



# ASHLAND ANNOUNCER

NEWSLETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

---

8/19/20

## **Ashland Parent Request for School-Issued Laptop - Fall 2020**

[PLEASE CLICK HERE](#) to complete a brief survey form to let us know if your child needs a school-issued computer this year. We have limited supply so we will first try to get one per family and then see if we can also provide one per student. You do not need to complete this survey if you already had a device loaned out to you during the spring. Please complete one form for each child in need and do so by Friday, August 21st.

## **Class & Teacher Placement**

We are grouping students into classes using your preferences from the PWCS Survey that asked if you would prefer having your child in person or virtual starting in the 2nd quarter. We are creating two groups within each class based on last name alphabetically. This will aid in ensuring that your children, if you have multiple children that attend PWCS in different grade levels, will all be able to attend school on the same day. We also have teachers that, for different medical reasons, must also be virtual. This has made this process much more complicated than it has usually been. We are working it out this week and we will have it all in the system by the end of the week. We know this may change, both teachers' needs as well as parents' choices for in person or virtual, by the time we get to the 2nd quarter. For that reason, please know that we may have to change placements for students when we get back to having students come in person. I will try to minimize this, but this may be unavoidable due to the situation. This also means that I have much less control on how we place students with each other and with specific teachers. You will be able to use the ParentVue online program to find out your child's teacher this year. I will notify you when you can do this once I know it has all gone through. Thank you in advance for your patience and understanding for class placements this year.

## **Canvas**

Canvas will be updated with your child's homeroom and courses next week. More info coming soon to help you with this.

## **Library Books**

We are discussing some ways we can have families check out books from the library on a regular basis. We will give more details on this soon.

## **Take-Home Learning Kits**

As a school, we are purchasing new items and collecting items we already have in the classrooms to create take-home learning kits for students in every grade level. This will

provide you with resources that would be additional to any items on the supply lists. We want to be able to help as much as we can with the work that will be done at home. Some examples include math manipulatives, whiteboards, reader's notebooks, and handwriting workbooks. We will be planning on distributing these materials probably the week before school starts. I will notify you of when we will do this.

## **Yearbooks**

Call the school office at 703.583.8774 to arrange a time for pick up if you ordered a yearbook or would like to purchase one.

## **School Committees**

As I discussed in the last newsletter, we are going to organize our committees and add more of them depending on our needs each year. Our goal is always to work together as school staff and parents to find new ways to improve and support our students. We do this through events and programs such as with the PTO, but we also have focused groups that try to address very specific areas in our school. The following are some of the ways we do this. We are adding and/or modifying committees this year to address our new Core Beliefs. [PLEASE CLICK HERE](#) to express your interest in one or more of these committees below. I will contact you soon if you fill this out. If you were on one of these committees last year and want to continue, please sign up again on this form so we know who all is interested.

**School Advisory Council** – Reviews the school's strategic plan, budget, and brings up any schoolwide concerns from stakeholders.

**School Diversity Committee** – Review of our current practices, policies, and procedures to find ways we can be more respectful and inclusive of the diversity in our students, families, and staff.

**School Safety & Wellness Committee** – Review of our current practices, policies, and procedures so that we have a healthy and safe school environment. This would include wellness tips and fitness challenges, but also a review of school practices regarding COVID-19.

**Purple Star Committee** – Review of our current practices, policies, and procedures to find ways we can better support and recognize our military-connected families and students.

**Special Education Committee** – Review of our current practices, policies and procedures to provide feedback on how we conduct special education meetings, services, and communications.

## **Thank You**

I want to give a special thank you note to all of you that have stuck with us during this time. We are going to work twice as hard for you knowing that you stayed with us, trusted us, and are truly helping us get through this time together. We are down about 100 students from last year due to many unenrolling for other options. This has really affected our school

budget, but I'm doing everything I can to keep our school fully staffed and keep class sizes as low as we can make them. From me personally, thank you for your support and loyalty during this time. We won't let you down! This is going to be an amazing school year!

Reach out if you have any questions!

Talk soon,  
Dr. Jacks, Principal

---

### **2020-21 Core Beliefs**

We celebrate our diversity as a strength and welcome all students.

We provide preventative and protective measures to ensure school safety.

We commit to providing equitable opportunities and support.

We adapt and problem-solve with change and challenges in a positive and productive way.

We strive for success of the whole child including social, emotional, and academic goals.