



Griffin S.O.A.R.S with Opportunities

One Team, One Direction, No Limits

2022 - 2023

Welcome Back Messages

Dear Griffin Families,

Welcome Back! We are so excited about the upcoming 2022 – 2023 school year. We are proud to be an A school. We went up by 112 points from the previous year. The best performance ever! Thank you, to the teachers, staff, students, and families for all the hard work. We did it!

Our school mascot “The Griffin” has been updated. Griffin Elementary is home to the Griffin. The Griffin is a legendary creature with the body and tail of a lion and head and wings of an eagle. It is a considered to be a powerful and majestic creature. We are Griffin Proud!

Our new theme is **Griffin S.O.A.R.S with Great Opportunities.**

S – Soaring to Great Heights

O - Opportunities are all around us

A - Academics leveled up

R - Reaching for the Stars

S - Striving for Success

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Teachers return to school – **Tuesday, August 9, 2022**

Educational Support Personnel – **Friday, August 12, 2022**

Students – **Tuesday, August 16, 2022**

Teachers will contact parents to introduce themselves as their child’s teacher – August 11th. Parents, please ensure we have a valid phone number on file. We also need correct email addresses for parent link messages. If you are not receiving messages, call the school 754-323- 5900 and ask for Ms. Maria Dunakin – (IMT/ Registrar) to correct it in our system.

In preparation for this year, there are several important items that we wish to share with our community

MEET AND GREET AND OPEN HOUSE DATES

Please mark your calendar:

Meet and greet is scheduled for **August 15, 2022** – Quick introductions and drop off supplies

8:30 AM – Pre-K, KG & 1st

9:00 AM – 2nd & 3rd

9:30 AM – 4th & 5th



Open House- This night will be an opportunity for parents to meet with the teacher and hear all the wonderful things that are planned for this school year. **Just a reminder that this event is for a parent only, no childcare will be provided!**

Grades 3 – 5: **August 24th** beginning at 6:30 PM

Grades Pre-K, K – 2: **August 31st** beginning at 6:30 PM

Parents will report directly to the classroom. If you have students in different grades and open house is at the same time, you may attend one and collect information from the second teacher at the end of the session.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

Please remember, the first day of school for students will begin promptly at 8:00 A.M. August 16, 2022. Parents of Pre-K and KG will meet their teacher under the pavilion between 7:40 – 7:55. Teachers will walk students to class. Parents will not be allowed to walk students to class due to safety protocols. All other grade levels will report directly to the classroom on the first day if they are not having breakfast. There will be staff available with class list to assist with students to find the grade level teacher. Parents will be given an opportunity to meet the teacher at Open House.

Pre-K, KG, 1st, and 2nd – will use the North Loop
Grades 3-5 – Front Loop

SAFETY AND SECURITY

Please know that Safety and Security of our students will be our top priority once again at Griffin Elementary and across the district. The following safety and security related “non-negotiables” will be implemented beginning on the first day of school. We need your help and patience in implementing these expectations.

All students and staff members must wear their ID’s at all times on school grounds. Students will receive these ID’s on their first day in attendance at school. The student ID’s are left at the school and worn throughout the day.

Once the school day begins, ALL perimeter gates will be secured, and visitors will have to enter through our main parking gate in the front loop. The gate will be locked and opened top of the hour for about 15 minutes. The campus monitor has to do perimeter and door checks and will not be able to stay at the gate the entire day. A driver’s license or photo ID must be shown to the campus monitor before entering. Best practice will be to ensure students have everything they need before they leave home. Sometimes we understand, for you to drop off important items. Try to come when the gate is opened.

The front doors to the main office can only be opened for visitors, parents, and guests if proper identification is shown utilizing the A-phone security system located outside the main office doors. If visitors are moving throughout the building, they will also have to use the RAPTOR System for a volunteer pass. All volunteers must be district approved before volunteering.

We will not be allowing parents to eat with their child/children in the cafeteria unless we have a special event. Parents will be allowed on campus for conferences and meetings.

Griffin will be conducting monthly Code Red drills in addition to other state-required drills. Appropriate notification will be provided for all Code Red drills.

PARKING

Parents are only permitted to park in the front loop if they have business in the front office or they are approved volunteers. The campus monitor will ask for a driver’s license and notify the office that you have business in the front office. Staff will utilize the north and south parking lot, unless they are leaving early.

DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

The school bell rings at 2:00 PM. The front gate will be opened at 1:50 pm. The north gate will be opened at 1:40 for Pre-K students to be released early. Pre-K parents will have a special pass to enter the gate. All others will be allowed in at 1:50 pm. Please avoid coming too early. BSO will issue warnings and then

tickets if you block the neighborhood. If you come too early, they will make you circle around. Parking is also available at Bill Lipps Park.

CELLULAR DEVICES

Cellular devices (including personal e-devices) are not permitted during the arrival or dismissal process (in car line) or on school grounds as per BCPS's guidelines and policies. Parents are asked to PLEASE follow this expectation at all times to help ensure safety for everyone.



CLASS SIZE AND STUDENT PLACEMENT

Due to the State Class Size Reduction Requirements, students may need to be moved between teachers **after the start of school** to ensure compliance with the required student limits. School administration may have to make tough decisions to meet this mandate. Please know that every student's placement regardless of the structure of the class is "temporary" until classes are balanced. We only know our true numbers when school starts.

BACK TO SCHOOL ONLINE FORMS

Parents are asked to review the Code of Student Conduct handbook and complete the **required** forms by accessing the BTS Wizard on Broward County Public School's website. Please complete the forms no later than Friday, September 2nd and **return the confirmation page to your child's teacher on or before the due date**. Access Back to school forms at <http://browardschools.com/bts>

VOLUNTEERING AT SCHOOL/CLASSROOM

Pending district approval, anyone interested in volunteering is encouraged to attend our informative Volunteer Orientation Breakfast scheduled for Friday, September 9th at 8:30 AM in the cafeteria. This meeting will explain all the guidelines and procedures to help ensure a successful volunteer experience. Teachers will not begin utilizing approved classroom volunteers until after this important meeting. To expedite the process, take time to register as a volunteer by applying online at <http://www.getinvolvedineducation.com> or our school's website. Do not delay as volunteer services estimates a 4-week process for approval. Don't forget to become a PTA member too.

BIRTHDAYS

With safety and security being our highest priority at our school, parents are asked to hold any celebrations **outside of the school**. We will allow cupcakes/ donuts or cookies to be distributed to students in the cafeteria by staff. All items **MUST** be store bought. No balloons allowed.



GRIFFIN AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Griffin Aftercare is accepting registrations. Once a parent completes the registration, they will be notified by staff if space is available and when their child may begin. Be on the lookout for more information and prices. There will be no Morning Care.

SCHOOL WEBSITE and SOCIAL MEDIA

Please continue to check out our school website for important information from the school, PTA and district. To navigate to the website, the URL is: <https://www.browardschools.com/griffinelementary>. Also follow us on Griffin Elementary School PTA Facebook Page and on Twitter Griffin Elementary @GriffinElem

Again, Welcome to the start of the 2022 - 2023 school year.

Sincerely,
Angie Moodliyar – Jones and Thomas Nordstrom