



## Pine Brook School

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September 2024

To Our Pine Brook Community,

Pirates, we are so excited to welcome you for our first day of school on September 5, 2024, which will be a “B” day. During the first few days of school, the staff at Pine Brook will spend time reviewing the schedule, guiding students through the building, reminding students how to open and properly lock their lockers, and providing an overview of the sixth grade curriculum. We will also begin to review our expectations regarding academic efforts and behavior choices, all grounded in our school motto, “Sail to Success: Be Respectful, Be Responsible, and Be Ready to Learn.” We are looking forward to a wonderful year with our Pirates!

Please review the following important September information:

- [Welcome Back Letter](#)- Please review the August letter sent out welcoming our Pirates!
- [Back-to-School-Night](#)- We would like to invite parents/guardians to join our faculty at Back-to-School Night on Thursday, September 12, 2024. Please review the linked letter for complete information.
- [Chromebook Care](#)- Please support your children in ensuring their chromebooks are charged each evening and brought to school each morning inside their District issued case. See the link for MERS Technology Responsible Use Policy, Procedures and Information to help ensure the chromebook assigned to your child is safely and appropriately used and will remain in good condition through 8th grade. As a reminder, as per the Technology Policy, chromebooks must remain undecorated with no writing, markings, etc. Students may decorate their privately purchased gumdrop cases.
- Benchmark Assessments: On September 9-20 students will begin participating in District benchmark assessments (LinkIt and Lexile) to support our staff in developing instruction best suited to the student needs within their classes. Our schedule on September 10 and 17 will be altered to allow for students to complete the assessments at the start of the school day.
- [Starts With Hello](#): We are pleased to inform you that during the week of September 16th, your child will be engaging in schoolwide culture-building activities for “Start With Hello” week at Pine Brook School. “Start With Hello” week brings attention to our students about the importance of skills they need to reach out to others they may not normally socialize with, those who may feel lonely and to create a culture of inclusion and connectedness within their classroom and school. With all of our students being new to Pine Brook, this is a perfect time to introduce oneself to a new classmate!
- [School Spirit](#): Every Friday we encourage students to participate in wearing our school colors of red, white and black and/or show off their newest Pirate spirit wear! Our first Spirit Friday is September 13.
- [2024-2025 School Calendar](#)- Our doors open to students at 8:45am. Dismissal begins at 3:04pm. Please be sure to arrive at the appropriate time and follow the guidelines listed in our [arrival and dismissal procedures](#).
  - **Drop Off**: Located on the side of the school building by the parking lot. Drive to the back of the school, turn around, and then drop your child off on the school side for safety. Students who arrive to homeroom after 8:54 are considered late.

- **Pick Up:** Send a note to the main office. Students will be dismissed at 3:04PM to the side of the building. Please remain in your car and wait for your child to enter directly from the curb. For those who will be routinely picking up their children at the end of the school day, please see the [attached](#).
- [Before and After-School Activities](#): Please review the included letter regarding extra-curricular opportunities for your child. Students will begin hearing specific commercials regarding the activities the week of September 11.
- Save the Date! Picture Days are September 23 and 24. Schedule to come!
- [PTA Information](#)- A special thank you to our PTA for helping to welcome the students to Pine Brook in such an exciting way as they decorated the exterior of the building for our first week of school. Please visit the PTA website to stay up to date on school events, fundraisers and spirit wear! Our first meeting is September 13 at 9:45am at Pine Brook School.

Please be sure to check the website regularly and sign up for the Pine Brook Backpack to remain informed about our school. All of our events will show on the school calendar located on the website. Should you have any additional questions, please contact us at (732) 786-2800.

Sincerely,

*Julie Szustowicz*

Julie Szustowicz  
Principal

*Allison Rogers*

Allison Rogers  
Assistant Principal