security system. Prince George's County is requiring that all visitors must be scanned through the security system to ensure safety throughout the school year.*** For the first day of school we will only review your picture identification (preferable driver's license or valid government issued ID), have you sign our parent visitation sign in sheet, obtain a visitor's pass to wear throughout the school building and then escort your child to class. We will resume the County's procedure of using the Raptor Security System on Wednesday, September 4, 2019 that will require your picture ID to be scanned through our security system per Prince George's County Public Schools Safety Policy.

I am privileged to have the opportunity to return this school year as your Principal and I feel honored to work with our highly qualified and dedicated staff, our wonderful students, and all of the supportive parents. The elementary years are critical times of children development and I look forward to working with all of you to make this school year successful.

As I have shared in the past, we cannot do this important work alone. Together, the home and school bond can make a tremendous impact on our students' academic performance. We are indeed partners. Please let us know whatever way, you would like to be involved in the school and we will make it possible.

Here are just a few ways out of many that you can assist us:

- Continue to support your child at home with homework and projects
- Access the SchoolMax System for current grades, check student attendance and behavior status
- Chaperone field trips (Fingerprint Background Check required and safety videos)
- Support our Parent group
- Visit your student’s classrooms (Make a request to visit your child’s classroom and or parent conferences 48 hours in advance)
- Volunteer to assist the teachers (making materials, changing bulletin boards, copying)
- Work with students in reading and mathematics (Fingerprint Background Check required and safety videos)
- Support fundraiser activities (We really need the money)
- Share your career at our Career Day or assist with Field Day (Fingerprint Background Check required, safety videos and procedures must be followed before assisting at the school.)
- If something goes wrong at school seek our staff assistance. In most cases there is a reasonable explanation for any circumstance.

Your partnership will make all the difference in our success this school year! In order to volunteer at Seabrook and any Prince George’s County Schools, it will be necessary for you to complete the background check process. Please call the school and speak to our Parent Engagement Assistant or Administrators for specific steps you need to take to volunteer at Seabrook Elementary.

Important Dates to Remember:

August 29, 2019	Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten Orientation	1:30 pm
September 3, 2019	First Day of School	9:00 am
September 26, 2019	Back to School Night (Pre-K – 5 th grade)	6:15 pm

I have enclosed some additional information for you to review prior to the beginning of the school year. I look forward to working with you and your child throughout this new school year to provide a rigorous curriculum and a safe learning environment that supports student achievement. See you soon.

Your Partner in Education,



Clareta Spinks
Principal

Seabrook Elementary School

Important Information

Pre-Kindergarten / Kindergarten Orientation

Pre-Kindergarten / Kindergarten Orientation will be held on **August 29, 2019** at **1:30 pm**.

First Day of School

The first day of school for students is Tuesday, **September 3, 2019**. If applicable, all students should ride their assigned bus beginning the first day of school. All students upon arrival will go directly to their new classrooms. Staff will be on duty to provide supervision and additional instructions.

School Hours

School hours for students are from 9:00 am – 3:20 pm. **Students should not arrive to school before 9:00 am**, as there is no adult supervision before this time. Last school year there were some students left in front of the building alone by their older siblings attending Thomas Johnson Middle School and this presented an unsafe situation for those students being alone out front. The Seabrook Staff cannot be held responsible for any students' well being who arrive earlier than 9:00 am and our doors have not opened yet for business.

School Meals

Meals are provided for both breakfast and lunch, or students may bring their lunch to school. However, microwaves and refrigerators are not available for student lunches. We will continue this school year to participate in the **Maryland Meals for Achievement (MMFA)** program. This program provides free breakfast for **all students**. Breakfast will be served at 9:00 am in every classroom. It is extremely important that students arrive on time to eat breakfast with their classmates. Instruction needs to start in every classroom at 9:25 am. The cost of lunch is \$2.75. Each new student will receive a PIN at the beginning of the school year, while returning students will use the same PIN they used last year. Students who were eligible for Free or Reduced Meal Plans during the 2018-2019 school year will be eligible for the same plan through September 30th. Please note that if it is established before October 1st that you no longer qualify, you will be responsible for paying for your child's lunch at that time. In order to continue on the plan after this date, a new application must be completed and submitted for approval. Based on the results, after the application is processed, this will determine the student's lunch status.

Students Arriving in Cars

In order to ensure the safety of the children, cars are not permitted to enter the front driveway area between 8:00 am and 9:30 am and 2:30 pm and 4:00pm. Instead, please let your children out at the entrance of the driveway on **the same side of the street as the school**. Your cooperation is needed and greatly appreciated.

Bus Stops / Schedules

Bus information is available by visiting the school system website at www1.pgcps.org. Click on the Transportation link. Please take the time to review both morning and afternoon bus numbers with your child(ren), and make certain that your child(ren) are at the bus stop at least **ten minutes** prior to the scheduled pick-up time. If at all possible please have a flexible schedule the first week of school just in case bus problems occur.

Uniform Policy

Seabrook Elementary School has a MANDATORY uniform policy. Many studies have shown that schools where students are in uniform have significantly fewer discipline problems and student referrals. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in making certain that your child is dressed in appropriate uniform attire. All students must be in complete uniform each and every day, including **ALL BLACK SHOES ONLY** (no colored stripes or signs/symbols). Throughout the year, we will celebrate the commitment of those students who wear the proper uniform on a regular basis. **Students who consistently dress out of uniform will receive consequences according to the County Code of Student Conduct.**

BIRTHDAY PARTY

Unfortunately, we will not be able to support birthdays this school year.

Fundraiser

Fundraisers are an important part of a school's success. At Seabrook, we pride ourselves on finding creative ways to generate revenue to support student achievement. We look forward to your participation and support with our various fundraisers throughout the year.

SchoolMax Family Portal

As you are aware, the school system implemented the SchoolMax Family Portal. This system provides a method for families to access their children's attendance, grades, family information, and discipline incidences twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Please make sure that you take advantage of this system that will allow you to constantly monitor your children's progress in school. If you have not received your unique access key for the Family Portal, please come to the main office and request it as soon as possible.

Cell Phones / Electronics/Toys

If students choose to bring cell phones to school, they must be turned off and put away during the school day. Cell phones are not to be used for any reason during the school day. If a student needs to make a phone call, phones are available in the school building that they can use once granted permission. All other electronics and game systems, are not permitted in school. **We are requesting that no toys be brought to school.**

If a student chooses to bring one or more of these items to school and misplaces it, item damaged or it is taken, including cell phones, **Seabrook Elementary will not be held responsible.**

Phone Calls to the Classroom

While we encourage parents to talk with teachers about their children's progress throughout the school year, teachers cannot be interrupted during the instructional day. If you need to speak with your children's teacher(s) please call either between 8:15 am – 9:00 am or after instructional hours 3:30 pm– 3:45 pm. If you are not able to call during those hours, the secretary will take a message and have the teacher call you back at his/her earliest convenience.

Early Dismissal

All students who are being picked up early must be signed out in the main office **no later than 3:10 pm**. Once you have signed your children out for the day, a staff member will make a call to the classroom and have the teacher send the student(s) to the office. Parents are not permitted to go to the classroom to retrieve students. Following these guidelines will help us to reduce classroom disruption during instructional times.

Our "Early Dismissal" procedures are only in place for students who have doctor/dental appointments or family emergencies, which prevent the student from completing the entire school day with us. Instruction is ongoing from 9:00 am to 3:15 pm. We don't want your student to miss any vital information. Please keep this in mind when scheduling appointments. Your student's education is always our top priority.

Dismissal

Dismissal will begin with bus riders at 3:15 pm. *All Pre-K and Kindergarten bus riders will be required to wear a safety vest to and from school for the entire year.* All daycare riders will be called to report to the multi-purpose room for pickup. Bus riders will be dismissed to their buses in the front of the building. Last, all walkers will be dismissed to the side of the building. All intermediate students will come from the rear of the building while all primary students will come directly out the side door. **Students will be dismissed at 3:20 pm provided the crossing guard is on duty to assist with a safe and orderly departure.** Please wait at the side of the building for your children. Also, please be reminded that student safety is our priority; so be cautious when driving near the school. **All students must be picked up no later than 3:30 pm.** While we fully understand that emergency situations do occur, we wish to remind you that the staff duty day ends at 3:45 pm and the last 15 minutes of their day is devoted to instructional planning for the next day.