

MITCHELL WEEK AT A GLANCE

WEEKLY EDITION

AUGUST 18TH, 2024

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

We have completed our first full week! Thank you for your support, students have been adapting well to our traditional and block schedule. When they are in doubt, they ask questions and are so polite and respectful. This past week, procedures and expectations were introduced in the Advisory periods. Our assistant principals will highlight some of the main topics such as Code of Conduct, Cell Phone Violation, and Dress Code at our Welcome Back Assembly this Thursday. In general, we want to over communicate and prepare all our students for a safe and instructional focused school year.

Meet and Greet PTSO

We'd love for you to join our upcoming Virtual Meet and Greet with the Parent-Teacher-Student Organization (PTSO)! Enjoy a chance to connect with fellow parents, teachers, and students.

WHEN: Tuesday, August 20 at 5:30-6:00 p.m. via Teams.

[Join the meeting now](#) Meeting ID: 223 331 363 097 Passcode: geofjW

Back to School Night

Back to School Night will be Thursday, August 22 from 6:00-8:00pm. During this time, you will get to travel through your student's schedule and go to each of their classes. Your student will come home with the following completed [handout](#), the map of the school will be on the backside. This event is for YOU and an adult only event.

The following organizations will have information tables at Back to School Night: Parent Teacher Student Organization (PTSO), Improve Your Tomorrow (IYT), Robotics After School Program, Earth Mamas Healing, and SCOE support and resources.

Importance of Arriving to Class on Time

Last year we saw a vast number of students being late to class. Students arriving late to class can be disruptive to the learning environment and miss crucial instructional time. Starting Tuesday, 8/27/24, we will be implementing a new system, Pure Data, to improve accuracy and communication of students late to class. Students late to any class will be required to come to the student store to obtain a late pass. When they come to the student store, we will scan their ID card. This will automatically log the time that the student arrived and send a communication to the parent/guardian. The system will also assign consequences after multiple lates to class. Please talk to your child about the importance of getting to all classes on time. Note: Students that arrive late due to bus transportation will receive a pass as they exit the bus to excuse their late arrival.

School Site Council Meeting

The School Site Council is a team of teachers, staff, parents, and students who look at student data and information, and identifies needs and areas for improvement. The team reviews and revises the Single Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA). Members are elected and we do have open positions. Join us on Wednesday, August 28 at 5pm via Teams.

- **Microsoft Teams** :[Join the meeting](#)

Attend today, achieve tomorrow!

Daily attendance is the #1 indicator of emotional wellness and academic growth. Download the PowerSchool app to see real-time updates on your student's attendance, grades, and behavior. Our goal this year is to strive for under five absences this school year. Students that are present for twenty consecutive days will earn a Marauder water bottle, which they will get to add decals throughout the year.

School Meals

School meals are **FREE** for all students (breakfast and lunch). This warm weather is not cooling down. Please pack a full, large water bottle - we want to be sure your student stays hydrated. We do have refillable water station in the cafeteria and in the locker rooms 😊

A MESSAGE FROM THE INSTRUCTIONAL COACH

Students will complete a quick diagnostic task in Language & Literature classes this week and in Math classes next week. Our Renaissance Star Test is an adaptive assessment that follows a student's own capability to determine how we can best support learning throughout this year for him or her personally.

If Star reveals that a student's skills do not reach to grade level, then we can assist him or her to catch up. Imagine if someone had to communicate in paragraphs but was still not sure how to create sentences; or, what if a person had to multiply but they had never truly mastered addition? You can see how this could create frustration in a learning opportunity.

The Star diagnostic results will be used to create a personalized to-do list to help each student to strengthen the skills that are most important for success at grade level.

Though students do not need to study for the Star diagnostic, they should be trying their best and keeping their confidence strong throughout the Star work. Some of the questions will be easy while others will be more challenging. Students shouldn't worry about how many questions they think they get right, or how many they think they get wrong. Everyone will likely miss some of the questions. The main goal is for students to do the best they can. Our wish is for all students to strive toward grade-level mastery and beyond.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR ATTENDANCE TEAM

How to Report an Absence

- Voicemail or an Email to awashington@fcusd.org
- In- person, parent written note, but the quickest way is by utilizing our link https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1chD3Q-jyQJsMveh6OirVLXhZuLDL_MT-P31hsrcNE6M/edit. Please save on your browser for easier access.
- Leave voicemail on the attendance line at 916-294-9050.
- For early dismissals, please leave a voicemail or email awashington@fcusd.org.
- **Going on a trip?** Contact the admin office at least 2 weeks prior to request info on short- term independent study for your student.
- The district does not accept medical notes with indefinite dates of absences.
- If you need to fax a document, please send it to 916-294-2477.

Attendance Update

- Parents are allowed to excuse 10 parent verified absences each school year (IPV). This includes appointments, mental health days and sick days.
- For each of your student’s medical or dental appointments, please obtain a medical note and turn into the admin office ASAP. This excuses their absences and saves your IPV’s.
- All parents/ guardians should download the PowerSchool and Parent Square App on their phone. This will grant you access to your student’s grades, attendance and allow you to directly email your student’s teachers.
- If your student feels their attendance was marked in error, please have them talk to their teacher. The teacher will bring in an attendance correction form to the admin office.

SCHEDULE THIS WEEK: AUGUST 19 - AUGUST 23				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
First Day of Cross Country Practice Girls Volleyball Tryouts	Girls Volleyball Tryouts		Welcome Back Assembly (for students) Back to School Night (for parents), 6-8pm	

LOOKING AHEAD

- Saturday, August 24 Free Sports Physicals, Mills MS (see Mitchell website for details)
- Tuesday, August 27 Begin use of Pure Data
- Tuesday, August 27 Cross Country Parent Informational Meeting, 4pm, Library
- Wednesday, August 28 Girls Volleyball Parent Informational Meeting, 4:45pm, Library
- Wednesday, August 28 Virtual School Site Council Meeting, 5-5:30pm
- Monday, September 2 Labor Day - No Instruction

- Wednesday, September 11 Sports Picture Day - during practice
- Monday, September 16 Fall School Pictures

In partnership,
Sandra Garcia, Ed.D.
Principal, Mitchell Middle School