



August 18, 2020

Dear Parents and Students,

Greetings from FSWC! These summer months have been like no other summer I can ever remember. I'm certain it hasn't always been for good reasons though with our current pandemic; however, I hope you have been able to take advantage of some quiet, reflective time for yourself and spend valuable and precious time with your families. Like you, we are ready to get back into the school and despite daily activities looking a bit different, we are very excited to start the 2020-2021 school year! This letter is not to share all of the COVID-19 protocols and procedures, as this information is coming to you fast and furious from many sources. The purpose of this letter is to share some of the more routine questions that often are asked before our doors open on August 31st.

GRADES 11/12 DUAL ENROLLMENT CLASSES OPENING DAY - College classes begin on **Monday, August 24th. (Also includes Grade 10 students who have a college DE class). PLEASE keep in mind that there is no bus transportation for the first week of college classes until the high school opens on Aug. 31st.**

SENIORS - Your only obligation is to pick up your textbooks on Thursday, August 20th between the hours of 9 am – 12 noon in the high school cafeteria.

JUNIORS - All junior dual enrollment students will have a **Junior Class mandatory meeting on Friday, August 21st at 9am, 11am, or 1pm based on your last name** in the college auditorium. Mrs. Foster sent you an email with your meeting time included.

DUAL SOPHOMORES – Mrs. Foster recently sent you a recorded message and PowerPoint with critical information. You can pick up your college textbook on Thursday, August 20th between the hours of 9 am – 12 noon in the high school cafeteria.

GR 9/10 SCHEDULES- Student schedules will be visible in Focus on Wednesday, August 26th. There will be no formal pre-school orientation; however, 9th and 10th grade students may come to school between the hours of 9 am – 12 pm on any day Wednesday Aug. 26 – Friday, Aug. 28th. You will be able to: 1) pick up your course schedule, 2) walk the halls and identify each classroom if you are new, 3) return lunch application and other forms if they were included in your mailing; and 4) pick up school fundraiser apparel items if ordered. Attendance is **not** mandatory on any of these days and all of these things can be handled in the first couple of days of school so please do not be concerned if you cannot make it on these days/times. We know that parents are curious what our classrooms and building protocols look like with enhanced health and safety policies related to COVID-19 as well as hoping to meet their child's teachers. We will be sharing a video in an attempt to introduce our faculty and give parents a visual picture of what their child's day looks like. Look for this video in your email the week prior to school starting.

GRADES 9/10 STAGGERED FIRST DAY- The school day begins at 7:25am and ends at 1:55 pm.

Grade 9/10 students should plan to start school in a staggered first day schedule. This will allow us to begin with smaller class sizes and give each student a “first day” experience.

Students with the last names A-L will start on Monday, August 31st and then stay home the following day. Students with the last names M-Z will start on Tuesday, Sept. 1st.

We'll begin Traditional (5 days/week) or Hybrid/Blended (2-3 days/week) schedules on Wednesday, September 2nd.

ATTENDANCE - If your student is absent for traditional live or remote classes, please call 941-637-5673 to report the absence. If you know that your child will be out of school for an extended time because of illness, please let us know so that teachers can be informed. Please take a close look at our school calendar and try to arrange your vacation plans accordingly as we feel it is very important that our students are in school. More information on secondary attendance policies can be found in the Code of Student Conduct. All parents are being asked to complete a Home Wellness Screening each morning prior to sending their child to school. It is extremely important that we self-assess and report any COVID-like symptoms as early as possible to mitigate the risks to other students and staff.

BLENDED/HYBRID STUDENTS – Parents who chose the Blended/Hybrid schedule option for their Grade 9/10 student can plan on the following schedule:

Purple Team: Last names A-L will be on campus on Mondays, Wednesday, and every other Friday (starting with the first Friday, Sept. 4th). These students will be working remotely during normal class times on the other days via Canvas and Zoom.

Teal Team: Last names M-Z will be on campus on Tuesday, Thursdays, and every other Friday (starting with the second Friday, Sept. 11th). These students will be working remotely during normal class times on the other days via Canvas and Zoom.

***Fully Remote** students will be working remotely during normal class times each school day via Canvas and Zoom.

BUS TRANSPORTATION- Charlotte County Public Schools (CCPS) will provide bus transportation. Bus riders should receive a letter from CCPS with route information the week prior to school starting. If you do not receive a letter by Aug. 26th, please call Karen Hathaway at 941-637-5673. If you experience transportation problems in the first weeks of the school year, please notify Mrs. Hathaway at the front desk so that she can help resolve the issue. You may be directed to the CCPS Transportation Department if we cannot help resolve your challenges.

DRESS CODE- When your child brings home the Code of Student Conduct, please read the section on Student Dress very carefully. We expect that all students will come to school dressed appropriately every day and consider it vital to maintaining an environment focused on student learning. Please help us by ensuring your student arrives to school in clothing that meets the dress code guidelines so there is no interruption to their learning to address attire. Also, please help us by making sure your child is in school appropriate clothing if they are participating in a live virtual class sessions as well.

FOOD SERVICE- Included with this letter is information about the school lunch program, including how to apply for free or reduced price lunches. **The federal government requires that a new application be completed each year.** It is important to know that our food service vendor is not affiliated with Champs Café at Charlotte County Public Schools. Therefore, an application will have to be turned in to us, even if an application has been turned into a Charlotte County Public School for a sibling. Applications are being processed as they are received and notifications of status are being sent within one week. This year, full-price lunch will be \$4.10 and reduced lunch will be \$.40. The college accepts online payment for lunches.

Go to our website: <http://www.fsw.edu/wp/cchs>. Look under the Students and Parents section for eCashier. It is very important that you use the link that is provided to you from the Collegiate High School's website to add funds to your student's card. There you can check your student's balance and you can deposit money with a credit card. **Remember that lunch is provided on a "pay-ahead" basis; therefore, you should deposit money by August 26th.** We suggest an initial deposit of \$75.00 for full pay and \$10.00 for reduced pay. Please plan on turning in your new lunch application when you pick up your schedule Aug. 26-28th and don't forget that you need your Buc Card every day for lunch. Juniors and seniors may purchase or receive a free or reduced high school lunch in the college cafeteria this school year. Please be aware that the high school lunch accounts are not redeemable for other food or drinks sold at the college cafeteria --- only high school lunches. If you have any questions, please call Maria Parillo at 941-637-5673.

MEDICATIONS- If your child needs to take prescription or over-the-counter medication during the school day, it will be under the supervision of Maria Parillo or Karen Hathaway. As a reminder, FSWC does not have a School Nurse. A parent should personally deliver the medication to the school and present a medication form (available at the front desk) signed by the parent and a doctor. A phone call will not suffice for the dispensing of medications.

PARENT DROP OFF AND PICK UP- Please follow the signs and the directions of the college public safety officials. We are recommending parents use the new entrance closest to the new PicklePlex area from Florida Street and stay in the first row to avoid PicklePlex traffic. Students who arrive prior to 6:55 am will be asked to sit outside of the cafeteria and our doors will be unlocked at 6:55 am for students to sit in the cafeteria until they head to their classrooms at 7:10 am for pre-school study hall and announcements. First period begins at 7:25 am.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION- If your child is participating in HOPE or a PE class, it is a requirement to wear a PE uniform. The cost of a PE uniform will be \$20. (\$10 each for a shirt or shorts. They will be available for purchase during the first two weeks of school. PE students will be provided with a locker with a school lock. Our school lock is the only one allowable as access may be needed by our school administration.

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL (SAC) - Every parent is invited to every meeting of SAC throughout the school year. SAC meetings will take place via Zoom at 5pm on the second Tuesday of every month for the first semester. We hope to utilize this important committee as a way to communicate important school topics and serve as a true representation of our school partners for collaborative decision making. Our ideal SAC committee consists of a minimum of one parent from each grade level, one teacher, the SGA student president, the principal, a college representative, and a community member. **The first SAC meeting will be Tuesday, September 8, at 5:00 pm via Zoom.**

SCHOOL CLOSURES- Since we are in hurricane season in southwest Florida, it is important for you to know about our school closure policy due to inclement weather. We are operated by Florida SouthWestern State College in Fort Myers, but we are located in Charlotte County; therefore, we must follow both Charlotte County and Florida SouthWestern State College. This means that **IF CHARLOTTE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS OR FLORIDA SOUTHWESTERN STATE COLLEGE ANNOUNCE A CLOSING, WE ARE ALSO CLOSED.** It is important to note that there have been instances in the past where the college may have remained open, but Charlotte County Public Schools was closed, or vice versa. Regardless, we would be closed.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES/APPROVED CALCULATORS – In an effort to help our families, we are providing all the necessary school supplies for the grade 9/10 high school classes besides a calculator for your math class. We will be distributing your school supplies on the first day of school. Please consider purchasing a scientific calculator with a **one-line** display for your child. Scientific calculators with a two-line display and a fraction mode are not permitted on the state end of course exams. It is an advantage that students are familiar with the proper calculators all year. Texas instrument TI-30Xa is the most commonly sold approved calculator. It is typically less than \$15.

STUDENTS STAYING AFTER SCHOOL- The school day ends at 1:55 each day and students are expected to leave campus at the end of the school day unless they are working with a specific teacher or club sponsor. There is no after school supervision provided except for school club activities that typically meet from 2-3 pm on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, or Fridays. Students are required to leave campus immediately when the club or activity dismisses. After school on Tuesdays are reserved for faculty meetings and students are required to leave the building immediately after the school day ends on Tuesdays at 1:55 pm. Students in dual enrollment at the college may head over to the college campus after school with parental permission to utilize the library or student services. Students may NOT hang out at the college after school.

Sincerely, 
Michelle Wier, Principal

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES:

Thursday, August 20	Grade 10 and Grade 12 Duals – Pick up college Textbook(s) between 9am – 12 pm, HS Cafeteria
Friday, August 21	Junior Dual Enrollment Meeting - 9am, 11am, or 1pm, FSW Auditorium
Monday, August 24	First Day of College Dual Enrollment Classes at FSW
Wed., Aug 26 – Fri., Aug 28	Grade 9/10 can pick up their class schedule and walk the halls between 9 am – 12 pm (NOT mandatory) *Schedules will be viewable in Focus on Wed., Aug. 26th*
Monday, August 31 <u>OR</u> Tuesday, September 1	First Day of School for Gr 9/10 HS Classes with Last Names A-L First Day of School for Gr 9/10 HS Classes with Last Names M-Z
Monday, September 7	Labor Day; No School for Students or Staff
Tuesday, September 8	First School Advisory Council (SAC) Meeting – Virtually via Zoom at 5pm; All parents welcome