

# MITCHELL WEEK AT A GLANCE

WEEKLY EDITION

September 8, 2024

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

This is week 5 and we are settling into the year nicely. If you don't already have one, I recommend getting the PowerSchool parent app because it will allow you to see live updates regarding grades and attendance. Speaking of attendance, thank you for your support in ensuring that your student arrives at school on time. We are noticing a decrease in lates throughout the day, please share with your student that we notice their good decision-making.

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>.

### ***School Site Council (SSC) Meeting***

We held our first School Site Council meeting on Wednesday, September 4. We missed you and look forward to your attendance at our next meeting, October 16. The following is information from the meeting:

- Slideshow:  
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1a0fPiB2Tn5ysgobYJz15HRghanWUX3NH/view?usp=sharing>
- Single Plan for Student Achievement:  
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1VIE94AqPnOl5La3NLhzpr4foITJHFXbr/view?usp=sharing>

### ***School Site Council (SSC) Open Seat***

We are currently looking for one parent to be part of this team. If you are interested in becoming a member, please email me by Friday, September 13. Members are elected so after September 13, I will be sending out an electronic ballot. [sgarcia@fcusd.org](mailto:sgarcia@fcusd.org)

### ***Title 1 Letter - Parents' Right to Know***

As listed in the SSC slideshow and Single Plan for Student Achievement, we are a site that receives Title 1 funds. All Title 1 schools provide the letter below at the beginning of the academic school year.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/11rglEJAoo95i7\\_Y\\_SiuMz8Ddqz3TLHGy/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/11rglEJAoo95i7_Y_SiuMz8Ddqz3TLHGy/view?usp=sharing)

### ***Picture Day***

Fall Picture Day is Monday, September 16. To order photos online, visit the website, ID:EVTcN8V8F.

<https://my.lifetouch.com/mylifetouch/#/>

### ***Flex and FlexiSCHED***

We have been introducing our students to Flex and FlexiSCHED, please encourage your students to ask for help before Wednesday. 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. The following are the offerings for this week:

<https://mitchell.flexisched.net/getFlexPrint.php>.

### ***Academic Homework Help***

We will be starting After-School Academic Homework Help at the end of September/beginning of October. Stay tuned for more information in the upcoming weeks.

### ***8th Grade California Hearing Screening***

This year's annual state mandated 8th grade and new-to-California hearing screenings will be conducted at Mitchell Middle School on Tuesday 9/10/24 and Wednesday 9/11/24 during PE class. If you do not want your student screened, please submit a request in writing to Principal Dr. Garcia, by Monday 9/9/24. If your student fails the hearing screening, a re-test will be done 4-6 weeks after the initial screening.

### ***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.

### ***Safety - Bus Loop***

Please do not use the bus loop when picking up your student or as a route, this space is specifically for our school buses, cars in this area are a safety concern.

## **A MESSAGE FROM THE LIBRARY TECH**

Did you know that your library offers weekly Flex, on Wednesday-Friday? Wednesdays and Thursdays we offer a quiet space for our dedicated readers to read without distractions, or interruptions. On Fridays, maker space activities and board games are available for students to communicate, connect, and create.

## **A MESSAGE FROM THE INSTRUCTIONAL COACH**

Our first grading quarter ends in about a month on Friday, October 11. Please be sure to check your student's progress now in *PowerSchool*. You and your student should begin to communicate now with teachers about questions, requests, and concerns. Thank you for early attention at home to academic progress!

Your student's performance on Star Diagnostics for math and reading has been used to create a *personalized FOCUS SKILLS tutoring experience* in Freckle, an online learning platform 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](#).

This week's Flex Schedule offerings are visible through Clever. Flex gives students time to meet with teachers during Advisory on Wednesdays and Thursdays to get academic support. On Fridays, all students will be able to participate in engaging activities through Flex. This week, students will all sign up on Monday during their Advisory for Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

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 weekend through Clever.

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. 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](mailto: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](mailto: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-P31hxrcNE6M/edit](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1chD3Q-jyQJsMveh6OirVLXhZuLDL_MT-P31hxrcNE6M/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](mailto: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**

- Tuesday, September 10 - 8th Grade California Hearing Screening
- Wednesday, September 11 - 8th Grade California Hearing Screening
- Wednesday, September 11 - Sports Picture Day (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
- Monday, October 14 - Non Instructional Day
- Thursday, October 24 - Retake School Picture Day
- Wednesday, October 30 - Fall Concert (Orchestra)
- Thursday, October 31 - Fall Concert (Band)

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