



First Day of School Update

Welcome Back, Parnassians!

August 22, 2024

Dear Parnassus Families,

In fitting with our school motto — *Finis origine pendet* (“the end depends upon the beginning”) — we have had a very strong start to the first day of school and the 2024-2025 school year. We would like to thank our scholars for their calm and focused demeanor today and for maintaining orderly behavior in the hallways and during lunch. It is encouraging to see our scholars begin the year as they mean to go on: striving for excellence in their academic work, character, and comportment.

We were happy to see our returning scholars back at school after the summer break and to warmly welcome our new students to Parnassus, especially our new Prima scholars who are just beginning their journey in classical education. In true Parnassus fashion, we have quickly gotten down to the joyful business of teaching and classical education.

This strong start to the school year is only made possible by the combined efforts of everyone in our school community, including our wonderful Parnassus families, teachers, staff, and students. As parents and guardians, you have chosen to entrust us with your children’s education and we deeply appreciate your support and involvement.

Our combined efforts to instill in our students a passion for learning, a sense of wonder and appreciation for the world, good work habits, and virtuous character are just beginning. If we stay the course and hold our standards high, we can not only have an exceptional year of school, but we can also set them on the path to success in their future endeavors in school and beyond.

-Ms. Ford, Executive Director



Busing & Transportation

Today and tomorrow, buses may be delayed leaving school as it can take some time to make sure all students know where to find their correct buses. As a reminder, Prima scholars are escorted to their buses by a staff member and we have additional faculty and staff members out by the buses to assist any students who need help. Over the first days of school, we will be working to make our dismissal routines as quick and efficient as possible. We understand that some families who requested busing recently may still be waiting to receive information about their children’s bus stop locations and pick-up and drop-off times. We appreciate your patience as the bus company works to adjust routes to add new students. It is our goal to

accommodate as many families as possible, but it does take time to make changes. If you have questions about bussing, please contact Ms. Banas in the main office at (763) 496-1416 or banas@parnassusprep.com.

Parent Drop-Off & Pick-Up – Friendly Reminders

Parents who drop off their children may walk them to their appropriate school entrance but, for safety, may not enter the building with their children in the mornings. We also appreciate your patience and cooperation with posted signage and safety guidelines when moving through the parking lot.

School Uniforms

Scholars are expected to be in their school uniforms each and every day. School of Rhetoric scholars who are waiting on embroidered blazers from Tommy Hilfiger/Global Schoolwear or The ‘Sota Shop need to notify Principal Hamiel before Monday. *Detentions for uniform violations will begin next week for students in the Schools of Logic and Rhetoric.*

Absences and Dismissal Changes

Each day, we strive to take attendance quickly and accurately so that all of our scholars are safely accounted for. If your child will be absent from school, please call the attendance line at 763-496-1416 ext. 119 or email attendance@parnassusprep.com to notify us. If your child is not present at school and you have not notified us of their absence, you will receive a phone call and text message from the office asking you to contact us.

If you have a dismissal or transportation change for your child, such as switching them to parent pickup for the day or needing to pick them up early for an appointment, please send those requests to dismissalchanges@parnassusprep.com or call the attendance line. Dismissal and transportation change requests must be received by 12:00 noon each day.

Please note: This procedure is meant for occasional changes to your child's normal end-of-day routine. If you need to make a permanent or long-term change to your child's dismissal plan, please contact your child's school main office for a change form.

School Breakfast & Lunch

CKC Good Foods is our contracted food service provider for school breakfast and lunch. CKC Good Food focuses on fresh, wholesome, made-from-scratch, nutritious food. School breakfast and lunch is free for all students, and families do not have to pre-order meals. School of Grammar students should, however, plan on bringing a snack from home each day.

Although students will not be charged for meals, families are still encouraged to apply for Educational Benefits (typically referred to as Free/Reduced Price Meals), as these benefits extend beyond food service. If your child will be getting breakfast or lunch at school, please help them memorize their PIN so that the food service line can move quickly and efficiently.

How do I apply for Free/Reduced Price Meals (Educational Benefits)?

Applications for Educational Benefits are available for the current school year – make sure to reapply if you qualified last year! Follow this link to fill out the application online: <https://www.nlappscloud.com/District.aspx?apply=1>

What if my child forgot their lunch at home?

Students who forget their lunches will be able to get a free lunch from school.

Whom should I contact with questions about school lunch?

Please contact our School Operations Specialist, Ms. Banas, at banas@parnassusprep.com or (763) 496-1416 ext. 264.

Reading Screenings – School of Grammar

Over the next few weeks, we will be doing short, one-on-one literacy screenings with our School of Grammar students, in compliance with the READ Act legislation passed last year and so that we can ensure our scholars are appropriately placed in their reading classes and getting the support they need to be thriving readers. Your child may mention being pulled for screening – these usually take between 5-7 minutes per student and we will work to get them back to class quickly! Once screening is complete, you will receive a parent report that lets you know how you can support your child's reading skills at home.

School of Logic and Rhetoric Lockers

As we adjust back to the start of the school year, we encourage you to work with your children in the Schools of Logic and Rhetoric to memorize their locker combinations. As a reminder, students must use the school-provided locks for their lockers this year. You can find your child's locker number and combination in the Infinite Campus parent portal by clicking the "More" option in the left-side menu and then selecting the option for "Lockers."

To reduce hallway congestion, avoid missed instructional time, and help students learn organizational skills, School of Logic levels each have assigned times during the day when they can access their lockers. Please review the chart below so your child knows when they can go to their locker:

<i>When can I use my locker?</i>	
1L	Before School/ After 1st Period/ After 3rd Period/ After Lunch/ At 3:30 when bells ring at the end of the day.

2L	Before School/ After 3rd Period/ After Lunch/ After 7th Period/ At 3:30 when bells ring at the end of the day.
3L	Before School/ After 2nd Period/ Before Lunch/ After Lunch/ After 7th Period/ At 3:30 when bells ring at the end of the day.
4L	Before School/ After 2nd Period/ After 5th Period/ After Lunch/ At 3:30 when bells ring at the end of the day.
School of Rhetoric	Before School/Between Classes/After School



Follow Us on Instagram!

Following Parnassus on Instagram is a great way for parents, guardians, grandparents, friends of the school, and older students to keep up with activities and events at the school. We call it #keepingupwiththeparnassians. Search for @parnassusprep to see photos and videos each week, as well as reminders of upcoming events. #SeeYouThere

Photos from Our First Day of School!



