



The Orbiter



Mission Ready...That's the Pointe!

Volume 14, Issue 1

September 1, 2021

10680 ACADEMIC WAY, PORT ST LUCIE, FL 34987
(772) 345-3245 (772) 345-3250 Fax
Website: <http://www.palmpointe.fau.edu>

Office Hours
Monday - Friday 8:00 – 4:30pm
School Hours 9:40-4:10

Supervision
There is no supervision before 9:15 each day. Please allow your children to remain in your car until this time.

Principal's Corner

Dear Palm Pointe Families,
Welcome back to our returning Rockets and welcome to our new students and their families. Thank you so much for helping your child(ren) adjust to the new school year!



We are extremely proud of our students and staff! I couldn't be prouder to be your principal and I know that your commitment to our school and students will ensure continued academic excellence this year!

Each year we have a theme and, this year, at Palm Pointe- *Together We All Shine!* Our theme will focus on school pride and coming back together to continue our success as a school. On behalf of the Administration Team, Mr. Keelor, Mrs. Newsome, Ms. Markowitz, and I, we look forward to "Shining Bright" in the 2021-2022 school year!

Mrs. Kathleen Perez

Introducing our Newest Assistant Principal!

Dana Markowitz has been an educator for over 10 years. She started her career as a 3rd grade teacher, then taught 4th grade here at Palm Pointe, where she represented our school as Teacher of the Year in 2020. Ms. Markowitz obtained her Master's in Education from Florida Atlantic University through the St. Lucie and FAU partnership program, ELITE. She has resided in Port St. Lucie since childhood and is a proud graduate of SLW Centennial High School. When Ms. Markowitz is not working, you can find her at the soccer or baseball field cheering on her boys! She always dreamed of being a teacher and is so excited her educational journey led her to where she is today. She is grateful for the support of family, friends and the educators who have inspired her along the way. Ms. Markowitz is honored to serve our students, families, teachers, staff, and community as our new Assistant Principal.

Introducing Palm Pointe's 21-22 Classroom Companion Series

Join us online Wednesday, September 29th for the first family event in our monthly Classroom Companion Series. Our focus in this introductory session will be on reviewing standards of instruction, interpreting initial progress monitoring data, and explaining how our school works to support all students, including through Title I and Title IX. More details will be shared in the coming weeks.

School Pictures

Fall School Picture Day on September 21st. Focused on Forever, is our photographer this year again. We use these photos for our annual Yearbook, so all students must be in DRESS CODE for this picture day. Flyers will be sent home with more details.

Chocolate Bar Fundraiser

Palm Pointe is Selling Barton Chocolate Dream Bars. Each box contains 60 candy bars with mixture of milk chocolate, dark chocolate, almond, crisp and caramel. Barton Chocolate Fundraiser starts 8/30/21-9/24/21. If you would like to participate in this fundraiser, please fill out a form and a box will be delivered to your student that same day. Thank you for your help and support. If you need another form, please call the front office.

Social Emotional Learning

The Social Emotional topic for this month is citizenship. After long periods of remote learning, our classroom communities have never been more relevant as spaces to foster social belonging and prepare our learners as active citizens. This environment can be created in our classrooms and at home by having opportunities for kids to take responsibility for their behavior as both individuals and members of a community. Students have spent this last month learning about citizenship during their morning meet-up! Ask your child one way they have been a good citizen within our school.

Daily Home Screening Tool & Health/Safety Procedures

As a reminder, parents must use the Daily Home Screening Tool to assess their child's health every morning. Any student displaying any of the symptoms listed must stay home to protect the safety and well-being of others. While at school, if your child reports to the clinic exhibiting one of the symptoms on the screening tool, parents will be called to pick up their child and he/she must stay home until symptom free for 24 hours. A copy of this daily tool can be found at: [Microsoft Word - daily HOMEScreening tool 8.19.0 FINAL \(stlucie.k12.fl.us\)](https://stlucie.k12.fl.us) All staff and visitors on campus must wear a mask and complete the self-health screener upon entering. All students must wear a mask unless the family has completed the opt out form. We strongly encourage students to wear masks for the health and safety of all. Please know that if there is a positive case on campus and your student needs to be quarantined for possible exposure, you will be notified by the school. Contact tracing is done following the CDC and DOH guidelines. **If someone in your family tests positive for COVID-19 or is awaiting test results, we ask that you please keep your child(ren) at home and contact Mr. Keelor or Mrs. DeGarmo at (772) 345-3245.**

St. Lucie Public Schools has set up a hotline for COVID-19 to help answer some of your questions. The number is 772-429-3601.

Home School Communication & Students on Quarantine

It is very important that your parent contact information is up to date, including email addresses and phone numbers, as this is this primary means of communication from school to home. This year, although flyers for the week will be posted virtually on the school website and Facebook on Wednesdays, you will also receive a paper copy in your child's Wednesday folder. All completed work will also be sent home on Wednesdays in that folder. Please sign and return promptly on Thursday. If your child is on quarantine, they will be offered a laptop to complete work at home on Canvas. Our new Quarantine Support Teachers and your child's classroom teacher(s) will be sure to reach out and have work available for your child during this time.

Guidance Department News

We have four certified school counselors on our campus this year who are specifically trained to help all students in the areas of academic achievement, social-emotional development, and college and career readiness. If you have any concerns about the academic, social, or emotional development of your child, please contact Mrs. Mosco for Gr. K-2, Ms. Hamblin for Gr. 3-4, Ms. Sparks for Gr. 5-6 or Ms. Rowley for Gr. 7-8.

PikMyKid - Dismissal System & Arrival and Dismissal Procedures

We have had many families transitioning back to traditional school and new families this year and wanted to remind all parents about our dismissal system, PikMyKid, which has been in effect since the beginning of the 20-21 school year. It is expected that all families use our system to ensure a safe and smooth dismissal.

1. If you need to change the way your child goes home, you must do so in the PikMyKid app no later than 3:15 (or 1:15 on early dismissal days). Otherwise, your child will be instructed to go to the designated location listed in PikMyKid. If you do not have information about the app, please contact your classroom/homeroom teacher. If you have questions about PikMyKid, you may contact the front office.
2. If you are picking up more than your own child(ren), you must "announce" all children you are picking up in the PikMyKid app, so that all the students are alerted in their classrooms and come down to the pick-up location. Be sure to get the numbers from the parent.
3. If you are picking up in the car lines (either Gr. 1-8 or Kindergarten), you must display the name and number of your child on your dash or visor from when you arrive on campus until you leave. By doing this, it enables the staff to identify your child easily and check if he/she is announced and dismiss him/her at the end - all of which helps speed up our dismissal process.

Thank you for your support with our arrival and dismissal procedures.

Everything has been going smoothly, thanks to your support. As a reminder, parents of "walkers" must remain off campus at arrival and dismissal times and cannot congregate in the courtyard, in front of building 1, or on the walkways. Plan to meet at a location off campus or change your child to a car rider and drive through the car line each day. Our kindergarten car line started off rough but now we ask all families to follow this path daily to get to the car line: Turn on Rowley from the Parkway, take a left on West Park and proceed directly to the car line. When leaving the line, you MUST turn right when exiting. We thank you in advance for your cooperation in these matters.

Mark Your Calendar

On early dismissal days, school ends at **2:10 pm**. The dates for the year are as follows: **10/27, 12/17, 2/2, 3/11, 4/20, 5/31, 6/1**

School Lunch Program

If you have not already done so, please support our School Lunch Program by applying today. You must reapply each year in order to qualify for the program. We are asking all families to apply, even if your child always brings a lunch box or currently attends school virtually.

You can apply online at www.stlucieschools.org. Just click on the School Benefit Application tab to begin the process. Funding is tied to this program, which benefits all students at PPE! You must apply early in order for your application to be processed before the end of the month. Please call our school (345-3245) if you need assistance. We are looking for 100% participation to support our school-thank you!

REGISTRATION for 2022-2023

Registration for the **2022-2023** school year is open from September 1, 2020- February 1, 2021. FAU will begin selecting students in March, beginning with Kindergarten. You must apply for the lottery for a new student, even if you already have siblings here at PPE.

Planners

Planners are required for all students in K-8. They are on sale online for \$5 at <https://www.schoolpay.com/parent/mip/MdLJ>, if you still need get one for your child.

Student & Parent Handbook

Our complete Student & Parent Handbook is available for review on our website, on the home page at www.tradition.fau.edu.

McKinney-Vento Program

If you and/or your family are presently in any of the following situations, then you are eligible to receive services provided under the McKinney-Vento Act. A. Living in an emergency or transitional shelter B. Living with family or friends temporarily due to our loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason C. Living in a car, park, temporary trailer park, campground, public space, abandoned building, substandard housing or similar settings D. Living in a hotel or motel temporarily due to loss of housing, or economic hardship or similar reason. If you need assistance or additional information, please contact the guidance department at (772) 345-3245.

Conveniently purchase PPE planners, ear buds, spirit shirts and sweatshirts online! You can also purchase your prepaid Dollar Days pass to dress down on specific days this year!

**SEPTEMBER
2021**

Pay online all in one click with credit card or check. For more details, visit: <https://www.schoolpay.com/parent/mip/MdLJ>

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Chocolate Bar Fundraiser to Support Student & Staff Incentives 8/30-9/24		1 C Progress Reports	2 D	3 E No Dress Code to Support Drama (Must have & wear pre purchased lanyard to participate)	4
5	Holiday for All- Labor Day	7 F	8 G	9 A	10 B 1:30 TCUS Mtg. 3:40 NJHS Mtg.-Audeteria	11
12	13 C	14 D 2:30 Fire Drill	15 E	16 Fall Holiday For All	17 F	18
19	20 G	21 A Fall Picture Day 8:45 Literacy Team Mtg.	22 B Progress Reports 10:00 District Tornado Drill	23 C 8:45 SAC Mtg. 2:30 Armed Aggressor Drill	24 D SEL Schoolwide Activity Day Jersey Day to Support Big Brothers Big Sisters (Must have & wear pre purchased lanyard to participate)	25
26	27 E School Store Fundraiser for Classroom Teachers 9/27-10/8	28 F	29 G Citizen of the Month Students Recognized 5:30 Classroom Companion Series #1- Virtual Parent Event	30 A		

