

H. B. PLANT HIGH SCHOOL ORIENTATION NEWSLETTER 2024~2025

WELCOME



DATES TO REMEMBER

OPEN HOUSE

Thursday, August 8, 2024

9th Graders & all new-to-Plant students Orientation
5:00 P.M.~7:00 P.M.

Please report to the gymnasium for meeting from 5:00-5:30pm
then Homeroom to get your most recent schedule
and then walk your schedule.

Returning 11th & 12th Graders
2:30 P.M.~3:20 P.M.

Please report to your Homeroom to get your
most recent schedule and then walk your schedule.

Returning 10th Graders
3:30 P.M.~4:30 P.M.

Please report to your Homeroom to get your
most recent schedule and then walk your schedule.

SENIOR COLLEGE INFORMATION MEETING

Thursday, August 29, 2024

5:00 P.M. – 6:15 P.M. in the auditorium
ALL Seniors and/or their Parents must attend.





Strength Through Unity



A SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to the 2024-2025 school year! Let me be the first to share with you how excited we are to begin a new year full of rigorous instruction to engage our students. Your student(s) are in excellent hands, and we are fortunate to have such a strong, dedicated community of faculty, students, and parents at Plant High School.

Included in this newsletter is a great deal of important information. Thus, I ask that you take your time and read it in its entirety. The policies and procedures will undoubtedly affect you and your student. Emergency cards will go home by the second day of school. **IT IS CRITICAL THAT THESE CARDS ARE CORRECTED AND RETURNED. WE CANNOT SIGN A STUDENT OUT OF SCHOOL WITHOUT A SIGNED EMERGENCY CARD LISTING VALID EMERGENCY INFORMATION.** This emphasis placed on accurate emergency information is a measure to protect both students and parents.

The Plant High School Student Handbook is available on our website [Plant High / Homepage \(hillsboroughschools.org\)](https://hillsboroughschools.org). Included in the handbook is information concerning every facet of Plant High School life - from academics and athletics to extra-curricular, honor, and service club activities. Every parent and student should become familiar with the handbook. The Student Code of Conduct is on the district's website [Student Code of Conduct / Overview \(hillsboroughschools.org\)](https://hillsboroughschools.org).

I sincerely encourage all incoming freshmen, new students, and their parents to attend the **Freshman/New Student Orientation** on August 8, 2024, at 5:00 P.M. in the Plant gymnasium. At the end of the meeting, students will report to Homeroom to pick up the most recent copy of their schedule and will then have an opportunity to walk through that schedule, at their convenience, until 7:00 P.M.

Returning Student Open House 11th and 12th Graders

- 2:30 pm - Report to Homeroom to pick up their tentative schedule.
- 2:35 pm - 3:20 pm - 11th and 12th graders will walk their schedule.

10th Graders

- 3:30 pm - Report to Homeroom to pick up their tentative schedule.
- 3:35 pm - 4:30 pm - 10th graders will walk their schedule.

We encourage students to be out of the building by 4:30 P.M.

Sincerely,

Kimi Hellenberg, Principal

NEWS AND INFORMATION FROM THE STUDENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Plant High School has six school counselors to meet the needs of students, including 5 traditional school counselors and a college and career counselor. The counseling department focuses on the whole student's development, providing personal-social, academic, and college and career counseling. Services are provided for students through individual or small group meetings and through classroom presentations by grade level. For the senior year, the assigned (alpha) counselors hold individual meetings with every senior in the graduating class to review graduation requirements, provide guidance with academics and the college process, and will write the senior's college letter of recommendation. Our college and career counselor is an additional resource for students.

School social workers provide additional personal-social support and resources to students. They also help oversee attendance concerns. The school psychologist is at Plant two days a week and provides personal-social support and evaluations for students.

GET CONNECTED

Visit our Guidance Website at <http://planthighguidance.weebly.com> for answers to FAQs and to have quick and easy access to resources and important information. Information is shared during the year via a department newsletter and more resources are available on Canvas.

REVIEW OUR BACK TO SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

For information from the school counseling department about resources and answers to commonly asked questions about report card grades, FLVS, dual enrollment, and more at <https://secure.smcore.com/n/puc5a>

YOUR SCHOOL COUNSELORS AND NEW STUDENT ASSIGNMENTS

***Please note the change in your student's assigned counselor by alpha.

9th ~ 12th Grade Traditional School Counselors:

Jamie Welford	A-C	240
Lisa Poirier	D-Hi	241
Athena Dicus	Ho-Mi & Dept. Head	238
Allison Castellano	Mo-Sa	243
Randi Litwak	Sc-Z	242

College and Career Resource Counselor:

Lauren Moseley	College and Career	281
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Other helpful resources:

Lisa Arellano	Guidance Secretary	225
Kathleen Cachon	Registrar	234
Leila Daugherty	School Psych, part-time	261
Shelby Parker	Social Worker	293
Clayton Wilson	Social Worker, part-time	261
Kristen Lehman	Program Advisor, part-time	282

2024-25 UNOFFICIAL SCHEDULES

Unofficial copies of student schedules are typically mailed prior to open house. **Important information regarding necessary schedule error corrections is below.**

We are continuing to balance classes to achieve lowest numbers in each classroom, therefore schedules are not final until class balancing is complete. You will receive a copy of your schedule at Open House and again in homeroom on the first day of school. You may see changes to your schedule that you did not request due to our continued class size balancing efforts. Class choices are available at: <http://planthighguidance.weebly.com/curriculum-guide.html>.

SCHEDULE CORRECTIONS

SCHEDULE CONCERN FORMS will be available starting the first week of school for students to submit a schedule correction. Corrections will only be processed through this method. We have a NEW scheduling system this year, and counselors will make **necessary corrections** to schedules throughout the first few weeks of school. Concerns will only be addressed during the class period when there is an issue. Special requests cannot be considered, just corrections for errors (missing lunch, missing a class). **Due to the number of students with virtual periods, it is not possible to align the lunch period with virtual periods off.**

If a request can be accommodated, then students will receive the updated schedule as soon as the correction can be made.

Closed Classes: AP Euro, APES, AP Bio, AP Capstone Research, AP Capstone Seminar, Speech, Debate, TV Production 1, Latin 2, & Latin 3 Honors

Classes not being offered: Psych 1 & Psych 2, AICE Drama, Legal Systems, Creative Writing 1 & 2, Communication Methods Honors

THESE REASONS ARE NOT CONSIDERED CORRECTIONS:

- LUNCH preference
- TEACHER preference
- Electives changes
- Preference for specific class periods
- Requesting closed classes
- Requesting VIRTUAL PERIODS (DEADLINE WAS APRIL)

****The only method to request a schedule correction is by Schedule Correction Form.**

BRIGHT FUTURES COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS

Students will be able to submit service hours after the first month of school. More information will be shared by Mrs. Moseley after school begins. In the meantime, students can log hours on the forms that are at this link: <https://secure.smores.com/n/puc5a>

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Kimi Hellenberg	Principal	222
Charles (Phil) Morris	Asst. Principal for Curriculum	226
Evanitta Omensetter	Asst. Principal for Administration	227
Dr. Valerie Fuchs	Asst. Principal for Student Affairs, A-Gn	235
David Webb	Asst. Principal for Student Affairs, Go-O	232
Gabriel Naspinski	Asst. Principal for Student Affairs, P-Z	233

SWITCHBOARD OPERATES FROM 7:30 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANCE

Wendy Kelly	Principal's Secretary	223
Rosaura Duprey	AP Administration & Athletics Secretary	224
Sheila Kestran	AP Curriculum Secretary	292
Edith (Julie) Rosado	Student Affairs Secretary	230
Kaitlyn Franklin	Student Affairs Secretary	256
Katrice Williams	Student Affairs Secretary	231
Lisa Arellano	Guidance Secretary	225

OTHER STAFF

Donna Kroegel	Bookkeeper	228
Carole Morales	Data Processor	229
Kathleen Cachon	Registrar	234
Ofc. Scott Bowman	School Resource Officer	274
Tiffany Lee	ESE Specialist	285
Jenise Gorman, Ph.D	Climate and Culture Resource Teacher	236
Kayla Spilman, RN	Nurse, School Clinic	295
TBD	Nurse, School Clinic	295
Matthew Penn	Media Center Specialist	259
Thomas Lee	Student Nutrition Services Manager	276





LOOK for it!



On the first/second day of school, your child will receive several forms some of which will need to be completed and returned to school.

PLEASE collect all forms from your child, complete them and **RETURN** them with your student the next day to the school.

Students should return them to their Homeroom teacher or the Student Affairs Office.

Emergency Card

REQUIRED from every student.

- The emergency card has been pre-printed for your convenience.
- *The PARENT or court-appointed GUARDIAN must complete updates/corrections to the emergency card.* PLEASE, ONE parent/guardian must SIGN and DATE the card.
- PLEASE REVIEW EACH LINE OF INFORMATION for accuracy and especially complete any blank boxes, e-mail and medical information. Please correct any inaccurate data on the card. If it does not apply to your student, please put “n/a” (not applicable) in the box.
- RESIDENCE ADDRESS: *If the student resides at an address different from the one listed, the parent/guardian MUST COMPLETE a “Change of Address” form with Parent/Guardian Signature and provide copies of 1) your current TECO or City of Tampa water bill AND 2) your LEASE or Current Tax Bill as PROOF of ownership. Pick up and submit Change of Address forms in the Student Affairs office. **The official record WILL NOT update by changing the address on the emergency card.***

Other forms to look for may include:

Student Likeness Release Form, Student Health Clinic Form, **Student Code of Conduct**, Bus Transportation, and others.



STUDENT AFFAIRS OFFICE (SAO)



Parents/Guardians, your assistance and cooperation are needed in reporting your child's absence. For your child to be "excused," you will be required to call or visit the school the day your child is absent. We provide teachers with same day feedback on student absences. This allows us to keep track daily and try to notify you of any problems.

ATTENDANCE POLICY BRIEF

The educational program offered by this District is predicated on the student's presence. This is based on continuity of instruction and classroom participation. Attendance shall be required of all students enrolled in the schools during the days and hours that the school is in session. School attendance shall be the responsibility of parents/legal guardians and students. Absences shall be reported to the school attendance office by the parent/legal guardian on the day the absence occurred.

HCPS Full text: <https://web.hillsboroughschools.org/policymanual> Section 5200

TO REPORT A WHOLE DAY ABSENCE

A parent must explain the reason by telephone, preferably on the day the absence occurs but ***WITHIN NO MORE THAN 3 BUSINESS DAYS AFTER THE ABSENCE***. You may access ***the 24-hours COMPUTER automated attendance line by calling 813-272-3033; push 1 and you will be forwarded to the attendance line voicemail.***

NOTE: Absences *cannot be cleared, as is sometimes requested, at the end of a marking period. The absence is submitted to the Florida Board of Education. Absences must be excused as they occur.*

Parents/guardians of truant students must meet with the Assistant Principal for Student Affairs. The school will make every effort to contact the parent/guardian whenever a student's absence has not been explained.

EXCUSED ABSENCE

The HCPS Board considers the following factors to be reasonable excuses for time missed at school:

- Personal illness of the student. A student who has demonstrated a pattern of absences due to illness may be required to present medical verification to the principal.
- Court appearance of the student.
- Medical appointment of the student. A note from a health care provider may be required.
- An approved school activity.
- Emergencies that are acceptable to the student's Assistance Principal in Student Affairs.
- Other absences as approved by the student's Assistant Principal in Student Affairs.
- A written request from the parent/legal guardian is submitted to the student's Assistance Principal in SAO at least three days prior to the date of absence. The parent/guardian will be notified of the decision.
- Attendance at a center under Children and Families Services supervision.
- Accident resulting in injury to the student.
- Significant community events with prior permission of the principal. When more than one school is involved, the Regional Superintendent will determine the status of the absence.
- Observance of an established religious holiday.
- Death of a close relative. For purposes of this policy, close relatives shall be defined as the father, mother, brother, sister, husband, wife, son, daughter (or in-law), stepfather, stepmother, stepbrother, stepsister, half-sister, half-brother, stepchild, uncle, aunt, niece, nephew, grandparents, grandchild, or members of his/her own household.



MAKE-UP WORK

- If the absences are excused, all educational requirements for the course shall be met before a passing grade and/or credit is assigned. A student whose absence has been excused shall be permitted to make up the work missed provided that the student makes arrangements with teachers within three days of the student's return to school. It is the student's responsibility to make these arrangements. **Students shall submit make up work within the deadlines set by the teachers.** Students on school business shall be counted present and required to make up work missed.
- A student suspended out-of-school shall receive a grade of “zero” for tests and/or graded work missed.
- **Unexcused absence make-up work is at the discretion of the classroom teacher.**
- A student receiving EPIC may make-up work providing all days assigned are attended.

SCHOOL BUSINESS

Students on school business shall be counted present and required to make up work missed.

Examples of school business are:

- Participation in a regularly scheduled, school-sponsored athletic event.
- A school office summons.
- Other approved activities, such as Student Council, National Honor Society, PTSA, pep rallies, class meetings, club meetings, field trip, senior graduation activities, or an event that is designated by the principal and approved by the Regional Superintendent.
- An academic activity directly related to the instructional outcomes of one or more courses.

STUDENT ABSENCE NOTIFICATION

- Hillsborough County Public Schools will call the home when your child is marked absent at the time official (1st period) attendance is taken.
- A student who is absent from class but who is not listed on the absentee bulletin (possibly skipping) shall be reported by the teacher to the student's Assistant Principal in Student Affairs.
- A student absent six (6) or more days in a nine-week grading period may be required to present medical evidence or have the parent visit the school to verify absences.
- When a student accumulates ten (10) absences from the designated attendance period during a nine-week grading period, a parental notice is available from the automated attendance accounting system. Upon receipt of this notification, the appropriate school personnel shall attempt to contact the parent or guardian by telephone.

ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR MINORS TO MAINTAIN THEIR DRIVING PRIVILEGE

STATE LAW REQUIRES that students, 14 to 18 years of age, who have not earned a high school diploma, who have 15 unexcused absences in any period of 90 calendar days, be ineligible for driving privileges. School districts are required by this legislation to report to the State of Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV), the names of any students who have accumulated 15 unexcused absences in any period of 90 calendar days.



The student who is reported will be informed by the DHSMV that his/her name has been received and he/she may lose the privilege to drive. Should a student be contacted by DHSMV with information, he/she may initiate a request for a hardship waiver or a request for reinstatement of driving privilege through the Student Affairs Office. Effective January 5, 1999, students who accumulate 15 unexcused absences in any period of 90 calendar days will be reported by the school to the DHSMV. Please follow the attendance procedure that has been established in order that students are not reported unexcused when they should be excused.

TARDINESS

A student is tardy when the student arrives after the beginning of the school day or when the student is not in the assigned seat or station when the tardy bell rings in any class period. A tardy student who arrives to class more than 15 minutes after the start of the class period shall be counted as absent.

UNEXCUSED TARDINESS

1. An unexcused tardy exists when a student is not in his or her assigned seat or station when the tardy bell begins to ring.
2. Tardiness is cumulative for each 9-weeks grading period and across class periods.
3. A student should make every effort to be in class on time; however, any student failing to make an effort to attend class will be considered tardy and subject to disciplinary action.
4. Excessive unexcused tardiness shall be considered willful disobedience, and the student will be subject to disciplinary action including suspension. The Assistant Principal will notify the student's parents for violations greater than a warning.

“SIGN-IN” – ARRIVING TO SCHOOL AFTER THE START OF SCHOOL

A parent/guardian should call **272-3033 ext. 230 or 231** to speak to a SAO secretary or leave a message on automated ext. 400 (push 1 on the auto attendant) prior to the student arriving to school or within ONE day of the tardy. **Any student reporting late to school at any time must report to the Student Affairs Office before going to class.** The Student Affairs Office will verify all sign-ins to parent/guardian contact list. **Students are allowed to sign in late a maximum of five (5) times (either by parent call-in or parent walk-in) for each 9-week period. Any additional sign-ins will be considered unexcused unless the student presents a doctor's note.**

“SIGN-OUT” - LEAVING SCHOOL BEFORE DISMISSAL TIME

A parent/legal guardian must call the Student Affairs Office **272-3033 (push 4) ext. 230 or 231** to speak to a secretary. Effort should be made to have departure time coincide with the end of a class period to avoid disruption of class time with phone calls to the classroom. Any student who must leave the school grounds during the school day **must have clearance from the Student Affairs Office and must report to the Student Affairs Office to receive a sign-out pass prior to leaving.** Parental contact must be made for all sign-outs. Any student leaving school after having arrived on campus, including pre-school hours, without signing out will be subject to disciplinary action which may include suspension; the absence will be considered unexcused. A current emergency card must be on file before a student is permitted to sign out. **THERE WILL BE NO SIGN OUTS WITHIN 30 MINUTES OF DISMISSAL.** Signing out more than five (5) times in a 9-weeks period will require a doctor's note to be considered excused.

TELEPHONE CALLS AND/OR LUNCH TO STUDENTS

To keep class time productive and students' concentration uninterrupted, parents are asked to make clear with their student any alternate plan regarding transportation, medical appointments, etc. Only in cases of emergency will such messages be considered for delivery and only in cases of emergency will students be called out of class. The Student Affairs Office reserves the right to make such a decision and act accordingly.

We do not allow lunch drop-offs in the office or anywhere on campus.

Students should come to school with lunch or get lunch from the cafeteria. An emergency lunch can be obtained should a student require one. Payment for the lunch can be made the following day. Plant High is a closed campus; **students are not allowed to sign-out or leave campus for lunch.**



BULLYING

The School Board is committed to providing an educational setting that is safe, secure, and free from bullying and harassment for all students and employees.

Plant High School has a great student body that exhibits respect daily. Many of our students participate in Unity Day, a program that assists students in handling peer pressure situations and occurs quarterly. Students also can participate in activities sponsored by Stand Up, Plant's Bullying Prevention Program. Bullying and/or harassment of any student or school employee is PROHIBITED during any educational and/or school sponsored program. This includes all activities at any HCPS institution, school bus and/or using data or computer software that is accessed through an HCPS computer. Community members are strongly encouraged to report any incident of bullying or harassment in writing to the Plant Administration.

HCPS Policy: <https://web.hillsboroughschools.org/policymanual/detail/521>

SOME ADVICE ABOUT SCHOOL CLOTHES SHOPPING

Most shopping for school clothes occurs before our orientation program. We urge you to use good judgment while clothes shopping, with an eye to the safety of your student. Also, be aware that the total-school air conditioning, with the "central control" for individual rooms is not always set ideally and can prevent comfort when attire is too scanty or brief (for example, sleeveless attire for girls). Many girls choose to bring a lightweight sweater/jacket to wrap around their shoulders or place on their lap. **SHIRTS THAT EXPOSE THE MIDRIF ARE NOT ALLOWED.** Proper T-shirts should be worn, and with no sexual innuendo and/or puns. Such innuendo has no place at school. Again, your cooperation is appreciated.

DRESS CODE

- Shoes shall be worn. Skate tennis shoes and bedroom slippers are unacceptable and not allowed.
- Clothing that exposes the entire shoulder, tube tops, spaghetti straps, or similar type of clothing may only be worn with a blouse or shirt. Clothing exposing the torso or the midriff, either front, back, or sides shall not be worn. Underwear shall not be visible. Boys' shirts shall have sleeves.
- Clothing shall not expose the mid-chest area. Clothing not properly fastened or with tears that are indecent shall not be worn.
- Clothing traditionally designed as undergarments or sleepwear shall not be worn as outer garments.
- All pants and shorts shall be secured at the waist. Underwear shall not be visible. Mini-skirts, mini-dresses, and short shorts shall not be permitted. Hemlines shall be no shorter than fingertip length.
- Hair shall be clean and neatly groomed. Head coverings shall not be worn in the building unless required for religious observance or health-related reasons.
- Garments and/or jewelry that display or suggest sexual, vulgar, drug, gang, weapons, or alcohol-related wording or graphics, or that provoke or may tend to provoke violence or disruption in the school, shall not be worn. Wallet chains shall not be worn.

Any student in violation of this policy will receive a consequence and be provided with a change of clothes. If a student commits multiple infractions, he/she will be subject to disciplinary action.

STUDENT ARRIVAL and DEPARTURE

Students being dropped off or picked up are to **ONLY** be dropped off or picked up on Himes Ave in front of the school. Parents should not enter campus from any access point to drop off or pick up a student. **ALL** student drivers are to enter/exit through the Dale Mabry Hwy. gate (West side) **ONLY**. **NO** arrival or departure access is available on the East or North side of the school. The Sterling Gate (intersection of San Miguel St. and Sterling Ave.) will strictly be for bus and pedestrian access.

See MAP on next page for visual representation.

Be aware of the following:

- **MANY STUDENTS WALK TO SCHOOL. FOR THE SAFETY OF OUR STUDENTS, PLEASE USE EXTRA CAUTION WHEN DRIVING ON AND AROUND THE PHS CAMPUS!**
- Do NOT speed.
- Unlike Middle and Elementary schools, several hundred of our students drive to school, which increases traffic entering and exiting the campus. The only entrance for student drivers is the Dale Mabry gate, as the student parking lot is located through it.
- Arriving before 8:15 A.M. and departing after 3:40 P.M. (2:40 P.M. on Mondays) are optimal to steer clear of high traffic times.
- Please do not enter the campus (student parking or media center faculty parking areas) to drop off or pick up your child.
- Please be respectful of our neighbors... do not block driveways or traffic lanes.
- No entry or exit is allowed on the South side (Palmira St. at Sterling Ave.) of the school. This gate is always locked.



Dale Mabry Hwy. Gate (West side, rear of school)

- The Dale Mabry gate is locked each morning at 8:45 A.M. No entry/exit occurs during school day.
- A traffic light is present at this intersection.
- Southbound traffic on S. Dale Mabry Hwy. CANNOT turn left into PHS campus (Dale Mabry gate) during the hour prior to school opening, 7:30 – 8:30 A.M.
- In the morning, entry via this gate may only be obtained when Northbound on S. Dale Mabry Hwy (right turn) OR crossing Eastbound at the light on W. San Carlos Street (at Steak ‘n Shake).
- Gate re-opens at 3:20 P.M.
- Exit via this gate allows for left (Southbound Dale Mabry), right (Northbound Dale Mabry) turns and straight (Westbound San Carlos).

“Sterling Gate” at San Miguel St. and Sterling Ave. (North side, adjacent to the water tower)

- The Sterling gate will strictly be used for school buses only.

Himes Ave (East side, front of the school)

- Parents dropping off students may **NOT** enter the Staff parking lots located on the southeast and northeast corners of the school buildings. Students are to be dropped curbside on S. Himes Avenue.
- Students arriving/departing on the northbound lane of Himes Avenue should use the crosswalk in front of the school to cross the street.
- PHS student drivers may **NOT** use the gate at Himes Avenue or Sterling Ave during the arrival and departure times. There is **NO** access to the student parking lot via those gates at those times.

Thank you for your cooperation.

See MAP on next page for visual representation.

SECURITY FENCING

Once classes begin, we lock all gates for the duration of the school day. For the safety of our students, we ask that you please present identification when requesting access at the ONE access point by the Main Office (North side of building 8). Students who drive and are late for school may gain access to the parking lot with a valid PHS parking pass and only through the Himes Avenue gate.

STUDENT DROP~OFF/PICK~UP POINTS



KEY	
	= Acceptable Drop-off or Pick-up location
	= Prohibited Drop-off or Pick-up location
	= Traffic flow indicators
NOT DRAWN TO SCALE	

STUDENT PARKING

Sale of parking permits will occur via MyPaymentPlus.com (MPP) and begin a week before the start of school. Sales will be to **SENIORS ONLY** prior to the start of school. **If you do not have a parking permit, then you may not park on campus.** Please follow directions in MPP. Don't have an MPP account? Go to: www.hillsboroughschools.org/domain/4910 for directions.

Parking applications are available to **SENIORS**. Students with a debt to the school are not eligible.

Parking permits will be made available to seniors starting 7/30/2024 at 7:00 A.M. until midnight on 8/25/2024. Seniors purchase their parking permits online at MyPaymentsPlus.com. Parking permits are \$20.

Due to limited parking SOPHOMORES and FRESHMEN are **not** allowed to park on campus.

Depending on the number of parking permits sold to Seniors, JUNIORS will have an opportunity to purchase a parking permits through a fair and transparent lottery system. More information will be communicated to the JUNIORS.

Any student choosing to park without a proper authorization is subject to disciplinary action.

Parking permits should be used **ONLY** by the student to whom it was issued and in the **ONE** car for which it was issued. Misuse of a parking permit will cause student(s) to lose their parking privilege and be subject to other disciplinary action. Seniors who accumulate ten or more unexcused absences will forfeit their parking privilege.

Please be reminded that off campus parking carries a risk of protest from residents as well as a security issue. Students should use caution when parking off campus. City of Tampa parking fines can exceed \$30. Here is a list of common illegal parking seen in the area. Please avoid them.

- | | |
|--|---|
| (1) Parked in a no parking zone | (6) Parked over 12" from curb |
| (2) Parked less than 10' from driveway | (7) Parked facing traffic |
| (3) Parked less than 15' from a fire hydrant | (8) Parked across from driveway (if road is less than 25' wide) |
| (4) Parked less than 30' from a stop sign | |
| (5) Parked less than 20' from a crosswalk | |

Notice: Vehicles on the property of Plant High School are subject to search by school officials.

Disciplinary action will be taken for illegal possession of weapons, alcoholic beverages, drugs, and/or narcotics on the school grounds, surrounding the school grounds or at any school function.



BUS ROUTE INFORMATION



Bus Routes for 2024-2025 will be available July 25, 2024

Please check for the bus route schedules at

[Transportation Services / Find My Bus Stop \(hillsboroughschools.org\)](http://Transportation Services / Find My Bus Stop (hillsboroughschools.org))

Click on the "Find My Bus Stop" link.

OTHER CAMPUS NOTABLE INFORMATION

GYMNASIUM INSIDE ADVERTISING OPTION OFFERED

The offer of inside-gymnasium advertising is being made, again this school year. Previous monies raised were used for: gym floor cover, athletic locker room facility, folding team chairs, and roster name plates. Money generated funds items deemed vital to athletic programs. Our digital scorers' table is equipped with a 58" high resolution display. Create an awesome commercial-style advertisements for 15 or 30 seconds or we can display your company logo. New 30 second ads are available for \$500 and renew in subsequent years for \$300. The logo will be displayed at all sporting events and other community/school functions when the scores table is utilized. Interested parties should contact Coach Carrie Mahon at carrie.mahon@hcps.net.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

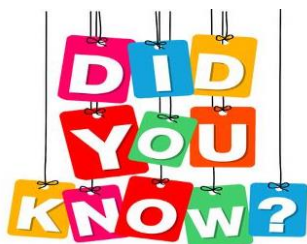
The PE department will be selling PE uniforms the first week of school during PE classes. PE uniforms are required for any physical education class. The cost of the uniform is \$20.00 per set or \$10.00 per shirt or shorts. The check should be made out to PHS Athletic Foundation. Contact Carrie Mahon with questions at carrie.mahon@hcps.net.

PREPARING COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

Official transcripts and recommendation letters MUST be requested through the Naviance platform. There will be a deadline for requesting transcripts and recommendations for college applications. Please plan to review the updated senior handbook at <https://planthighguidance.weebly.com/senior-handbook.html> for updated deadlines and other important information and take this into consideration when preparing college applications. Naviance web link: <https://student.naviance.com/planths>

PLANT RECEIVES TERRIFIC ACHIEVEMENTS

This year, Plant High School is rated as a Top 100 High School from The Washington Post. Additionally, Plant continues to set the standard in FSA/EOC reading, writing and math scores in the Hillsborough County School District. Our 2023 senior class received approximately \$22 million in scholarship money. 96% of the senior class is attending a higher education institution this upcoming year. Multiple PHS teams won numerous athletic and academic team awards. All the credit goes to the hard work completed by our faculty and students and the support given by the community. Our goal is to continue to improve all students' academic and athletic achievements.



Look for your 24-25 calendar magnet with student first day papers!

Need to know?

- When report cards are ONLINE?
- The days when there is no school?
- When the grading period ends? etc.

Hillsborough County Public School
District CALENDARS
are accessible online!

Go to
[Hillsborough County Public Schools / District Calendar](https://hillsboroughschools.org)
(hillsboroughschools.org)

We recommend you bookmark this webpage!



**MONDAY,
AUGUST 12,
2024**

Students **ABSENT** on
the first day of school
are **withdrawn** from Plant
High School as "Did Not
Enter" (DNE).

It is very important that
students attend school on
the first day!



PHS Choral Dept. Announces Annual Choir Camp: PRELUDE 2024

Hey, Hey Kids! Our annual one-day choir camp, PRELUDE 2024, is almost here and you know what that means. It's time to dust off those vocal cords and get ready for another outstanding season of making great music with 60 of your closest friends.

When? Thursday, August 8, 2024, from 9:00 am-5:00 pm.

Where? PHS Auditorium, 9:00 am for Check-In.

What? Our day together will include vocal workouts, ensemble rehearsals for our PHS Alma Mater, Fight Song and National Anthem, choreography workshop, uniform fitting and assignment, fun team building activities, and our first official performance of the year at the Freshman Orientation at 5:00 pm in the PHS Gymnasium.

Do I need to be there? Yes! All are welcome. Mandatory for all chorus students: new and returning, male and female, auditioned and non-auditioned. If you are enrolled in a chorus at Plant, we will see you on Thursday, August 8.

What does it cost? Plenty! Lucky for you, our Plant Chorus Booster Club is picking up the tab. Our gracious parent support organization has generously agreed to provide lunch, snacks and t-shirts for everyone.

What do I wear? Comfortable clothes you can "move" in for the day. You will receive your official Plant chorus T-shirt to wear for the performance that afternoon.

How do I sign up?

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdD9ubP8KokZvYrz_n_fTBilfEcHqZuE0jaARHLNeKdk5pYJA/viewform?usp=sf_link

Need any help? Absolutely! This is a perfect opportunity for parents to get involved too! All volunteer spots are available on Cuttime!

Everyone comes and have fun singing, dancing and performing together and earn your first 100 merits for the 2024 season. See You There!

Please reach out to Ms. Zellen for any chorus questions at Shelby.Zellen@hcps.net



[H.B. Plant High School Band – The Best High School Band! \(hbplantband.com\)](http://hbplantband.com)

- July 31 - Leadership Camp/Training 9am-4pm
- August 1 - Full Band Camp 2-9pm (dinner break 5-6pm)
- August 2 - Full Band Camp 2-9pm (dinner break 5-6pm)
- August 5 - Full Band Camp 2-9pm (dinner break 5-6pm)
- August 6 - Full Band Camp 2-9pm (dinner break 5-6pm)
- August 7 - Full Band Camp 2-9pm (dinner break 5-6pm)
- August 8 - Full Band/Dancero Photo 2pm in gym
- August 8 - Senior Individual Pictures 2-5pm for senior night banner and individual senior banners.
- August 8 - Band Football Band/Stands Only Camp 2-5pm (10-12 graders will be able to pick up schedules and visit classes)
- August 8 - Band Performance for 9th grade open house 4:30-5pm in gym
- August 9 - Full Band Camp 2-9pm (dinner break 5-6pm)
- August 12 - Marching Band Rehearsal 2:45-3:30pm
- August 12 - Percussion/Color Guard Rehearsal 5:30-8:30pm
- August 15 - Full Marching Band Rehearsal 5:30-8:30pm
- August 15 - **Required parent meeting 6pm in auditorium**
- August 16 - First Football Game Performance 4:45-10:30pm *(need parent volunteers to work the parking lot and chaperone the game. Please complete the district volunteer application, Level 1).*

Marching Show

Our Marching Show Theme this year is titled "Now is the Time" and will feature the following musical selections:

- The Best of Times by Styx
- Time after Time by Cyndi Lauper
- Too Much Time on Your Hands by Styx
- Aquarius by 5th Dimension
- Clocks by Coldplay
- Rock Around the Clock by Bill Haley (Dance/Guard/Percussion Feature)
- One More Time by Daft Punk (Dance/Guard/Percussion Feature)
- Time of your Life by Green Day
- Closing Time by Semisonic

"In this moment, yesterday is gone, tomorrow is not promised, we only have today... NOW is the time."

Important reminder for ALL Band students:

All Band and Color Guard students MUST complete Athletic Clearance/Home Campus before camp starts. Band students not in marching band must still complete Home Campus. This is a district mandate that we must follow for the safety of your child! Directions may be found in the band room and/or on the Plant Athletic website.

<https://www.hillsboroughschools.org/domain/4883#calendar21448/20240725/month>

Washington D.C. Trip:

Wind Ensemble/Senior Trip/Performance to Washington D.C. is scheduled for April 2-6, 2025. Information was sent out to those families; if you didn't receive it, please reach out to Mr. Dell and/or Monica Chandler. The first payment is due in early August!



Student Nutrition Services

Thomas Lee, x276
Plant High School SNS Manager

Free Meal Benefits Guidelines and Application
All information ONLINE at this link:

[Student Nutrition Services / SNS Home \(hillsboroughschools.org\)](https://www.hillsboroughschools.org/domain/4883#calendar21448/20240725/month)

Online/Mobile Meal payments made easy with



MyPaymentsPlus.com

Register for LUNCH meal payments online NOW.



**FREE
BREAKFAST
every day for
ALL STUDENTS**



PARENTS/GUARDIANS:

To VOLUNTEER in any capacity for Plant High School, YOU MUST HAVE AN APPROVED VOLUNTEER APPLICATION ON FILE. This is a requirement which keeps us in compliance with Florida State law (Jessica Lundsford Act). All persons working with minor children in any way must be screened for criminal records.

Direct link to volunteer application: <http://www.hillsboroughschools.org/volunteer>

Move your cursor over the “HCPS Volunteer Application” button then CLICK.

Login each year to ensure that your volunteer status is current.

Just in case you are needed, please complete the application today. Overnight chaperones must be level 2 cleared which requires fingerprinting.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR for 2025 Advanced Placement (AP) Testing

If you are taking an AP class at PHS, please mark your calendars NOW for the 2025 AP test dates. All students taking an AP class(es) are required to take the AP exam(s). Those students with an exam conflict (two of your AP exams are scheduled at the same time) will be scheduled for an alternate exam time for one of the exams as determined by Plant.

WEEK 1	MORNING 8:00 A.M.	AFTERNOON 12:00 P.M.
Monday, May 5, 2025	Biology Latin	European History Microeconomics
Tuesday, May 6, 2025	Chemistry Human Geography	United States Government and Politics
Wednesday, May 7, 2025	English Literature and Composition	Comparative Government and Politics Computer Science A
Thursday, May 8, 2025	African American Studies Statistics	Japanese Language and Culture World History: Modern
Friday, May 9, 2025	Italian Language and Culture United States History	Chinese Language and Culture Macroeconomics
	Art and Design: Friday, May 9, 2025 (8 p.m. ET), is the deadline for AP Art and Design students to submit their three portfolio components as final in the AP Digital Portfolio.	

WEEK 2	MORNING 8:00 A.M.	AFTERNOON 12:00 P.M.	AFTERNOON 2:00 P.M.
Monday, May 12, 2025	Calculus AB Calculus BC	Music Theory Seminar	
Tuesday, May 13, 2025	French Language and Culture Precalculus	Environmental Science Physics 2: Algebra-Based	
Wednesday, May 14, 2025	English Language and Composition German Language and Culture	Physics C: Mechanics	
Thursday, May 15, 2024	Art History Spanish Language and Culture	Computer Science Principles Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism	
Friday, May 16, 2024	Physics 1: Algebra-Based Spanish Literature and Culture	Psychology	

ALTERNATE AP EXAM DATES FOR EXAM CONFLICTS TBA

- * PLEASE plan to take your AP exams according to the dates above. There is **NO “make-up”** opportunities for students who miss any AP exam. It is similar to missing an SAT or ACT exam. Alternate exam dates are published and restricted by College Board and are reserved for students who have an exam conflict—two AP exams on the same day and at the same time. Students with any conflict(s) are pre-identified. Students will test on the scheduled late-testing dates at the scheduled times.
- * According to College Board—**family graduations, family trips and college orientations are NOT permissible for students to test on alternate dates.** We CANNOT accommodate alternate exam requests.
- * **There is a fee of \$40 if a student fails to take a scheduled AP exam.**

ACT and SAT DATES AND DEADLINES:

Seniors!! If you do not have the necessary test scores, be sure to register for one of the first ACT or SAT test dates. College application deadlines will be here before you know it!

ACT Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline (Late fee applies after “registration deadline”)	<i>Visit ACT.org for further information on Online Registration and Special circumstances</i>
September 14, 2024	August 9, 2024	August 25, 2024	
October 26, 2024	September 20, 2024	October 7, 2024	
December 14, 2024	November 8, 2024	November 22, 2024	
February 8, 2025	January 3, 2025	January 20, 2025	
April 5, 2025	February 28, 2025	March 16, 2025	
June 14, 2025	May 9, 2025	May 26, 2025	
July 12, 2025	June 6, 2025	June 20, 2025	

SAT Test Date	Registration Deadline	Deadline Changes, Regular Cancellations, and Late Registration	More information and to register visit College Board Website: Home – SAT Suite of Assessments College Board (satsuite.collegeboard.org)
August 24, 2024	August 9, 2024	August 13, 2024	
October 5, 2024	September 20, 2024	September 24, 2024	
November 2, 2024	October 18, 2024	October 22, 2024	
December 7, 2024	November 22, 2024	November 26, 2024	
March 8, 2025	February 21, 2025	February 25, 2025	
May 3, 2025	April 18, 2025	April 22, 2025	
June 7, 2025	May 22, 2025	May 27, 2025	

**Subject to change.

SENIOR INFORMATION

Senior Night is a **MUST ATTEND** meeting for **ALL Seniors!**

Thursday, August 29, 2024, at 5:00PM in the auditorium.

Seniors will receive information about the “**Senior Handbook**”, the college application process, and individual presentations from the major public colleges and universities in Florida, along with other guest colleges.

No matter what your plans are after high school, there is something at this meeting for you! Make sure you don't miss valuable information that can help you be successful planning for life after high school.

PSAT/NMSQT: Wednesday, October TBD

All 9th, 10th & 11th grade students will take the PSAT/NMSQT and registration is not required. The PSAT/NMSQT will be administered during the school day in October and it will be **DIGITAL** this year. You can review information at <https://satsuite.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt>. Details about the administration and timeframe will be published at a later date.

Get started NOW by practicing for the PSAT and SAT! Go to www.khanacademy.org/test-prep/sat. Students can access quizzes and full-length practice tests.



- Do you need to know when the next PTSA meeting is happening?
- Wonder when and where the next sporting event is taking place?
- Need to e-mail your child's teacher?

For the answers to these questions and many more,
you only need to look as far as

Plant High School's website

<http://hillsboroughschools.org/plant>

and  **Twitter**

@PlantHighSchool and **@PlantPTSA**

Want to see your child(ren)'s grades?
Canvas is the District's online grade center.



canvas

<https://hcpscanvasproject.azurewebsites.net/>



National School of Excellence
1990 – 1991
1997 – 1998



2010, 2011, 2012

PHS FHSA SANCTIONED SPORTS

Ms. Omensetter, Assistant Principal for Administration and Athletic Director



FALL SEASON	
Cross Country Boys, V	Bryce Lynn
Cross Country Girls, V	Athena Dicus
Football Varsity	*Hank Brown
Football Junior Varsity	*Joseph Agostino
Golf Boys	Jennifer Cook
Golf Girls	Jennifer Cook
Sideline Cheer (non-sanctioned)	Jenise Gorman
Swimming Girls	Valerie Houston
Swimming Boys	*Todd Hoffmeier
Volleyball Varsity & JV	* McKensie Herold
WINTER SEASON	
Basketball Boys Varsity	Joseph Willis
Basketball Boys JV	Matthew Morrison
Basketball Girls Varsity	Carrie Mahon
Basketball Girls JV	*Michael Brady
Competition Cheer V Only	Jenise Gorman
Soccer Boys	*Matt Reda
Soccer Girls	*Michael Miranda
Wrestling	*Lewis Powers
SPRING SEASON	
Baseball	Dennis Braun
Flag Football Girls Varsity/JV	Donald "Bo" Puckett
Lacrosse Boys	*Jack Strahm
Lacrosse Girls	*Jayne Chapman
Softball	*Lauren Donahue
Tennis Boys	Randal Hough
Tennis Girls	*Pam Gassler
Track Boys	Michael Massey
Track Girls	Melissa Sigmon
Student MUST be ENROLLED at Plant High School to contact coaches. Athletics Website: https://www.hillsboroughschools.org/domain/4883	



STUDENT ATHLETIC PUNCH CARD

There is no better way to build school spirit and develop a sense of belonging than to encourage your student to attend the many athletic events (over 50) scheduled throughout the school year. Passes are good for admission to any regular season HCPS sponsored athletic event. Purchase your passes online at hillsboroughschools.org then go to Departments>Athletics and scroll/search "Plant". Shipping and handling fees may be added.

\$43 = any 10 regular season athletic events

\$73 = ALL regular season athletic events

To purchase individual sporting event (\$5-\$7 per event) and student pass tickets go to:

www.hillsboroughschools.org/domain/3358



ATTENTION ATHLETES!

If you hope to participate in college athletics, you must register for the NCAA Clearinghouse. You can register online at <https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/>. Please remember to print out the release forms (two forms) allowing PHS to submit your transcript. Give the signed release forms to your Guidance Counselor.

Want to Play College Sports?

You MUST Know Your Core Course GPA.



CORECOURSEGPA.com

H.B. Plant High School has teamed up with CoreCourseGPA.com to provide custom online software to all student-athletes to assist in tracking their progress towards meeting NCAA initial eligibility requirements.

CoreCourseGPA.com calculates core course GPA for both the Division I and II, provides corresponding minimum SAT/ACT scores, and a detailed report of core course credits earned and needed.

All student-athletes are encouraged to activate their **FREE** membership to begin tracking their core course GPA and learn more about important recruiting topics. The sooner, the better - every semester counts!

Activate Your FREE Membership

Step 1: Go to www.CoreCourseGPA.com

Step 2: In the "New Member Account Creation" box enter:

School ID: 101700

School Code: 706060707

Step 3: Complete the registration form

ATHLETICS ELIGIBILITY

<https://www.hillsboroughschools.org/athleticforms>



Eligibility Requirements for Extracurricular Participation

Eligibility Period	Grade	Eligibility Requirements
First semester	Students first entering the 9 th grade	Must be regularly promoted from the 8 th grade to the 9 th grade.
	Students entering 10 th grade	Must have a cumulative 2.0 grade point average on a 4.0 unweighted scale in all courses taken through the end of the previous semester; OR must have earned a 2.0 grade point average on a 4.0 unweighted scale in the courses taken in the previous semester alone, provided he or she signed an academic performance contract with his or her school and attended summer school as necessary.
	Students entering 11 th and 12 th grades	Must have a cumulative 2.0 grade point average on a 4.0 unweighted scale in all courses taken through the end of the previous semester
Second semester	9 th and 10 th grade	Must have a cumulative 2.0 grade point average on a 4.0 unweighted scale in all courses taken through the end of the previous semester; OR must have earned a 2.0 grade point average on a 4.0 unweighted scale in the courses taken in the previous semester alone, provided he or she signed an academic performance contract with his or her school and attended summer school as necessary.
	11 th and 12 th grades	Must have a cumulative 2.0 grade point average on a 4.0 unweighted scale in all courses taken through the end of the previous semester
<p>A student shall be eligible for no more than four (4) consecutive academic years upon first successful completion of the eighth (8th) grade as defined by the pupil progression plan of the school in which the student is enrolled. Four years from the date he or she first successfully completes the eighth grade, he or she shall become ineligible for further interscholastic athletic competition. A student who does not attend school, repeats any grade, is declared ineligible to participate, or otherwise fails to exercise the opportunity to participate for any reason for any length of time during this four-year period shall not be entitled to any additional period of eligibility. Original school records shall be submitted to the Commissioner in the event of conflicting information as to the date of first successful completion of the eighth grade. (Article 9.5 FHSAA Handbook, Bylaws and Policies)</p> <p>Note 1: A grading period is defined as one semester. A semester is defined as one half of a school year (approximately 18 school weeks or 90 school days). This definition is applicable to all schools regardless of the type of class scheduling format used (i.e. block, traditional, etc.)</p>		

Academic Performance Contract for Athletic Eligibility is a school generated form.

IMPORTANT YEARBOOK INFORMATION

everything you need to know in one convenient place!

HOW TO
BUY YOUR
YEARBOOK

go to
yearbookforever.com
then search for H.B. Plant High School

\$PRICING

buy on or before 9/02 <small>(with coupon code BackToSchool)</small>	\$80+	buy on or before 9/01	\$90+
buy on or before 12/31	\$100+	buy after 1/1 <small>(until sold out)</small>	\$110

PICTURE DAY(S)

Freshmen-Sophomores-Juniors

Picture Day - September 12
Retakes - October 10

Club Picture Day

November 5
(no retakes)

STILL HAVEN'T
TAKEN YOUR
SENIOR
PORTRAIT?
HERE ARE
YOUR OPTIONS:

make an appointment at the Cady's studio
www.cady.com (813) 995-7438
*must take photo by 1/31/24 to be included

or
Cady's will be on campus January 31 to take
yearbook pose ONLY sessions appointments
will be scheduled in December (link will be
posted on Canvas and the Class of 2025
Facebook group)

A
D
S

SENIOR TRIBUTE

bit.ly/25seniorad

CLUBS/TEAMS

bit.ly/25orgad

Go to phsnews.com/senior-ads/
for more information regarding ads

BUSINESS AD

bit.ly/25busad

Form and payment due by
10/31 to guarantee space

CONTACT INFO

plantyearbook@gmail.com
plantyearbook
planthighyearbook

pepoplantnews@gmail.com
pop.phsnews
pop_phsnews



How to utilize MyPaymentsPlus (MPP)

HCPS and Plant High utilize MPP for online payments including *cafeteria purchases, club dues, music instrument and uniform fees, fundraising, and more!*

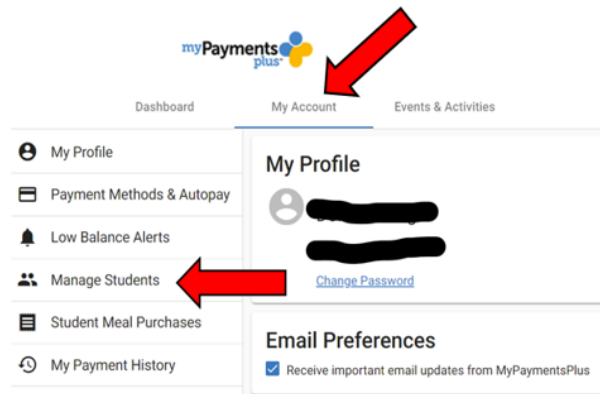
Benefits: annual payment receipt record, no student relay for payments, and no lost checks/cash.

If you do not have an MPP account, then we encourage you to register for an account.

Go to: MyPaymentsPlus.com

or download their app from your app store.

- Click the “REGISTER” box and enter required data.
- Add your student(s) by going to “My Account”, then (in app “My Profile”) “Manage Students” then “Add Account”. *You will need your child(ren)’s student number and last name. This is required to see anything available for payment. If student’s last name is hyphenated, use the first last name before the hyphen.*
- Cafeteria balance and student specific fees are on your home screen. All other payments are in the “Events & Activities” tab.
- Add payment(s) to your cart, complete necessary form data (if applicable) and make payment.
- There is a user 3.99% fee.



Please join our parent organizations!

Parent and community involvement provides the foundation for the success we enjoy at Plant High School. We ask YOU to be a part of our continued excellence by joining any one or all the organizations that support academics and campus life here at Plant High School.

Parent, Teacher, & Student Association (PTSA)
Plant High School Academic Foundation
Plant High School Athletic Foundation
CONNECT – Mentor Program
Band Booster Club
Chorus Booster Club
Orchestra Booster Club
Friends of Plant Theatre
PHS Camo Club (JROTC Boosters)

PLANT HIGH SCHOOL



Be a **CHAMPION** for your child
in 2 easy steps!

STEP 1: REGISTER BY ADDING YOUR INFORMATION

We will keep you in-the-know with our newsletter (the Panther Press), see opportunities to make purchases, volunteer, and complete any paperwork - all online in one spot. Don't forget to subscribe to not only the Panther Press, but the calendar!!

STEP 2: JOIN/SPONSOR THE PTSA

Our PTSA's mission is to advocate for our children and provide outstanding programs that empower our Plant community. Become a member today!

[Plant High School PTSA - Login \(membershiptoolkit.com\)](https://membershiptoolkit.com)



The Academic Foundation has been an active organization at Plant for over 35 years, funding faculty grants to enhance education school-wide. We are proud to share that for the past several years, we have been

able to fund 100% of approved teacher requests. Examples of grants we have recently funded include class sets of books and other student materials, laptops, Newline Interactive Panels, ELMOS, video cameras and staff training. Your financial support can make a difference!

We have been able to award these faculty grants thanks to the generosity of our membership. You become a member of the Academic Foundation simply by donating in any amount. We invite you to join now so that we can put your dollars to work right away. Membership opportunities include individual memberships and business partnerships. Every member who donates \$100 or more will be recognized monthly in the online edition of Plant's student newspaper, Pep O' Plant. All donations are tax deductible (consult your tax advisor).

You can join by visiting our website. <https://phsacademicfoundation.membershiptoolkit.com>

Follow us on Twitter at @HBPlantAF and on Facebook at PHS Academic Foundation.

Membership Meetings are held monthly. Please check our website for meeting updates and topics.



THE TEAM BEHIND THE TEAMS

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Plant High School Athletics Foundation is to promote and support Plant's interscholastic athletics program through the following:

- Support of athletic and academic achievement by all students athletes.
- Promotion of active parent and community involvement.
- Promotion of sportsmanship and leadership by the members of the athletics program.
- Provision of financial assistance to the athletics program.

New website: www.plant-athletics.com



Frequently Asked Questions

- **What if I need to adjust my schedule because I have a missing period, a duplicate course, a course already completed, or a desired change of a class?**

Schedules were mailed the week of July 24, along with directions on how to submit a schedule correction. Schedule corrections will continue to be made after the first week of school for any scheduling issues. Elective options are very limited and therefore the priority is to correct scheduling errors.

- **When will my child receive their official schedule with teacher and room numbers and possible submitted changes?**

On the first day of school, students will report directly to homeroom (period 10 on their schedule that was mailed out) to receive their schedules. Schedules can change between now and the first day of school. Schedules might change after the first week for class balancing.

- **When can I meet my child's teachers?**

Our open house will be on Thursday August 8, 2024. Returning students Open House is from 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM. For 9th Grade and new students to Plant, students and parents will report to the gym for the Plant High School Orientation at 5:00. At the end of the orientation, students will report to HR to pick up their most current schedule. It is an open format in which you can walk your child's schedule and visit information booths located in the cafeteria.

- **How do I keep up with school information?**

Canvas is used by teachers and administration. Parents can link to their child's Canvas by going to www.hillsboroughschools.org and click on the Parents tab and register under Canvas if you have not previously done so. In Canvas, there are class pages where announcements are posted. Teacher gradebooks and course information are also available in Canvas.

- **How does my child get involved in sports?**

Athletic Information can be found on our website with step-by-step directions on how to complete. Plant High School Athletics / Panther Athletics (hillsboroughschools.org) Be on the lookout for informational flyers and listen to announcements for informational meetings during the school year.

- **How does my child get involved in clubs?**

Clubs will post information and applications will be made available a few weeks into the school year. Clubs meet once a month.

- **How does lunch work?**

Students can choose the district-published lunch or alternatives like chef salad or other alternate items. Breakfast is free for all students from 8:00am to 8:25am. Students are NOT permitted to leave school for lunch or have any food deliveries.

- **Where do I purchase my child's Physical Education uniform?**

PE uniforms (shirt and shorts) will be available to purchase during the first week of school for \$20. Additional shirts/shorts can be purchased for \$10 each. Students will purchase uniforms during their physical education period from their teacher. Cash or check (made payable to PHS Athletic Foundation) will be accepted. Students are REQUIRED to purchase a uniform to receive class credit. Physical Education lockers will be purchased at the same time for \$5 cash ONLY .

- **Where can I get school spirit apparel?**

The Athletic Foundation will be selling merchandise at Open House where you can purchase school spirit gear. Throughout the year they will have online stores available. Be on the lookout for the Parent link email and for postings on social media.

- **How does my child get a parking permit?**

Parking permits will be made available to seniors starting 7/30/2021 at 7:00 A.M. until 8/25/2024 midnight. Seniors purchase their parking permits online at MyPaymentsPlus.com. Parking permits are \$20. Depending on the number of parking permits sold to seniors, juniors will have an opportunity to purchase a parking permit through a fair and transparent lottery system. More information will be coming out to the juniors.

- **How do I get my child's supply list?**

On the first week of school, each teacher will distribute any supply list necessary for that class.

- **What are the school hours?**

Monday 8:30 A.M. to 2:30 P.M. and Tuesday - Friday 8:30 A.M. to 3:30 P.M.. Student drop off begins at 8:00am unless they are in a supervised environment prior to 8:00am. Drop off is at the front of the school on Himes Ave.

- **Where can I find the bus schedules?**

www.hillsboroughschools.org Click on Departments and then Transportation Services. Often the District will put a link on the front webpage as well. The bus routes are not published until the end of July to the first of August.

- **What is the Student sign in and sign out policy:**

If a student arrives late to school or needs to leave early for an appointment, they are required to sign in/out in the Student Affairs office. Parent/guardian must come in or call the Student Affairs office.

- **How can I report my student's absence?**

You may report your student's absence by dialing 813.272.3033 and pressing 1. It is important that students do not accrue unexcused absences as this will affect their academic and extracurricular performance. Teachers are not required to give make-up work for unexcused absences.

- **How can I update the school on Address, Email, Phone number changes?**

Be sure you provide the school with your correct address, email, phone number. Should it change, complete the Change of Address form in the Student Affairs Office along with proof of residency. (TECO bill, tax bill, etc.)

- **How can I Communicate with my student's teachers?**

The best way to communicate with teachers is via Canvas messages or direct email addresses. The school website provides a faculty directory. Plant High / Homepage (hillsboroughschools.org)



August 1, 2024

Dear Parents and Guardians of Students; Faculty and Staff:

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) is a state agency that oversees the cleanup of sites throughout Florida. The FDEP is responsible for notifying School Boards throughout the state when any contamination is discovered at school property. School Boards which receive such notice are further required to notify all Faculty, staff, parents, and guardians of students attending the school.

In 2009/2010 school year, the FDEP notified the Hillsborough County School Board regarding the identification of soil and/or groundwater contamination at several school locations. This letter is to fill the annual requirement of notification for the identified locations. In addition, the School Board also decided to voluntarily expand their notification process beyond FDEP requirements to include other school locations based upon a review of available information regarding historical as well as more recent soil and groundwater testing results.

DUE TO THE LOW POTENTIAL FOR EXPOSURE, THE SOIL AND/OR GROUNDWATER CONSTITUENT CONCENTRATIONS IDENTIFIED AT THESE LOCATIONS DO NOT POSE A SIGNIFICANT HEALTH RISK. THE SCHOOLS ARE SAFE FOR STUDENTS, PARENTS, STAFF AND VISITORS.

A listing of the schools identified for which the School Board has/is providing notification at this time is as follows.

Brandon High School	Buchanan Middle School	Just Elementary School
Kenly Elementary School	Leto High School	Lockhart Elementary School
Mann Middle School	Marshall Middle School	MacFarlane Park Magnet
McLane Middle School	Mendenhall Elementary	Morgan Woods Elementary
Oak Park Elementary School	Pinecrest Elementary School	Pizzo K-8 School
Plant City High School	Plant High School	Robinson Elementary School
Town & Country Elementary	Wilson Middle School	Young Middle Magnet

Additional relevant information for each school is available in the Principal's office. You are invited to review this information at your convenience. Additionally, to assist you in understanding this information and to answer questions, the FDEP and the Florida Department of Health (DOH) have established two toll free information lines. DOH number 1-877-798-2772 and FDEP number 1-866-282-0787.

School Board of Hillsborough County

Risk Management and Safety Office • 2920 N 40th St • Tampa, Florida 33606
Office: 813-840-7324 Fax: 813-872-5268
School District Information 813-272-4000 • Web Site: www.sdhc.k12.fl.us



1 de Agosto del 2024

Estimados Padres y Tutores de Estudiantes; Profesores y Empleados:

El Departamento de Protección Ambiental de la Florida (FDEP) es una agencia estatal que supervisa todos las operaciones de limpieza de todos los sitios/lugares a traves de todo el estado de la Florida. El Departamento de (FDEP) es responsable de notificar a todas las Juntas Escolares del estado de la Florida cuando una contaminación es descubierta en la propiedad de una escuela. La Juntas Escolares son las que reciben dicha notificación y además debiera de notificar a los profesores, personal, Padres de familia y Tutores de los estudiantes que asisten a la escuela.

En el año escolar 2009/2010, el Departamento FDEP notificó a la Junta Escolar del condado de Hillsborough información respecto a la identificación de suelo y la contaminación de las aguas subterráneas en varias ubicaciones de las escuelas. La carta es para llenar el requisito de notificación para las localidades. Además, Las Juntas Escolares también decidieron voluntariamente ampliar su proceso de notificación más allá de los requisitos de el FDEP e incluir a otras ubicaciones de las escuelas basadas en análisis históricos haci como la información mas reciente recibida de los resultados de las pruebas realizadas de el suelo y las aguas subterráneas.

DEBIDO A LA BAJA POSIBILIDAD DE ESPOCISIÓN EN EL SUELO Y LAS AGUAS SUBTERRÁNEAS O LAS CONCENTRACIONES DE COMPONENTES IDENTIFICADOS EN ESTOS LUGARES NO DEMUESTRAN UN GRAN RIESGO PARA LA SALUD. LAS ESCUELAS SON SEGURAS PARA LOS ESTUDIANTES, PADRES DE FAMILIA, PERSONAL, Y LOS VISITANTES.

Una lista de las escuelas identificadas y a las cuales la Junta Escolar les ha enviado notificación hasta el momento son las siguientes:

Brandon High School	Buchanan Middle School	Just Elementary School
Kenly Elementary School	Leto High School	Lockhart Elementary School
Mann Middle School	Marshall Middle School	MacFarlane Park Magnet
McLane Middle School	Mendenhall Elementary	Morgan Woods Elementary
Oak Park Elementary School	Pinecrest Elementary School	Pizzo K-8 School
Plant City High School	Plant High School	Robinson Elementary School
Town & Country Elementary	Wilson Middle School	Young Middle School

Información adicional pertinente para cada escuela está disponible en la oficina de el Director/a. Le invitamos ha revisar esta información a su comodidad. Además, ayudarlo ha entender esta información y a responder sus preguntas. FDEP (Departamento de Protección Ambiental de la Florida) y DOH (Departamento de Salud de el estado de Florida). Han establecido dos líneas gratis para proveer información. Los números son: DOH 1-877-798-2772 y FDEP 1-866-282-0787.

Junta Directiva Escolar del Condado de Hillsborough.

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