

# THE COOP SCOOP



## What to expect on the First Day of School

- Drop-off begins for all students at 8:00am (kindergarten is on a staggered schedule and should refer to directions from the teachers for carpool). Carpool staff have master lists of all student assignments and will assist students in going to their classes. Students will go directly to class for the first two weeks of school to allow for observation of the carpool process and making adjustments. Morning play will be incorporated back into the routine after our carpool processes are well-established.
- The emphasis in these early weeks is on community building and reinforcing procedures that students understand and can follow, including defining play boundaries, becoming aware of the campus and its components, and establishing healthy routines like hand-washing.
- All students K-10 start the day with Morning Circle which has a social and emotional emphasis and sets the stage for a positive and productive day. Activities in the morning circle include the recitation of the *I Am Creed*, formation of the class promise, a review of the day's agenda, the *Pledge of Allegiance*, and other generative activities like goal-setting and mindfulness or yoga poses.
- Teachers lead instruction throughout the day in English Language Arts, math, social studies, and science. Connect programming --visual arts, dance, music, and PE--will begin for kindergarten through 5th graders the week of September 13th. Spanish and Explore classes will commence for middle schoolers in the first week. High school students will focus on community building and preparations for coursework in the first week and begin changing schedules the week of September 7th.
- Students will enjoy lunch and recess outside and also have a snack time built into their schedules. Students are asked to have their own water bottles and are given frequent opportunities to refill throughout the day.
- All students will finish the day in a closing circle to discuss and reflect upon the day's events and plan for the coming day.
- K-2 students are dismissed beginning at 2:45pm in the barn circle; 3-5 students are dismissed beginning at 3:00pm in the Croft circle and Asbury front circle respectively; 6-10 students are dismissed at 3:15pm in the Hive circle. Please refer to the carpool directions to determine your best pick up time and path. Contact Randolph Lewis at [randolphl@pioneersprings.org](mailto:randolphl@pioneersprings.org) with questions. Students who have not been picked up by 3:30pm will be transferred to the after school care program for late pick up.

## Covid Protocols

Pioneer Springs' Covid protocols are informed by the [NC Strong Schools Public Health Toolkit](#) and state and local directives. At this time, all students and staff, regardless of vaccine status, are required to wear [masks](#) that meet the CDC recommendations while indoors; masks can be removed when students/ staff are outdoors and safely distanced. PSCS will continue to employ layered mitigation strategies such as physical distancing in the classroom when possible, ventilation and filtering, hand hygiene, and monitoring for increases or spread of COVID-19 within our community. The school will update parents every two weeks regarding the impact of COVID to our school community and any necessary adjustments to our protocols, including:

- Min 3 ft distancing when possible in classrooms; 6 ft distancing outdoors for mask removal.
- Lunch and mask breaks outdoors to maximize conditions for safe mask removal.
- Continued limited access for visitors and volunteers at this time.
- Quarantine for students or staff who are in close contact, as defined by the *Strong Schools Toolkit*, or test positive until they meet the requirements to return to school. Please refer to pages 14-17 for specific scenarios and clarification regarding how vaccine status impacts length of quarantine/ options. Only impacted students/ staff will be asked to quarantine and cohorts will be notified.
- Parents are asked to continue to keep a student home if the student or anyone in the household manifests symptoms of illness. Please communicate with Glenda Cheek at [glendac@pioneersprings.org](mailto:glendac@pioneersprings.org) or 704-494-0777 to discuss next steps.
- Contact Glenda Cheek if you have questions about a medical mask exemption.
- Please contact Audie McGinnis at [audiem@pioneersprings.org](mailto:audiem@pioneersprings.org) to discuss alternate options if yours is a situation where a health need will prohibit safe attendance on campus.
- Ongoing cleaning and disinfecting in all buildings.

## What's coming up...

### August

**24-30**

Staff Development

**31**

**First Day of School**

**31-2**

Kinder staggered entry

**September**

**3**

First Day ALL Kinder

**4**

Ms.Toni's Bday

**6**

**Labor Day No School**

**15**

Ms. Ava's Bday

**24**

4th Grade Fall Call to

Adventure

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### Link your Amazon and Harris Teeter Shopping

[Click here to learn how!](#)

[Click here for more information about renting space at PSCS](#)

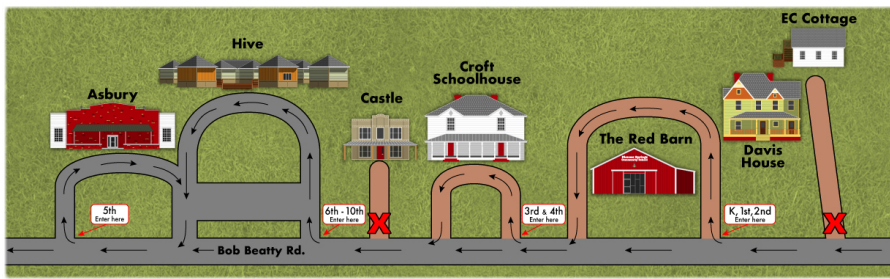
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### Supply Lists

Can be found on our website. [Click here](#) t

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## Carpool 2021

### General Information

- Bob Beatty Rd. is one-way, south to north, during pick up and drop off. Enter Bob Beatty from the south at the Davis General Store, proceed north and exit onto Old Statesville Rd. at Prime Storage.
- Drivers, please refrain from using cell phones or mobile devices once you enter school driveways.

### Morning drop off is from 8:00-8:30 for all students

- Drop your child off at:
  - Grades K-2: Red Barn driveway
  - Grades 3-4: Croft Schoolhouse driveway
  - Grade 5: Asbury using designated 5th grade drive in front of building
  - Grades 6-10: Hive driveway
- If you have a K-2nd grader AND a 3rd or 4th grader, drop them all off at the Red Barn between 8:00 and 8:30
- If you have students at both Barn/Croft and Asbury/Hive, drop off Barn/Croft student(s) first, then proceed to Asbury/Hive. Allow enough time to drop off all students by 8:30.
- If you have a 5th grader and a student(s) in grades 6-10, drop them all off at the Hive using the Hive drive.

### Afternoon pick up:

*At afternoon pick up, drivers will display the names and grade levels of the student(s) they are picking up on special tags that hang from the vehicle's rear-view mirror. Staff will be on hand at morning drop off the first several days of school to distribute hang tags to drivers.*

- Grades K-2: arrive no earlier than 2:40; pick up from 2:45-3:30
- Grades 3-5: arrive no earlier than 3:00; pick up from 3:00-3:30
- Grades 6-10: arrive no earlier than 3:15; pick up from 3:15-3:30
- Pick your child up at the same location as drop off
  - Grades K-2: Red Barn driveway
  - Grades 3&4: Croft Schoolhouse driveway
  - Grades 5: Asbury using designated 5th grade driveway in front of building
  - Grades 6-10: Hive driveway
- If you have a K-2nd grader AND a 3rd/4th grader, pick up for all will be at Red Barn between 3:05 and 3:30. Arrive no earlier than 3:05 to allow staff time to transport students from Croft to the Red Barn.
- If you have students at both Barn/Croft and Asbury/Hive, pick up Barn/Croft student(s) first, then proceed to Asbury/Hive. Allow enough time to pick up all students by 3:30
- If you have a 5th grader and a student(s) in grades 6-10, pick them all up using the Hive drive between 3:15 and 3:30.

## Attendance

Our 1st 20 days in session are SO VERY important to our funding, creating community and establishing classroom and campus-wide expectations; please do your very best to ensure your family honors this expectation to be in attendance.

## Pioneer Care

Pioneer Care is a before and after school child care program intended to further the Basic School tenet of community by providing a needed service in a safe and known environment. [Click here](#) for information specific to 2021/22 Pioneer Care offerings. Registration and payment will be available on our website Monday 3/30.

## Covenant Conferences

Our time-honored Pioneer commitment to our parent-staff partnership is vital to creating a relationship rich in communication. Your student's teacher will include this sign-up in your first email. [Click here](#) to learn more about the Pioneer Covenant.

### Back to School Go-To Staff:

**All Medicine questions and Covid Protocol:** Please note prescription medicines need a doctor's directive on file with Glenda Cheek to be administered. These need to be turned into the castle. Please contact **Glenda at [Glendac@pioneersprings.org](mailto:Glendac@pioneersprings.org)** for all questions about medicine distribution, inhalers, epi-pens, and our policy on cough drops and any other scenario involving a student needing to take or apply a topical cream, etc.

### 504 and EC related questions:

Please contact Cindy Friday at [cindyf@pioneersprings.org](mailto:cindyf@pioneersprings.org)

### Carpool and Drop-off/Pick-up questions:

Please contact Randolph Lewis at [randolphl@pioneersprings.org](mailto:randolphl@pioneersprings.org)

### Classroom related questions:

Please reach out to your student's homeroom teacher directly.

### Before/After school questions:

Please reach out to Loraine Twiddy at [lorainet@pioneersprings.org](mailto:lorainet@pioneersprings.org)

## Pioneer Blend

Pending approval from the Office of Charter Schools anticipated early this week, PSCS is offering limited seats to K-2nd grade waitlisted families for our blended learning program. Blended learning is a combination of on-campus activities and structured remote learning, all directed by a PSCS staff member in accordance with regular classroom instruction and the NC State Standard Course of Study. [Click here](#) to learn more.