PARKSIDE PRINCIPAL'S PRESS



SEPTEMBER 19TH

Penguin News

This week we practiced both our lockdown drill and bus evacuation drill. Students did an excellent job following directions and staying quiet throughout the process.
At Parkside, we continue to practice our three school rules: Be Responsible, Be Respectful, and Be Safe.

Upcoming Events

9/24/25 - Dental Clinic (During School)

9/26/25 - No School - Institute Day

10/6/25 @6:30 PM - PTO Meeting

10/13/25 - No School - Indigenous People's Day

Mrs. Jones' Desk

Hi Parkside Penguins!
My name is Mrs. Jones, and I am the Assistant Principal at Parkside. Since starting in the spring, I have really enjoyed my time here and getting to know our wonderful community.
I split my time between Parkside and Brigham, so you'll find me at Parkside on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. I look forward to continuing to build relationships with students and families. Please feel free to introduce yourself if you see me around—I'd love to connect!

Warmly,
Mrs. Jones



Attendance Matters

Let's work together to make sure your student has great attendance and can get the most out of their learning opportunities this school year! Having your student in their seat, ready to learn for the entire school day will benefit them, their classmates, and our whole school community.

OUR PROMISE TO YOU

We know that there are a wide variety of reasons that students are absent from school, from health concerns to transportation challenges. There are many people in our building prepared to help you if you or your student face challenges in getting to school regularly or on time. We promise to track attendance daily, to notice when your student is missing from class, communicate with you to understand why they were absent, and to identify barriers and supports available to overcome challenges you may face in helping your student attend school.

WHAT WE NEED FROM YOU

If your student is going to be absent, please contact the school in advance (309-557-4422)

*If you will be picking up your students, call the office before **2 pm** otherwise we will follow guidance in Infinite Campus

ARRIVAL INFORMATION

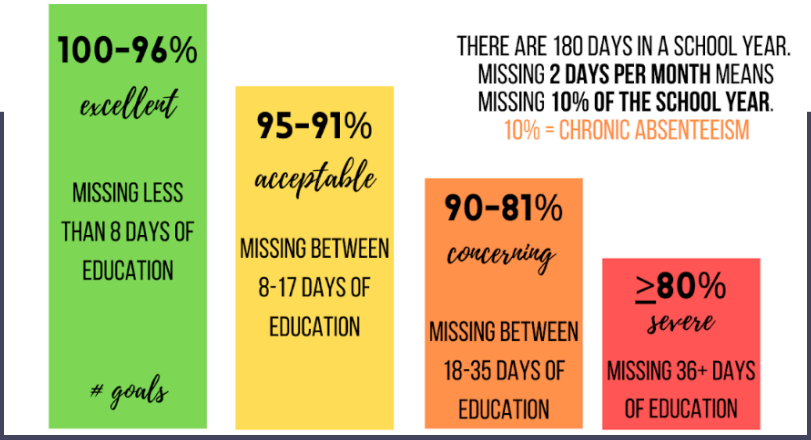
Doors open at 7:25 A.M.

Front Doors close at 7:45 A.M.

Breakfast begins at 7:25. If you are bringing your student to school, please have them here as close to 7:25 as possible so they have time to eat breakfast. Please have your student here on time. It disrupts learning when children arrive late.

HOW WE CAN WORK TOGETHER

- Send your child to school unless they are truly sick, such as fever, vomiting, diarrhea, or a contagious rash.
- Avoid appointments and travel when school is in session.
- Have a back-up plan for getting to school in case something comes up.
- Communicate with the school about how we can work together to support your child's attendance.
- Check Infinite Campus for any bussing updates.



FROM THE DESK OF THE FAMILY COORDINATOR

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING AT SCHOOL ON TIME

SEPTEMBER 2025

DEFINITIONS

Absence- When a child is not present for the school day
-Excused vs. Unexcused absences can be found in the Unit 5 Student Handbook

Truant- "A child who is subject to compulsory school attendance and who is absent without "valid cause" (see Excused Absences above) from such attendance for more than 1% but less than 5% of the past 180 school days."- from the Unit 5 Student Handbook

RESEARCH SHOWS

"Chronic absence — missing 10 percent or more of school days due to absence for any reason—excused, unexcused absences and suspensions—can translate into students having difficulty learning to read by the third-grade, achieving in middle school, and graduating from high school."- from attendanceworks.org

TARDY

"If a student is not in their assigned class at the appropriate time. Tardiness to class is unexcused unless a student presents, upon arrival to class, a Hall Pass that indicates why the student was detained." - from the Unit 5 Student Handbook

STUDENTS NEED TO BE IN THEIR CLASS AND READY AT 7:45AM

SET UP FOR SUCCESS

Being in class and ready **on time** helps set a student up for success! It allows them time to unpack their bag, put their lunch away, participate in the classroom morning meeting, hear important announcements and much more! Being on time helps reduces anxiety in students because they feel prepared and ready for their day!





TARDY PROCEDURE

If your student is late, the parent or guardian, needs to bring them into the office and check them in. The student needs to bring a GREEN pass to class so the teacher is aware they have checked in.

I have checked in at the office

DID YOU KNOW? "Missing just 15 minutes of school twice a week equates to 3 missed school days per year!" – https://www.springmont.com/community/why-its-important-to-be-at-school-on-time/

PBIS Focus:
As Parkside Penguins we will **persevere** and be **trustworthy** with **kindness, empathy, fairness, honesty** and **acceptance**.

See What's Happening at Parkside! !



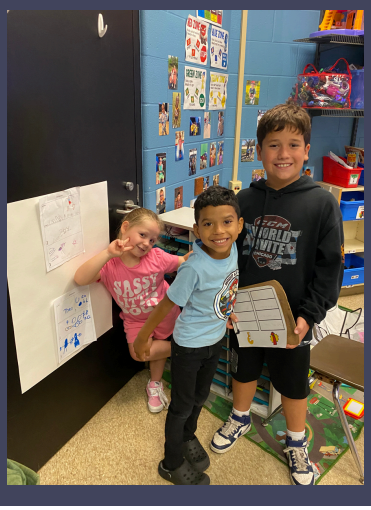
Bus Evacuation Drill
Students helping each other get off the bus safely.



STATION WORK

5TH GRADE MENTORS WORKING AND TALKING WITH OUR KINDERGARTNERS





Reminders

Our lost and found is growing quickly as students take off sweatshirts and jackets while playing. Please be sure to label all clothing items so we can get them back to the correct students.