

## **Creekside High School**

Dr. Terrell Awak, Principal Ms. Nikia Bynum, Assistant Principal Mr. Benjamin Polite, Assistant Principal Mr. Jason Ross, Assistant Principal Ms. Tiffany Troutman, Assistant Principal Ms. Naja Freeman, Dean of Students Ms. Yolanda Magee, Dean of Students Mr. Elijah Simon, Dean of Students Ms. Mariechien Starks-Payne, Dean of Students

## 7/23/2024

Greetings Creekside High School Parents and Guardians,

I want to officially welcome you to the 2024 – 2025 school year! I hope you all have enjoyed a wonderful summer and are ready to start a new school year. We anticipate an exciting year as we continue to collectively strive to move *Forward together with P.R.I.D.E.*! I am delighted to welcome those who are new to Creekside to our supportive school community.

High expectations for citizenship and academic performance will continue to be at the core of our daily efforts with scholars here at Creekside High School. We will continue to focus on making our vision and mission the focus of our daily work with our students, teachers, and parents. At Creekside, we strive to sustain a *supportive and safe student-focused* learning environment where every student thrives academically and socially. With a positive culture, we will achieve the *goal of being a high-performing AVID schoolwide school* in which every student experiences excellence in every classroom every day and is equipped and empowered to be *globally competitive, highly productive citizens*.

As you prepare to return your students to school, please see the important information and links below:

- Virtual Grade Level Meetings: In case you missed the virtual grade level meetings held earlier this month, we have posted the meeting recordings to our school website. Please visit the links below to view meeting recordings and to learn more about your child's grade level academy. 9<sup>th</sup> Grade 10<sup>th</sup> Grade 11<sup>th</sup> Grade 12<sup>th</sup> Grade
- School Supply List: At the conclusion of the 2023 2024 school year, Creekside High School was certified an AVID Schoolwide Site of Distinction. As such, our expectations regarding instructional practices and expectations that support students with college and career readiness are implemented for all our students. Please ensure your child has the supplies needed to help them with the organization and study skills required for academic success. See our school supply list <u>here</u>.
- Attendance: At Creekside, we understand the importance of regular attendance in academic success. Research shows a direct correlation between student attendance and academic performance. We have a dedicated attendance committee that is committed to supporting students who may be

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struggling with attendance. Chronically absent students will be referred to this committee for attendance interventions, including but not limited to an attendance parent conference, attendance contract, social work referral, and juvenile court proceedings. Please see the district's policies and guidelines regarding addressing students who are chronically absent visiting this <u>site</u>.

- Dress Code & Clear Bookbags: Students are expected to dress and groom themselves in a way that reflects neatness, cleanliness, and safety. All students shall dress appropriately so as not to disrupt or interfere with the educational program or the orderly operation of the school. Examples of inappropriate dress and grooming include lack of cleanliness in person or dress; "short-short" clothing; bare midriffs; "tank tops"; "see-through" clothing or apparel that designates gangs or similar organizations or any dress that is disruptive to the school environment. Creekside is also a clear bookbag campus. See our dress code and clear book bag guidelines here.
- Positive Behavior Interventions System (P.B.I.S.): Please support our effort to sustain our safe and positive learning environment by ensuring your child follows our P.B.I.S. expectations for Tribe **P.R.I.D.E.** at all times. Students who exhibit Tribe P.R.I.D.E. are regularly recognized, rewarded with P.B.I.S. points to shop at the school P.B.I.S. store, and are invited to our monthly P.B.I.S. block parties. See our schoolwide PBIS expectations matrix <u>here</u>.
- **Cell Phones—Prohibited during Class:** Per Fulton County's Student Code of Conduct, personal communication devices (e.g., cell phones) are prohibited during instructional class time unless the teacher or other school staff member provides permission. Students will have the option to place their phones in the classroom cell phone pockets OR they can put their phones away during class time. **Students who refuse to follow the student code of conduct and do not put their phones away during instruction will have their phones confiscated and returned only to their parent/guardian.** Cell phones are also strictly prohibited for non-educational purposes, including recording fights, battery, or other inappropriate content. Consequences for doing so may result in a disciplinary hearing referral for long-term suspension. See our cell phone behavior matrix here.
- Student Devices Mandatory Fines: All Creekside students will be issued their student devices and chargers during the first two weeks of school. Be advised that students who lose or damage their devices and chargers will be subject to a \$250 (lost/stolen device), \$100 (damaged device), or \$35 (lost/damaged charger). Students with existing missing/damaged device fines from prior school

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years at Creekside will only be issued a replacement device this year with payment of their outstanding device fines. It is imperative that your child keeps track of and takes care of their student devices and chargers.

We invite you to participate actively in our school community by volunteering, joining our PTSA, School Governance Council, or supporting school events. Parents who participate and are involved in their child's education are more likely to succeed. We look forward to continuing our work as partners and eagerly anticipate a meaningful year of learning and engagement for our students! Please join us for one of our upcoming student and family engagements (see below).

| Thursday, July 25,     | 9th Grade Summer Bridge | 9th Grade Academy 300 Hall  |
|------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| 2024                   | Day                     | 9 am – 1:30 pm  |
| Friday, August 2, 2024 | Jumpstart               | 9th & 10th Grade: 9 am – 11:30 am<br>&<br>11th & 12th Grade: 12:30 pm –<br>2:30pm<br>See the <mark>flyer</mark> |

Let's make this the greatest year! #TribePRIDE #WearetheTRIBE #ForwardTogether

Warmly,

Dr. Terrell Awak, Principal