

FARNELL

MIDDLE SCHOOL



Visit our website:

<https://www.mysdhc.org/farnell>

First Day of School: August 24, 2020

School Hours: 9:35a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Price of lunch: \$2.75

Breakfast: Free to all students

Non-HOST students can't be dropped before 8:55am

Emergency Cards

During the first week of school your homeroom teacher will issue an emergency card that will be kept on file in the Main Office. It is critical that you correctly fill out this card, make any necessary corrections, and sign the card in black ink. Once your child returns the cards, our data processing clerk will make all corrections on the mainframe. Please return this card the next school day.

Immunization Records

All **seventh** graders must meet the shot requirements to attend school. **We will exclude students from attending class until the minimum amount of information is received.** Please present all pertinent and updated information to the nurse's office.

August 17, 2020

Greetings Farnell students and parents!

Welcome to the 2020-2021 school year. I know everyone is excited to be back. This school year, as we face the unprecedented challenges of the global pandemic, I want you to know that the faculty and staff at Farnell is dedicated to providing a top quality educational experience to every one of our students. In our learning community, we strive for excellence in everything we do regardless of any challenges we face.

As I write this, there are still many unanswered questions regarding the delivery of instruction this year. I know this has caused a lot of stress for many of you. I appreciate the many of you who called or visited me to discuss the three options. Ultimately, you chose the option that will work for you and your family, even though there really were no "best" options. Please know that as we move forward, the faculty & staff at Farnell will be as flexible as possible, and we will handle any challenges we face on a case-by-case basis.

Those of you who know me know that I hold this community in very high regard. I am proud to present to you a school which takes your trust very seriously. We appreciate that you rely on us to help develop our most important and most precious resources. As always, the safety of everyone on this campus is, and always will be, our primary concern.

Finally I would like to thank you in advance for your patience as we navigate the many challenges, known and unknown, we face ahead. I truly believe that we will emerge from this as an even stronger and more unified learning community. If you need anything or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or any of our faculty and staff.

Sincerely,

Tim Binder
Principal

Falcon Pride



Dear Farnell Families,

The Farnell PTSA would like to welcome back our returning Falcon families and extend a warm welcome to those new to Farnell this year. We are looking forward to another fantastic year and are excited to be a part of our high scoring middle school, "A" rated for 17 years running!

We all know that middle school brings big changes for our students. They are experiencing greater independence and require more self-reliance, and of course that tends to drive the presence of our parents away from being as involved as they may have been in elementary school. However, the PTSA is as important as ever in middle school, and we cannot achieve most of what we do without parent support. We appreciate and rely on your continued support through PTSA memberships, family sponsorships, volunteers and other fundraising efforts. We strive to work with our students, parents, teachers and staff to create the BEST learning environment for ALL of our students.

The PTSA is not necessarily as visible in middle school, but trust we are busy working behind the scenes. We provide many different mini-grants for our teachers so they can expand resources in the classroom. We help with award ceremonies, plan student social activities and fundraisers, support programs to further enrich your student's learning, and provide volunteer assistance around the school.

We invite you to visit farnellptsa.org to sign up as a PTSA member, meet the 2020-2021 PTSA Board, and sign up for volunteer opportunities and PTSA communications. In addition, our website has uniform information, a list of our business partners, and helpful school and PTSA links. Lastly, please follow us on Facebook under Farnell PTSA for up-to-date school happenings and information.

We wish your students the best of luck for the 2020-2021 school year and thank you for your continued support of the PTSA.

Farnell PTSA Board



Student Affairs News

Welcome Back Falcons

We have been looking forward to the return of all Falcons. We would like to extend a hearty welcome to our entire new 6th grade Falcons.

To start the new school year in the right way, please carefully read the information below. It will help you prepare your child for the new school year.

The office is open from **8:00am to 4:40pm Monday thru Friday.**

INTRODUCING OUR STAFF

David Streeter is the assistant principal in charge of the 6th grade. He is also in charge of the 8th grade students whose last name that begin with A– L

Cheryl Rodriguez-Guerra is the assistant principal in charge of the 7th grade. She is also in charge of 8th grade students whose last names that begin with M-Z.

Brittany Morgado and Angela Roberts are our guidance counselors.

Vivian Perez is the Principal's Secretary. **Margie Bracamonte** is the secretary in Student Affairs.

Maria Gordon is the secretary in the Main Office, **Ricci Lubrant** is the Data Processor and **Paige Jones** is the Bookkeeper. They bring a wealth of knowledge in dealing with all aspects of our offices.

You will receive parent information on the first day of school. Parents must fill out, sign, and return these forms to the school.

ATTENDANCE

Parents, please call the school at (813) 356-1640 ext. 1 to report an absence. Please refer to the student handbook for a list absences that are considered excused. We would appreciate a phone call before 10:00a.m. A parent or guardian must sign in all students who arrive at school after 9:35a.m.

ADDRESS CHANGES

If your address should change during the school year, please provide the school with verification (2 proof of address such as: current electric bill, lease agreement, warranty deed, contract for purchase of home, property tax receipt or homestead exemption). If you have questions, please call Ms. Bracamonte, Student Affairs Secretary, ext. 232.

BUS TRANSPORTATION

Students must board their bus immediately and observe all safety rules and regulations. Students should memorize their bus number, bus stop and bus driver's name. We want to make sure that every student arrives safely. Students are not allowed to change buses or bus stop for any reason. Please call the Area II Field Transportation office at (813) 631-4052 for questions.

UNIFORMS

We expect all students to wear the uniform shirts. All non-collared uniform shirts must have the Farnell Falcon emblem. All pants or bottoms are a student choice, but must be according to HCPS Dress code policy.

Parent Drop-Off and Pick-Up Policy

1. Be patient and yield to the right-of-way of other drivers.
2. Follow the instructions of the faculty and staff directing traffic.
3. Use the far right lane and pull all the way around the circle.
4. Students should enter a vehicle on the right hand side (passenger).
5. Students should quickly enter the car and not place items in the trunk.
6. Follow the 10 mph speed limit.
7. Parents drop students off in the morning no earlier than 8:55a.m. Parents are also encouraged to pick students up by 4:45 p.m.
9. Students who walk to school must follow the procedures listed in the newsletter.

Thank you for your cooperation

Late Sign-ins

Parents must sign their son or daughter in after 9:35 a.m. Do not drop students off. The policy is found in the Student Handbook of the School District of Hillsborough County. Please read it carefully regarding excused and unexcused sign-ins. Excessive and unexcused sign-ins will adversely affect academic grades. Farnell will follow this policy.

Student Sign-Outs

The policy is found in the Student Handbook of the School District of Hillsborough County. Please read it carefully regarding excused and unexcused sign-outs. Excessive and unexcused sign-outs will adversely affect academic grades. Farnell will follow this policy. **Parents must show positive picture identification when signing students out of school early.**

Please sign in on the visitor's computer before going to class.

All parents, visitors and guests must go to the main office to sign in on the visitors' computer and receive a guest badge. The badge must be worn in the upper left hand side of the shirt, dress or jacket. Regardless of how short or long your stay, it is imperative that all parents, visitors and guests follow this policy in the interest of safety and monitoring who is on our campus. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Walking and Bicycle Procedures

Our main goal is to ensure the safety and welling being of all of our students.

- ♦ All students must exercise the highest level of appropriate behavior and safety as they walk or ride home.
- ♦ Students who ride a bicycle must wear a helmet.
- ♦ All students will wait in the designated area for a faculty member or administrator to dismiss and to assist them in crossing the main driveway.
- ♦ Students should go directly home.
- ♦ Use the crossing lights at the major intersections of Nine Eagles Drive, Race Track Road and Countryway Road. Students must not attempt to cross in the middle of the street. Look both ways before crossing and walk at all times.
- ♦ Students should not wait or congregate at the [Winn Dixie Plaza or any store in the area.](#)

Yearbook Sales

You will find an order form in your first day packet of information. Additional forms are located in the main office. Please see Ms. Reitnauer (room 105) for additional information.

Falcon Pride

Cell Phone Use at School

Students are **not** allowed to use cell phones during school hours (8:55 – 4:30) unless authorized by a school official. Students who use a cell phone anywhere on campus without permission are considered willfully disobedient and are subject to disciplinary action. The use of a cell phone by students is reserved for emergency cases and class assignments determined by the administrator and/or teacher in charge. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

The uniform is mandatory

We at Farnell Middle School strongly feel that parental support for education is always positive. We believe that our uniform policy contributes to the health and safety of the individual, promotes a positive educational environment and improves school spirit. *Thank you for your support of the uniform policy.*

Uniform Orders

Go to <http://www.farnellpts.org/wp/uniforms/> to order your latest uniform. Only solid colors of red and black shirts with a collar (polo) are required. You may also wear the embroidered t-shirt Monday thru Thursday and spirit shirts on Friday.

Wearing the Uniform promotes a high academic focus and performance.



Medication

Parents must make every effort to administer medications at home. Those students who must have medication during school hours must adhere to the following guidelines:

- Over the counter medications must be accompanied by orders from the physician.
- The label on the medication needs to have the student's name, the name of the medication, the physician's name and office phone number, the dosage amount and time to be administered.
- Parents are responsible for supplying any necessary equipment to administer medications. Spoons and droppers are examples.
- We will destroy any medication that is discontinued or left at the school at the end of the year.

Parents are urged to communicate with the health staff about all medical conditions of their child as soon as possible.

Hall Lockers

Students have the privilege of using hall lockers and required to pay a \$5.00 nonrefundable rental fee. Please be reminded that the lockers are small (10" x 10" x 15"). They can only hold textbooks. Sharing a hall locker is not permitted. Each student is responsible for items stored in their assigned locker. We will delay issuing hall lockers probably until 2nd semester.

2020-2021 Bus Route Information

School bus information for the 2020-2021 school year is not available yet. Check back in August for your student's bus stop. For more information, visit the transportation website: <https://webquery.sdhc.k12.fl.us/livewq/webquery/>

Sports Activities 2020-2021

Basketball (Aug-Sep)
Volleyball (Oct-Nov)
Track and Field (Dec)
Soccer (Jan-Feb)
Flag Football (Mar-Apr)

Tryouts and practices are open to all students who meet the following requirements:

- 7th – 8th grade students must have a 2.0 or higher GPA from the previous semester.
- 6th grade students are exempt from this requirement for the first semester only.
- Students must maintain passing citizenship grades thru weekly eligibility forms.
- Three videos, Concussion in Sports, Sudden Cardiac Arrest and Heat Illness Prevention are now REQUIRED videos for ALL students athletes.
- All students/parents must have completed all parts of the athletic packet online at <https://www.planeths.com> If you have previously done an online athletic packet at planeths.com you can use the “reuse document” button so you now only need to update certain parts of your packet.

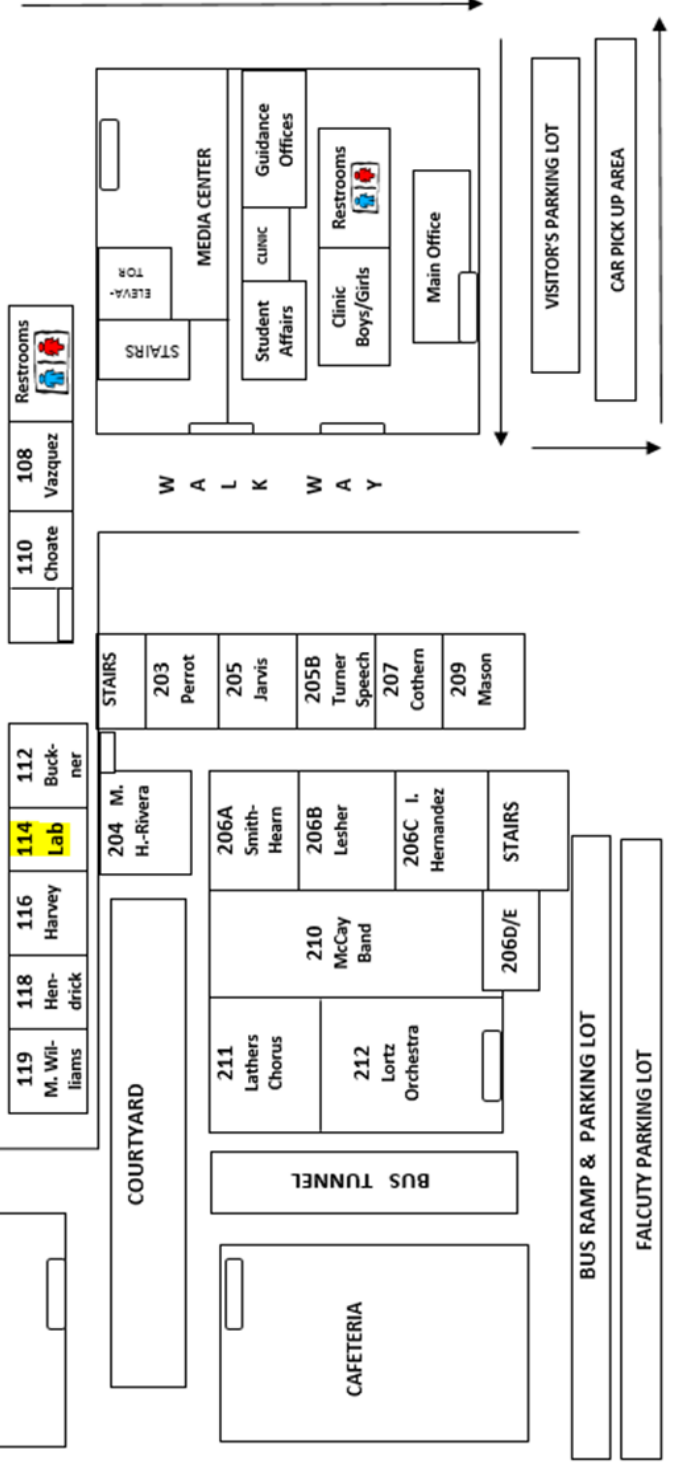
- Completed application for Athletic Participation
 - Completed physical examination (Form EL 2) Physical must be on the EL 2 Form. Printed and taken to physician then scanned back into <https://www.planeths.com>
 - Proof of Purchase of Mandatory Insurance Coverage. Cost is \$25.00. Pay online at www.schoolinsuranceofflorida.com or money order (NO CASH or PERSONAL CHECKS). This is non-refundable & required to participate in any extramural tryouts and athletics. Once purchased, it covers participation for that entire school year.
 - Copy of Birth Certificate
 - Certificates from three required videos
 - Medical Release forms
 - Consent & Release from Liability (Form EL 3)
- All forms can be located and completed through <https://www.planeths.com> website. Forms need to be completed only once for the school year to qualify for all sports.
 - To create an account on PlanethS & follow FARNELL MIDDLE SCHOOL from your phone, **text S43340 to 69274**. Text HELP to 69274 for more information. Text STOP to 69274 to opt out. Msg & Data rates may apply.

If you have any question regarding Farnell’s athletics, please contact Mr. Streeter, Athletic Administrator, at david.streeter@sdhc.k12.fl.us or 356-1640 x 225

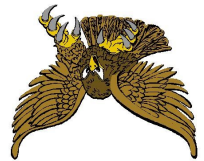
All athletic forms must be completed online and approved by Mr. Streeter the Thursday before tryouts begin.

We play games against other area middle schools in our cluster: Davidsen, Hill, Martinez, Smith, and Walker. Seasons consist of weekly games against each of the above teams (5 games) except Track and Field which consists of a Cluster Meet against all the above teams, and a County Championship for qualifiers.

FIRST FLOOR



Preparing Students for Life!



Farnell Middle School
13912 Nine Eagles Dr.
Tampa, Florida 33626

School Board of Hillsborough County