

MITCHELL WEEK AT A GLANCE

WEEKLY EDITION

September 1, 2024

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Greetings Mitchell Families,

Thank you for your support in stressing the importance of attendance and arriving on time. Our students have been doing a fantastic job at following procedures, we have been communicating and will continue to communicate our 3Bs: Be Safe, Be Respectful, and Be Responsible.

If you have not yet downloaded the ParentSquare app, it is not too late. ParentSquare is our new districtwide communication platform. It is a wonderful way to stay up to date, many of our teachers are utilizing the platform to communicate with families. For more information, please visit this site:

<https://www.fcusd.org/departments/communication-and-community-engagement/parentsquare>.

Flex and FlexiSCHED

Last week our students were introduced to the purpose of Flex. Flex is built-in during Advisory on Wednesday and Thursday to provide students the opportunity of academic support. Friday's Flex is focused on social emotional learning. Social emotional learning revolves on 5 competencies: self-awareness, self-management, responsible decision-making, relationship skills, and social awareness.

This week our students will practice how to log into FlexiSCHED, which is the program that we use to schedule Flex offerings. They will practice on Wednesday and Thursday; on Friday they will get to select an offering. The following are the offerings for this week: <https://mitchell.flexisched.net/getFlexPrint.php>.

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, September 4 at 5pm via Teams.

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

Internet Access

If our Mitchell student is in need of the internet to access the curriculum at home, please reach out to our Parent Coordinator, Ms. Lal to request a hotspot.

A MESSAGE FROM THE LIBRARY TECH

The school library is now officially open to students. They can visit on their own before school, during lunch, and after school. This is also an opportunity for students to check-out, return, or renew library books. Our library has a great selection of Social Emotional Learning (SEL) books, books in other languages, and graphic novels. Maker Space

activities are available during lunch, and every Friday is game day. Please encourage your students to visit their library.

A MESSAGE FROM THE INSTRUCTIONAL COACH

Students completed Renaissance Star diagnostic testing in Math and Reading in recent weeks. Their performance on those tasks has been used to create a *personalized FOCUS SKILLS tutoring experience* in Freckle, an online learning platform in *Renaissance*, linked in *Clever*; that allows students to practice and build their skills in Math and English Language Arts at their own level. Freckle continuously adapts to each student's individual skills, so each student is getting the appropriate challenge, whether they're working at, above, or below grade level. Students can use Freckle on campus and [at home](#).

Flex will begin at Mitchell this week. Flex gives all students time to meet with teachers during Advisory on Wednesdays and Thursdays to get academic support.

In future weeks, Flex might give your student small group instruction or practice before a summative, help or practice with concepts a student is struggling with, or extra support with the current or recent classroom concepts.

Please encourage your children to understand that caring, helpful staff might ask them to join a Flex session for reasons like:

- they feel like something cannot be re-explained or practiced enough during class,
- they have been absent lately and need to ask some questions as they are catching up on missed work,
- they realize that they need help to meet an upcoming due date.

All students will be active in Advisory on Flex days. Students and families will be able to preview the supports available in advance each week. More information will be shared soon.

Flex on Fridays will offer students ways to create connections with others around them through socialization and less academic interaction.

- Tutoring and Math support will be available during lunch every Tuesday in the Project Room. Students do not need to prepare in advance to attend: they should come to the Project Room at the start of lunch to get a lunch line pass and then return to eat and learn.
- Flex Time during Advisory will begin after Labor Day. More details as the time approaches!
- Our Bilingual Instructional Assistants will hold tutoring sessions and offer assistance during Advisory Flex, during the school day, and after school. Times, days, subjects, and locations vary: Please email chatcher@fcusd.org for specific details for academic support in Spanish and Russian.

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.
- 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

- Monday, September 2 Labor Day - No Instruction
- Wednesday, September 4 School Site Council (Virtual) Meeting
- Wednesday, September 11 Sports Picture Day - during practice

LOOKING AHEAD

- Monday, September 16 Fall School Pictures
- Wednesday, October 9 Early Release Day, 1:35pm
- Friday, October 11 End of Quarter 1 - Minimum Day, 12:45pm

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