



Pearl River High School

275 East Central Avenue
Pearl River, New York 10965
www.pearlriver.org
Phone: 845-620-3800

Michael J. Murphy
Principal
Suzanne V. Horton
Aaron McCasland
Assistant Principals

September, 2020

Dear Pearl River High School Parents and Guardians,

Once again, welcome to the 2020-2021 school year! As noted previously, we continue to navigate the challenges before us. We comfortably and confidently call them challenges because as a result of the resiliency of students, parents and the entire PRSD staff, we know that these challenges can be overcome!

We begin our hybrid plan on Monday, September 14, 2020 (see below). Students/Parents who enrolled, or were designated, as fully remote will sign on and into google classrooms, as will the BB grouped students who come in on Thursday and Friday during their class periods (as was done during the initial remote-only week).

Students who report to school need to be sure they bring their fully charged chrome book device as this will be a key tool during the instructional day. Remote students must report to their classes during the time of each class period. On Wednesdays, asynchronous lessons will be posted by all teachers by 7:30am for students to complete. Students must note their attendance on the asynchronous days as noted in their teachers' google classroom.

When attending school in-person on designated days, we ask students to arrive no earlier than 7:20am as walking through the school's corridors is not permitted. Please proceed through our designated entrance at the proper distance. **Lockers will not be used at any time** in the foreseeable future. When students arrive at school, we ask that they enter one of three student entrances, including the new main entrance at the digital sign, the flagpole entrance, and the gymnasium entrance. These entrances will remain open until 7:34am, at which time arrival/entry will only be permitted through the school's main entrance (digital sign).

Upon entering the building, students must advance to their 1st period classroom where they will need to remain seated. All travel through the hallways must be on the right side with students being sure to stay in the marked lanes. Understanding that the level of energy may be high as many students are looking forward to our return, high school students must personally attend to social distancing as guidance protocols dictate. Also, facemasks (no alligator coverings and bandanas) must be worn at all times unless otherwise noted by the classroom teacher, or when in the cafeteria while seated and eating. Students will find hallways and stairwells marked with directions as some stairwells are one way. Limited outdoor passage will be allowed on the flagpole side of the building between the auditorium lobby, 2nd floor - flagpole door, and select courtyard entrances.

Our bell schedule remains the same (see the PRHS Student Handbook). The difference regarding period to period changes is that there will be staggered bells indicating when teachers will release students for the change of periods. For example, first period ends at 8:21am at which time the first change bell will prompt classroom teachers to release the first few rows (about half) of students from their classrooms. Two minutes later, at 8:23 am a second change bell will prompt teachers to release the remaining students from the classrooms. Once students are in their next period class, they must once again be seated immediately. Again, students must respect and practice movements throughout the building that attends to proper social distancing.

At dismissal, student release will begin immediately at 2:40pm. Students riding buses will be prompted first, via the PA system, to exit their 9th period classroom and to proceed immediately to their bus in the loop by the flagpole, or to catch their bus near the gymnasium doors. Parents picking up their child(ren) are asked to be timely. If a parent does not see their child near the school exits, they are asked to continue driving and loop back out of the pickup areas, and come back around. This should continue until the child arrives to meet their ride.

Please be reminded about the PRHS schedule for the upcoming weeks:

Week 9/14 - 9/18 begins our hybrid model where students begin in-person learning as decided by parent/guardian (stated in advance) as per their group - AA (A-L) or BB (M-Z).

9/14 (Monday) A-Day-Group AA attends school and Group BB logs in to their classes from home.

9/15 (Tuesday) B-Day-Group AA attends school and Group BB logs in to their classes from home.

9/16 (Wednesday) A-Day - asynchronous - **all students** engage in asynchronous lessons/work.

9/17 (Thursday) B Day-Group BB attends school and Group AA logs in to their classes from home.

9/18 (Friday) A-Day-Group BB attends school and Group AA logs in to their classes from home.

Week 9/21 - 9/25 continues the pattern of our hybrid model where students continue to attend school in person as decided by parent/guardian (stated in advance) as per their group - AA (A-L) or BB (M-Z).

9/21 (Monday) B-Day-Group AA attends school and Group BB logs in to their classes from home.

9/22 (Tuesday) A-Day-Group AA attends school and Group BB logs in to their classes from home.

9/23 (Wednesday) B-Day- asynchronous - **all students** engage in asynchronous lessons/work.

9/24 (Thursday) A-Day-Group BB attends school and Group AA logs in to their classes from home.

9/25 (Friday) B-Day -Group BB attends school and Group AA logs in to their classes from home.

NOTE: The alternating pattern of A-days and B-days as seen in the schedule for the first three weeks continues each week (wk 1 A-B-A-B) (wk 2 A-B-A-B-A) (wk 3 B-A-B-A-B). Off holidays do not count as an A or B day. Students are familiar with pattern. Please revisit previous memos on the website as a reminder regarding information about our asynchronous Wednesdays.

We understand and acknowledge that we enter uncharted practices and ask for your patience and understanding as we progress. We realize that things may need to change in order to best provide the safest environment possible while serving our student body. We appreciate and thank the community for their understanding and willingness to remain flexible as we enter this stage marking the start of the 2020-2021 school year. We share a common goal.

I look forward to seeing our PRHS student body and thank you for your support and assistance.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Murphy

Principal