

3.19.25

Greetings Pioneer Families,

I hope that you are having a nice week. Here are some updates and reminders. There are many events happening both on and off campus in the remaining weeks for school. I know it can be a lot to keep up with, but please be sure you are also paying close attention to information coming from your student's teachers and school building administration. Between field trips, dances, athletics - much is happening at PSPA!

K-5 Morning Carline

As the year progresses, increasingly we are seeing too many students arriving late to class in the morning. As a reminder, 8:00am is the time in which they should be in their classroom, not when they are arriving on campus. Please plan accordingly to have your student arriving on campus in plenty of time to start the school day off right. Excessive tardies may result in your student missing on extracurricular and school events.

Summer Babysitting Class

Nurse Brothers will be offering babysitting classes in June. Students will learn CPR, basic first aid skills, fire safety, water safety, and learning about how to take care of a newborn up to school aged children. If you are interested in signing up your child, please refer to this <u>online intake form</u> for more details. The cost is \$65 per student (\$60 for multiple sibling's discount). The class is open to rising 6th-9th graders. If you have any additional questions, feel free to contact Nurse Brothers at lbrothers@pinespringsprep.org.

PSPA Pioneer Pages (Read-a-Thon) Update

We're seeing a lot of students carrying books around school, and we're already seeing flat donations coming in from across the country (e.g., Texas, New York, South Carolina, Georgia, just to name a few). It's so exciting to see sponsors, whether they be family or friends, encouraging students to read. Remember, donations are due by Friday, March 28 th, and all donations must be made through our online donation form at pinespringsprep.org/donate. Please do not send cash or checks. Don't forget, all donations are tax-deductible.

A great way to maximize donations is by checking with employers to see if they offer a donation matching program. Many do! Some employers even offer a 1:1 match up to a certain amount. If you're unsure whether your company offers this program, be sure to ask - it could make a huge

difference! You can also search for employer matching programs <u>HERE</u>. If your employer has a matching program, we may be listed as Triangle Education Organization in their database. Please try searching for this name.

This Friday, March 21 st, we're also excited to host "Dress Like Your Favorite Book Character" day! This is a fun way for everyone to get involved and showcase their love of reading. Just a quick reminder that while we encourage creativity, all outfits must be school-appropriate. We can't wait to see all the amazing costumes and celebrate our shared love of reading together!

Pioneer Pages Read-a-Thon Information

If you have any questions or would like to learn more about our PSPA Pioneer Pages fundraiser, please feel free to reach out to Craig Tucker, Director of Strategic Partnerships (ctucker@pinespringsprep.org).

National History Day Competition

PSPA has nearly 40 students participating in the state regionals of National History Day competition at Alamance Community College this Saturday. Go Pioneers!

Kudos to our 8 th Grade DC-trip Students

Each year our 8 th grade students have the opportunity to travel to Washington DC for an educational field trip. This past weekend a bus load of students explored DC and the reports I have received about how well they represented our school have been exceptional. So proud of them!

<u>Upper School Update</u>

Last night PSPA presented to the Holly Springs Town Council our site development plans for our proposed Upper School. Site development approval is the final step needed so that we can being working on securing building permits.

Thank you to the parents who wrote emails of support and/or attended Tuesday's council meeting. We have now been through two Town Planning Board Meeting and two Town Council Meetings and have received a unanimous vote of support each time. This doesn't happen by accident but rather through the commitment of parents and staff who have contributed to the process.

School Calendar Revisions

Earlier this month I shared some changes to our current and future school calendar. I want to again share with you so that they are not overlooked.

The changes are:

2024-25:

 May 23, 2025, will be a ½ day (Last day of school for students). Elementary dismissal at 11:30am / Middle School dismissal at Noon.

2025-26:

• December 19, 2025 will change from a ½ day to a full school day.

- May 27, 2026 to be the last day of school for students (previously 5/22/26)
- May 29, 2026 to be last day of school for 10-month staff (previously 5/27/26)

The school calendar is posted on our website.

Spring Break

Friendly reminder, Spring Break is March 31 - April 4. Students return to school on Monday, April 7, 2025.

Wishing you and your family a great day!

Mr. Friend

Head of School