

Welcome Thoreau Families!



Parent Information Session
Wednesday, August 16, 2023

Topics for Today

- Admin introductions
- School day logistics
- Thoreau MS - What do you need to know?
- Technology
- After School Program
- Upcoming Events



Introductions - The Administrative Team

- Ms. Teresa Khuluki, Principal
- Ms. Rebecca Aguilar, Director of Student Services
- Ms. Rachael Feiertag, 7th Grade Assistant Principal
- Mr. Brian Staton, 8th Grade Assistant Principal

Transitioning to Middle School

- Promoting a Culture of Belonging through our mantra “You Matter!”
- Build community and trusting relationships
- Maintain high academic standards balanced with meeting students where they are
- Increased independence of an adolescent
- Normalize feeling out of place
- Social Media boundaries
- Encourage your child to stay after school



RESPECT

We will respect ourselves,
others and our surroundings.
We will use kind
language at all
times.

INTEGRITY

We will have the courage to do
what is right, even in large
groups or when no
one is looking.



SERVICE

We will be the
best Eagle we can be
by helping others and
supporting each other at all times.

ENGAGEMENT

We will be active,
positive participants
in all tasks, even if they
are new and challenging.

Thoreau Middle School 2023-2024 Blue/Gold Calendar

KEY:



B Blue/Even



G Gold/Odd

August 2023				
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
	1	2	3	4
7 NT	8 NT	9 NT	10 NT	11
14 SP	15 TW	16 SD	17 TW	18 SP
21 G/F	22 B	23 G	24 B	25 G
28 B	29 G	30 B	31 G	

September 2023				
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
				1 H
4 H	5 B	6 G	7 B	8 G
11 B	12 G	13 B	14 G	15 B
18 G	19 B	20 G	21 B	22 G
25 H	26 B	27 G	28 B	29 G

October 2023				
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
2 B	3 G	4 B	5 G	6 B
9 SD	10 G	11 B	12 G	13 B
16 G	17 B	18 G	19 B	20 G
23 B	24 G	25 B	26 G	27 B
30 G	31 B			

November 2023				
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
		1 G	2 B	3* G/QE /ER
6 SP	7 TW	8 B	9 G	10 B
13 G	14 B	15 G	16 B	17 G
20 B	21 G	22 H	23 H	24 H
27 B	28 G	29 B	30 G	

December 2023				
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
				1 B
4 G	5 B	6 G	7 B	8 G
11 B	12 G	13 B	14 G	15 B
18 H	19 H	20 H	21 H	22 H
25 H	26 H	27 H	28 H	29 H

January 2024				
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
1 H	2 G	3 B	4 G	5 B
8 G	9 B	10 G	11 B	12 G
15 H	16 B	17 G	18 B	19 G
22 B	23 G	24 B	25* G/QE /ER	26 TW
29 B	30 G	31 B		



2023-2024 Thoreau Middle School

Daily Bell Schedule

7:30 am - 2:15 pm

Gold (odd)	Time	Blue (even)	Time
1	7:30 - 8:55	2	7:30 - 8:55
3	9:00 - 9:30	4	9:00 - 10:25
5	9:35 - 10:25		
7	10:30 - 12:45	6	10:30 - 12:45
9	12:50 - 2:15	8	12:50 - 2:15

3rd Period = Advisory

5th Period = Eagle Time

Lunch Schedule (7th/6th)

A Lunch	Recess: 10:30am - 10:45am Lunch: 10:45am-11:15am Class: 11:17am-12:45pm	C Lunch	Recess: 11:30am-11:45am Lunch: 11:45am-12:15pm Class: 12:17pm-12:45pm
B Lunch	Recess: 11:00am-11:15am Lunch: 11:15am-11:45am Class: 11:47am-12:45pm	D Lunch	Class: 10:30am-12:00pm Recess: 12:00pm-12:15pm Lunch: 12:15pm-12:45pm

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF STUDENT ADVISORY?

RELATIONSHIPS

Connection with a caring adult: Connecting personally and academically on a regular basis with an advisory teacher who serves as a coach/mentor.

Connection with peers: Building relationships and sharing identities as people, as students, as community members

Engagement and Fun: Pursuing connection and wellness

Relevance: Addressing real life personal and current events/challenges that matter to students.

RESILIENCE

COMMUNITY

Belonging and Safety: Creating a responsive culture within the advisory as well as the whole school community

Identity: Affirming identities as individuals and as part of the community

Student Voice: Elevating students as leaders within Advisory and across the school community

Planning for the Future: Developing postsecondary awareness and decision making

Skill Development: Growing in transferable skills through goal setting and reflection

EMPOWERMENT

What are Interdisciplinary Teams?

- Teams provide a great structure for students to make additional connections within the building
- The team is comprised of an English Teacher, Science Teacher, Social Studies Teacher, and Counselor who work with a group of around 150 students
- Your child's team assignment will be indicated on their schedule





Thoreau Middle School Student Schedule

Year: 2022-2023
Report: STU202

Sample Student Schedule

Student Information

Student Name Rebecca Aguilar	Student ID	Grade 08
Schedule House Wombats	Counselor Name Fishman	

Aguilar, Rebecca

Schedule Information

Per	Term	Section ID	Course	Meet Days	Teacher	Room
First Quarter						
1	YR	511000-01	511000 - French 1	All Odd	Evans, S.	A-137
2	YR	313036-03	313036 - Algebra 1 HN	All Even	Zanellato, T.	A-213
3	YR	994800-16	994800 - TA/Activity Gr 8	All Odd	Crane, S.	A-218
4	YR	112038-02	112038 - English 8 HN	All Even	Bryant, E.	A-205
5	YR	994810-09	994810 - TA/Activity Gr 8A	All Odd	Hinrichsen, O.	A-203
6	YR	923410-01	923410 - Advanced Band	All Even	Smith, P.	C-105
7	S1	720033-18	720033 - Health & PE 8	All Odd	Piddington, B.	Gym2
8	YR	412538-04	412538 - Invest Matt/Ener HN	All Even	Crane, S.	A-218
9	YR	235738-02	235738 - Civics 8 HN	All Odd	Hinrichsen, O.	A-203
10	YR	993800-01	993800 - Team Desig 8th Gr	All Odd	Wombats, S.	

Introductions - The Counseling Staff

- Mr. Eric Fishman Penguins Team (7th) & Wombats Team (8th)
- Ms. Jill Gallagher Goats Team (7th) & Hawks Team (8th)
- Ms. Frangca Lee Wolfpack Team (7th) & Falcons Team (8th)
- Ms. Kerrie Turner Ravens Team (7th) & Turtles Team (8th)



Lockers

Hallway lockers are optional!
After the second week of school, students will be provided with a Google Form link to request a locker.

All students will automatically receive a PE locker.



Attendance

If you know your student will be absent, please contact the front office using the contact information below.

- 703-846-8080
- ThoreauMiddle.Attendance@fcps.edu
- Online Option on website to submit absence/late arrival/early release:
<https://thoreaums.fcps.edu/about/attendance-form>

ATTEND TODAY
ACHIEVE TOMORROW



Students should check Schoology and follow-up with teachers upon return from an absence. If your child will be absent three or more days, they should visit the main office and request the pre-arranged absence form.

Transportation & Buses

- Transportation information is currently available in SIS ParentVue
- Bus times can vary
- Students must use their assigned bus and stop and may not ride other buses home with a friend
- Any bus changes must go through the Transportation office (only done in extenuating circumstances)
- Bus Delay Notification System



Write down your students bus number and stop until they have settled in and become more familiar with it.

Kiss & Ride



What Should I Expect in a Typical Class Period?

- Engagement Model
- Variety of instructional practices
 - Opening Message - Fostering community
 - Mini-Lesson - Whole group direct instruction
 - Work Time - Independent or breakout groups
 - Debrief & Reflection
- Interactive technology tools
- Brain break times built in



Health & Physical Education (HPE)



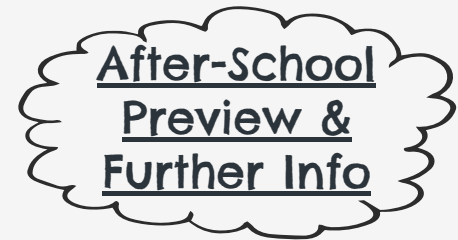
- HPE is a required course for all students
- Students will “dress out” for class
- Students will have access to locker rooms and an HPE locker to store their belongings
- Students are encouraged to purchase a Thoreau HPE uniform but may also use athletic clothing from home that matches the HPE uniform colors
- Athletic shoes are required for HPE
- Our HPE teachers will work with students in the first weeks of school to set expectations and inform them of the steps to purchase a uniform if they select this option
- Financial support is available for children that need it to ensure all students have access to a uniform

After School Program (ASP) Information

- After School Specialist: Colleen Myers
- The ASP is free!
- September 11th: First day of after-school activities and late buses
- Club/activity information & weekly club schedules will be posted on Schoology in the coming weeks

Late Bus Information

- Late buses are provided on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays.
 - If parents would like to pick their child up from after school, they may do so at any time before 4:45pm at the main office
- Late buses will depart Thoreau at *approximately* 4:30-5:00pm. *Times are subject to change.*
- Late bus runs differ from the morning and afternoon runs. There are fewer buses and stops. Late bus runs will be posted in the front lobby, by the cafeteria, and on Schoology by September.



Colleen Myers can be reached at cmyers@fcps.edu or 703-846-8089.

Middle School Sports

<https://www.fcps.edu/activities-enrichment/middle-school-athletics>

Recess

FCPS division-wide initiative

- 15 minute daily; prior to lunch
- Outside, weather permitting
- Brief break from academics and opportunity for socialization
- No cell phone use during this time
- Students will be supervised by their 7th or 6th period teacher
- Students will go directly to lunch from recess





Technology

FCPSOn

- Technology used to amplify and support instruction.
- Students will be issued laptops and chargers on the first day of school.
- Highly recommend backpack with laptop pocket.
- Please follow all procedures and have a name tag visible on the laptop.
- Laptops will be distributed on Monday 8/21 and Tuesday 8/22 through PE.





Away for the Day

- Phones must be silenced and kept put away from 7:30 AM-2:15 PM.
- Students are prohibited from using phones, tablets, and other mobile devices in restrooms and locker rooms, unless there is a medical necessity or emergency.
- Storage may be in a locker, backpack, pencil bag, etc., during the day.
- Watches that serve a dual purpose (e.g., smart watch) may be worn; however, phone features (e.g., texting, Internet, calls, etc.) are to be off when phone use is prohibited.
- Phone accessories (e.g., AirPods, earbuds, headsets, and other items connected to the phone) are also to be silenced and away when phone use is prohibited.

Schoology




- FCPS Learning Management Software
- Schoology works with Google Drive
- You will need a SIS/ParentVUE account to login to Schoology
- Students can log in using their FCPS student ID and password.
 - Students will not see any classes until the grading period starts
- As a parent or guardian, you will be able to use Schoology to view: your child's class, assignments and participation, calendar, teacher comments, scores, and feedback

Schoology & ParentVUE

What's the difference?



SIS (ParentVUE) Student Information System	SCHOOLGY Learning Management System (LMS)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Class Schedules● Attendance● Grade Book of Record● Progress Reports● Student Records 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Course Information: resources, calendars, assignments, announcements from teachers.● Access various tools designed to facilitate student learning and communication● Teacher feedback on some assignments

Back to School Information



Visit our [website](#) for all of your back to school information!

Beginning of the Year Information

Back to School

Welcome Golden Eagles! We are eagerly awaiting the start of school on Monday, August 21st.

New Student Orientation

Thursday August 17th

9:00 AM - 11:30 AM



- We are hosting an orientation for all 7th grade and 8th grade students who are new to Thoreau.
- Students will visit with each of their teachers and transition between classroom locations.
- This is a student-only event.
- Transportation is provided. Bus runs will pick up and return students to their base elementary school. Parents are welcome to use the Kiss-and-Ride lane.
- The most important thing you can do to prepare: Know your 1st period class/room number!

Open House, Thursday August 17th

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

All Thoreau Middle School students and families are invited to join us for our Open House where you will be able to:

- Pick up a copy of your class schedule, walk the building to locate your classes, and meet your teachers!
- Learn about after school programs and activities
- Drop off medical forms and medications to our clinic
- Pick up pre-ordered school supply kits from our PTA, join the PTA
- Use MySchoolBucks to pay class fees and order PE uniforms
- Get assistance in setting up ParentVue and/or MySchoolBucks



Back to School Night

Thursday, September 21

5:00-7:00 PM

In person opportunity for parents and guardians to meet with teachers and learn important detailed information regarding:

- Academic outcomes for each subject
- Expectations for the school year
- Supports for students
- Communication methods for parents
- ...and more!

Questions?



Thank you for Attending!

We look forward to partnering with you to ensure a successful start to the school year!

