



ALPHARETTA HIGH SCHOOL

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August 6, 2022

Greetings Raiders,

We look forward to welcoming over 2,200 students to Raider Nation Monday, August 8th for the first day of the 2022-2023 school year! Our faculty and staff worked hard all week preparing for an amazing opening and we are ready for a great first day. This communication includes important information on the following topics:

- ❖ Please Consider a Donation to Support our Amazing AHS teachers!
- ❖ Expectations for Monday Morning & Mornings at AHS
- ❖ Required Attendance Monday in all AHS face-to-face classes Including Advisement
- ❖ Bus Information & Expectations for Afternoon Dismissal at AHS
- ❖ Safety & Security: All Students Must wear IDs while on AHS Campus
- ❖ Class Schedules and Enrollment Count Information
- ❖ Important Information for Students with Off Campus Classes
- ❖ Breakfast & Lunch – New Prices and Free & Reduced Lunch Forms
- ❖ FCS Code of Conduct – Students & Parents Must Sign off
- ❖ New FCS Cell Phone Policy
- ❖ Device User Agreement & Deployment Plan
- ❖ Lockers
- ❖ Parking Information
- ❖ Covid-19 mitigation strategies.

Please read the information below carefully to be fully prepared for a successful start to the 2022-2023 school year.





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Please Consider a Donation to Support our Amazing AHS teachers:

Each year, Alpharetta High School requests a voluntary parent donation to support our *Teacher Recognition & Awards* program for our 200+ esteemed AHS faculty and staff that teach, coach, counsel, mentor and support our 2100+ AHS students.

Parents, “the teacher shortage is real, large and growing” (García and Weiss, 2019). The recent Pandemic has only exacerbated this problem. Your generous donation will assist me with implementing researched based recommended strategies to retain high quality teachers in our school community! Honoring teachers throughout the school year for excellence and positive outcomes for students is an integral aspect of retaining high quality teachers and faculty for our students. Niche has ranked our teachers as the #3 top faculty in Georgia. Let’s work together to retain such an esteemed faculty. “Great schools create classroom heroes in ways that improve teacher retention” (Gallup, 2019). *Help me celebrate the amazing teachers and faculty that support our children!*

With appreciation,
Shannon N. Kersey, Ph.D.

Please consider a voluntary tax-deductible donation for the 22-23 school year.

No donation is too small!

To Donate:

Pay online via Online School Payments (OSP) on the AHS website

Use the link below to go directly to the OSP page, donations category.

<https://tinyurl.com/ahsteacherdonations>

Expectations for Monday Morning & Mornings at AHS:

The doors to the cafeteria open at 7:30 a.m. for students. Students arriving before 7:30 a.m. will not be allowed to enter any AHS building. Students arriving after 7:30 a.m. but before 8:15 a.m. must go directly to the cafeteria or back patio for supervision. At 8:15 a.m., the bell will ring to release students from the cafeteria to walk to their 1st period classroom. Starting Wednesday August 10th, students with a hall pass who have an appointment with a teacher or who are attending help sessions are allowed to leave the cafeteria and go to that classroom. Students may not stand around in the hallways or sit in any areas socializing in the morning prior to 8:15am other than the cafeteria, the outdoor back patio and the grassy stairs. Moreover, all students must remain seated in the cafeteria in the morning before the 8:15 a.m. bell rings. Students who prefer to stand must go outside on the patio outside the cafeteria or to the grassy stairs behind the patio.

Due to a FCS reduction from 8 ½ to 8 hours daily for FCS hourly employees, our main office opens at 7:45 a.m. and closes at 3:45 p.m. for phone calls & visitors to the school.

Creating opportunities for excellence in academics, arts, athletics, and altruism.





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Required Attendance in Advisement and Lunch for ALL students this week:

To remain enrolled at AHS, all students must be marked present for the first day of school in all face-to-face AHS classes. (This does not include off campus FVS/GAVS courses and dual enrollment courses). Please review the attached bell schedule to ensure you are present and on time for all AHS face-to-face classes.

AHS teachers will be taking electronic attendance in all classes on Monday. **All students will report to advisement during 5th period for the first two weeks of school.** *After two weeks, we will begin assigning students to Anchor Time courses during 5th period on Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays where many eligible juniors and seniors will earn off-campus privileges.*

If a student is not physically present in all scheduled AHS face-to-face classes on Monday, including advisement, for the physical attendance count, that student will be withdrawn from AHS. If you are a student enrolled at AHS, you must make every effort to be physically present on campus for all your AHS face-to-face classes on Monday in order to be marked present and **remain enrolled.**

All schools must complete our required official enrollment count on day 1 to determine whether we are staffed appropriately for the 2022-2023 school year. **Any student with an extenuating circumstance that prohibits being physically present in scheduled AHS face-to-face classes on Monday must reach out to Dr. Kersey directly at kersey@fultonschools.org.**

Bus Information and Expectations for Afternoon Dismissal:

The AHS school day ends at 3:30pm. Busses begin leaving our campus promptly at 3:35pm each day so students must be sure to exit their 8th period classroom quickly and go directly to their bus each day. Each year on the first day of school, we have many students who do not know their bus number and consequently end up missing the bus. Students will often tell us that they “forgot” the bus they rode in the morning or that they “only ride the bus in the afternoon.” Please partner with us to ensure that your child knows his/her bus number.

You may access the FCS transportation website here to determine your child’s bus number.

<http://edulogweb.fultonschools.org/livewq/webquery/>

You will have to enter your home address to get accurate bus information. Information at this link will provide bus route information as well as bus pick up/drop off times.

All students must be off the AHS campus by 3:50 p.m. every day. Walkers, riders and drivers must plan to exit campus promptly each day. Students are not allowed to hang out with friends on our campus after school. Moreover, students may not wait around for parents to get off work in the evenings before getting picked up from AHS.





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If a student has an afternoon appointment with a teacher, the student is allowed to be with that teacher for supervision but must have a plan to be picked up promptly once the afterschool meeting has concluded. Students involved in athletics and/or clubs may stay afterschool as long as they are with their team or club being supervised by a coach or teacher.

Students may not hang out at school waiting for an evening activity to begin. For example, a student may not hang out after school to wait for a 7:30 football game to begin. Students must exit our campus by 3:50pm and then come back at 7:30 for the game.

Students who consistently are found to be on our campus unsupervised by a coach or teacher will be considered loitering and will be subject to both disciplinary and legal consequences. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter as we strive to keep our campus safe and secure for all students.

Safety & Security:

All AHS students must wear picture ID and AHS lanyard at all times while on AHS campus.

Alpharetta High School prioritizes student safety and security and recognizes that continued evaluation of safety processes and procedures is essential for our continued growth. At AHS, we require photo ID badges to be visibly worn by all students throughout the school day. Returning AHS students were invited to come to campus this morning to get their 2022-2023 ID and lanyard. If a returning student was not available on Saturday, August 6th, those students will be able to get their ID, lanyard and stickers during lunch all this week 8/8 – 8/12. Please note at this time we are using last year's photos with the new year ID but will issue new IDs with updated 2022 photos at the 9-week grading period for students who desire their updated photo.

During ELA classes the first week of school, all students will have their yearbook photo taken. Freshmen will get their photo identifications on Tuesday. New students may go to the gym on Tuesday during lunch to get their photo taken and receive their student photo ID and lanyard.

Students must keep up with their ID and wear their ID every day. Our goal will be to have all IDs issued to students by the end of the week. Lost IDs require \$5.00 to reprint and QR codes are located throughout the school to request a replacement ID. Starting Monday, August 15th, students will have to report to suite 1220 for a temporary sticker ID each time they forget their school lanyard and ID.

For a reminder on how to submit your waiver/consent form for off campus privileges, please access the attached document.

Class Schedules and Enrollment Count Information:

Parents and students, please remember that student course schedules are tentative during the first 10 days of school and updates may be provided daily. Please be patient with us as we balance classes and make schedule adjustments for necessary schedule changes only. During the first 10 days of school, our





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Superintendent and other district leaders monitor the enrollment numbers of all FCS schools closely and make staffing adjustments accordingly at the 10th day of school. I will communicate with you if we anticipate any major shifts in our staff and Master Schedule.

To make schedule change requests, complete the Microsoft form by Friday, August 19th using this link, <https://forms.office.com/r/5ycBBt2req>. Requests for schedule changes will be considered by our AHS Scheduling Committee and are contingent on space availability in the course.

Important Information for Students with Off Campus Classes:

Students taking Dual Enrollment (College), GAVS Virtual, FVS Virtual, and students with Off-campus Internships, please read these important expectations regarding where to report and for returning signed waivers.

All students with Off-campus classes must complete and return the relevant attached waiver/s Monday in order to receive permissions to have off campus courses as well as receive the required Dual Enrollment Sticker, Virtual Course Sticker and/or Flex Schedule Sticker to be placed on the student's required photo identification. Directions on how to complete and upload waiver attached:

- All students with any Off Campus 1st period course: **If you have an off -campus course 1st period, you do not report to AHS Monday morning for 1st period.** Please be certain you have uploaded your signed waiver; report to school when your first AHS face-to-face class begins.
- Students taking Virtual Courses off campus or Dual Enrollment Courses off campus during 2nd – 8th periods who have not uploaded your signed waiver and not received your 2022-2023 id, lanyard & off-campus stickers, **you will have to stay on campus in the media center during that period until your waiver is signed and returned.** You will be able to pick up your student ID and stickers during lunches this week as soon as your waivers are signed and uploaded.
- Students taking Virtual Courses off campus or Dual Enrollment Courses off campus during 2nd – 8th periods who have uploaded your signed waiver, received your 2023 lanyard, student ID & off campus privilege stickers, you will be able to leave campus during that class period starting Monday.
- Students taking Work Based Learning/Peer Facilitation courses should report to 1701 (one of the modular units behind the school) during the period you have Work Based Learning to see Ms. Steffany Traylor. Students with off campus internships will receive a waiver and sticker from Ms. Traylor. Please remember to return that waiver so you may earn your privilege to leave campus. Assistant Principal Errol Dice and Ms. Traylor will be your contacts for Work Based Learning off campus privileges.





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Breakfast & Lunch – New Prices & Free and Reduced Lunch Forms:

Fulton County Schools offers healthy meals daily at a reasonable price. For high schools, the price for breakfast is \$1.25 and lunch is \$2.70. Students may qualify for free meals or reduced-price meals. The reduced price is \$0.30 for breakfast and \$0.40 for lunch.

Families are strongly encouraged to pay for student meals through the MyPaymentsPlus online payment system. Parents can put money on their student's account for meals and/or extra sales, view account balances and purchase history, and set up low-balance reminders by visiting www.mypaymentsplus.com. Cash or check payments can also be made at your student's school.

- General Accounts: Allows students to purchase any items, including snacks.
- Meals Accounts: Allows students to purchase breakfast and lunch only, no snacks.
- *There is a 4.29% transaction fee for using MyPaymentsPlus*

The Free & Reduced Meal Benefits Program is a part of the National Child Nutrition Program. This program makes Free or Reduced priced meals available to qualifying households. Qualifications are based on the gross income of all household members and the number of persons living in the house. **A NEW application must be completed for the 2022-2023 school year.** Due to COVID-19 National Waivers, families did not have to complete an application during the last school year.

However, these waivers are no longer in effect, and all families must complete an application for SY22-23 if they wish to be considered for free and reduced meal benefits this year. The household is responsible for payment of meals until the Free and Reduced Application is approved. **Free & Reduced Meal Applications are available anytime online beginning July 25, 2022. Visit www.fulton.schoollunchapp.com to start the online application process.** Families may obtain a paper application from any school cafeteria. If able, families are encouraged to complete an online application to help expedite the application approval process.

Lockers:

Lockers are available for purchase at any time during the school year. **Lockers are \$15 each and there are no refunds after purchase.** Any student interested in purchasing a locker can visit the AHS website and access the Online School Payment link: [AHS Locker Purchase](#)

Once the locker is purchased online, students may bring their digital or paper receipt to office 1220 at any time during the school day to receive a locker number and combination (See Ms. Bodeep). **On Monday 8/8, a locker table station will be set up in the hallway/entrance of the cafeteria during both lunches.** Students may also bring their locker purchase receipt at that time.





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FCS Code of Conduct:

As we all work together to ensure a safe and nurturing learning environment for our students, it is important that every parent/guardian and student is provided with a copy of the district’s Student Code of Conduct. Parents and students must sign for receipt of the Student Code of Conduct using the district’s new **digital signature process**. The link below contains a step-by-step **“how to”** guide for completing the digital signature process. [How to...Parent & Student Code Receipt](#)

- All students above 10 years of age and their parents, guardians, or other person having control or charge of the child is asked to digitally sign acknowledging receipt of the Code of Conduct and Student Handbook.
- Parents and students are able to digitally sign by using their online portal or the app on their smartphone/device.
- The Code of Conduct can be viewed via our website <https://www.fultonschools.org/studentdiscipline>

FCS New Cell Phone Policy:

Parents and students, please become familiar with the new FCS cell phone policy in order to avoid disciplinary consequences and having the cell phone confiscated.

18e.I	<i>Cell Phone/Electronic Devices/Recording Devices</i>	Refusing to comply with reasonable directions or commands of school staff regarding responsible use of technology, and/or use audio or visual recording devices without permission of a school administrator (including but not limited to Policy and Operating Guideline IFBGA Responsible Use of Enterprise Technology). <i>***Please Note: If a student violates this rule which leads to the student’s personal communication device being confiscated by school personnel, it will only be released to the parent or guardian who must come to the school to personally retrieve the device.***</i>
18f.II	<i>Prohibited Use of Personal Communication Devices (PCD) During School Day</i>	Possession of Personal Communication Devices (PCD) (e.g., cell phones, tablets, recording devices) by a student at school during school hours is a privilege that will be forfeited if a student fails to abide by the Student Code of Conduct.





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Device User Agreement & Deployment Plan:

AHS will begin disseminated devices during Advisement starting Wednesday, August 10th. All students need to have a signed device user agreement on file to receive an FCS device. Parents may sign the Device User Agreement using the FCS **digital signature process**. The link below contains a step-by-step “**how to**” guide for completing the digital signature. Parents can digitally sign by using their online portal or the app on their smartphone/device. [How to...Device User Agreement](#)

[You can read the Device User Agreement here](#)

Parking:

Any student who won a 2022-2023 year-long parking spot in the lottery and did not pick up a pass last week and plans to drive to school Monday, August 8th must arrive 30 minutes prior to your first class starting. You must park in the visitor’s lot, come to the front office to see Ms. Funk with your receipt of parking purchase and then go back out to your car and move to your assigned spot within 30 minutes.

No student cars may remain in visitors for more than 30 minutes while retrieving your permit from Ms. Funk. Also, do not ever park in any student parking space that is not assigned to you and never park in any faculty spot. Violation of this will result in losing parking privileges, and a violation will incur a \$75 boot removal fine.

Parking website: <https://www.fultonschools.org/domain/7392>

Covid-19 mitigation strategies:

At AHS, we will continue to implement Covid-19 mitigation strategies. First and foremost, please do not send your child to school if he/she is feeling ill and exhibiting any symptoms of Covid-19. Students, please do bring your own water bottle and individual hand-sanitizer. Students and staff should wash their hands often throughout the school day and clean their personal space at the end of each class period. We added outdoor seating last year, so we encourage students to social distance as much as possible before school and during lunches. Students may find a space alone outside at least 6 feet away from others during their lunch period. We have a lot of space so encourage your child to socially distance. In week two, we will begin allowing our eligible seniors to leave during Anchor Time and lunch and week 3, we will begin allowing eligible juniors to leave during lunch so our cafeteria will become less crowded very soon. Please be patient with us.





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Thank you for taking the time to read through this important information! I am looking forward to another year of Excellence in Academics, Arts, Athletics and Altruism in Raider Nation! Thank you for your support!

With Raider Pride,

Shannon N. Kersey, Ph.D.

Principal

Alpharetta High School

Creating Opportunities for Excellence in Academics, Arts, Athletics & Altruism.



Follow me on Twitter or Instagram - @AHSPrincipalK

AHS Website: <https://www.fultonschools.org/alpharettahs>

