

The Gator Gazette

A MESSAGE FROM ADMIN

Welcome back for the 23-24 school year. Our year is up and running and great things are happening at Meadow Park. We don't have official results yet, but Meadow Park is projected to earn a school grade of a B again for last year. We showed even more growth, so we're creeping up on the A range. We are so proud of all the hard work of our staff and students. We faced many challenges, but our gators overcame it all and showed so much academic and personal growth. Way to go, everyone!

This year is bringing more excitement. Around campus, our students and teachers are hard at work in their classrooms already. They've completed their beginning of the year assessments and are into their core curriculum in all subjects. Our students have also begun getting involved in clubs and activities. Our leadership team has many sub groups this year including creating our very first Student Newspaper, a student positive behavior committee, an accelerated reader team, and a recycling team. We're also kicking off our first season of Girls on the Run and Gritty Gators. It's so nice to see these students shining both in and outside the classroom.

Our school improvement plan this year is focusing on 2 goals. Our first goal is to increase our proficiency in Reading. We have 4 literacy coaches on campus that will be working closely with our students to improve their reading skills. We're also going to be monitoring our attendance data very closely. We want our gators here ALL DAY EVERY DAY so they don't miss valuable learning opportunities – especially in the area of reading. Please help us with this effort by valuing every moment of their school day. When possible, please plan vacations for long weekends or holiday breaks. When scheduling doctor appointments, try to get late afternoon appointments or look for school breaks or teacher work days. If we want our students to grow, they need to be in school as much as possible.

The second goal is creating a positive school culture. We're working a lot on creating a positive mindset for our staff and our students. Our Positive Behavior Interventions Support (PBS) team is working hard on monthly character building and tracking our behavior data. We're providing students with learning opportunities to practice their character words of the month. We've already practiced RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY, and DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP. As we head into the holiday season, we'll be learning about GRATITUDE and GENEROSITY. You can help us by reinforcing these words at home as well.

We'll let you get on to reading the rest of our Gator Gazette, however, please know how blessed we are to have you all as part of our Gator Family. We look forward to a fun and successful year with you and your students.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Elek and Mr. Probst



Core Team

Lauren Elek - Principal
 John Probst - Assistant Principal
 Emma Flowers-Lee - Dean
 Meridith Meerman - Lead Teacher
 Dr. Bo Bishop - Counselor
 Dr. Ashley Chermak - Psychologist
 Charyssa Livingston - Social Worker
 Jackie Balkevicius - ESE Liaison

Words of the Month

Each month, students will be focusing on a different character trait to reinforce positive behavior around the school. Students are going to learn the definitions of these words, as well as brainstorm ways to exhibit these character traits in school, at home, and in the community. Students who demonstrate these positive behaviors will be able to attend a monthly celebration.

October: Digital Citizenship
November: Gratitude
December: Generosity



Students of the Month

Congratulations to our Students of the Month for August and September! These students were chosen for representing Respect and Responsibility in their classes.

Kindergarten: Ensley B, Paisley D, Lucy F, Isaac G, Lillian K, Olivia M, Willow R

1st Grade: Michael C, Addison G, Ely K, Gwen L, Stephen R Adalynn S, Charlotte W

2nd Grade: Ukyah A, Jeremiah H, Peyton H, Jayden J, Jesse N

3rd Grade: Rylan D, Joseph M, Yan MH, Sofia T, Colton U, Adalyn V,

4th Grade: Savion B, Skyla F, Logan M, Alexa R, Liam S

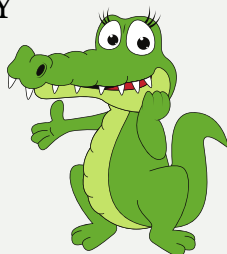
5th Grade: Ricky B, Sadie S, Jayce Y

Leadership Clubs

- A.R. Celebrations
- Chorus
- Girls on the Run
- Gritty Gators
- Newsletter
- PBIS Celebrations
- Reader Leaders
- Recycling
- Safety Patrol
- Solar Club
- STEM Club



CONGRATULATIONS



Upcoming Events

Awards Ceremonies:

October 25th

- 8:45 - Kindergarten
- 9:45 - 1st Grade

October 26th

- 8:45 - 3rd Grade
- 9:45 - 4th Grade

October 27th

- 8:45 - 2nd Grade
- 9:45 - 5th Grade



Important Dates:

October 21st - 4:00-7:00
Trunk or Treat

October 25th - 5:30-8:00
McDonald's Spirit Night

October 31st - 8:30
Character Parade

November 6th
No School

November 8th - 5:30
PTO Meeting

November 22nd-24th
Thanksgiving Break

December 2nd - 9:00-12:00
Breakfast with Santa

December 13th - 5:30
PTO Meeting

December 22nd-January 6th
Winter Break



Bully Awareness Month

Bullying, which includes cyberbullying, occurs when a person or group of people repeatedly hurt, embarrass, or frighten another person. Bullying can be both direct and indirect. Sometimes it happens face to face or directly via email or social media. Other times it is indirect such as spreading rumors, gossiping, or social exclusion. We treat all bullying situations very seriously no matter the circumstance. This year, all our students will receive bully prevention training from school resource officers with follow up conversations from classroom teachers. Students are educated about how to identify, react to, and report bullying. As conflicts arise throughout the year, students are given conflict resolution assistance from Mrs. Elek, Mr. Probst, Dr. Bo, or Officer Monty. As a parent, it is important to have open dialogue with your child about their experiences at school. If you become aware of a bullying situation, please report it immediately.

PTO

Have you heard about our PTO yet? We have an amazing team of parent volunteers, and we'd love for you to join them. They're making plans for fundraisers, family fun events, school/teacher support, and all sorts of other things. We are in awe of how dedicated and enthusiastic this group is. Please reach out to them to get involved this year. If you attend a monthly PTO meeting, you can experience the beautiful Outdoor Classroom they revamped last year!

Get connected:

Tyler Brown - PTO President

meadowparkelementarypto@gmail.com

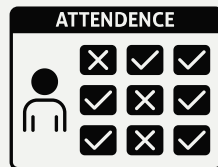
Attendance

How does September attendance relate to a student's later attendance?

Students who missed fewer than 2 days in September continue to average fewer than 2 days absent each month. Students who missed 2 to 4 days in September are 5 times more likely to be chronically absent compared to students who are absent fewer than 2 days. High absence rates have negative consequences not only for individual students, but also for classroom instruction and school climate. Keep this in mind for the remainder of the school year. We want our students in school all day, every day!

We have some fun attendance contests coming up. Each month, the 1st and 2nd place grade levels with the highest attendance rates will earn a fun celebration:

October 27th - Popcorn
November 21st - Popsicles
December 21st - Cookies



Additionally, starting November 1st, one student from each grade level will have the opportunity to win a gift card. Those with the highest attendance rates through the months of November and December will be put into a raffle to win a \$25 gift card right before the holiday season! Attendance will only be counted for the months of November and December. Students will have the opportunity to start over. We wish all the students luck and perfect attendance!

HURRICANE MAKE-UP DAY ACTIVATED

Charlotte County Public Schools has activated hurricane makeup day #1. There will be school on February 16, 2024.

Academic Resources

To enhance student learning in the classroom, students have access to academic resources online. These resources are also accessible at home through ClassLink, which can be found on our school website: <https://www.yourcharlotteschools.net/mpe>



In addition to the main curriculum, students can access:

Math:

- DreamBox
- Red Bird
- My Math Academy
- Reflex
- Frax

Reading:

- Reading Plus
- Reading Eggs
- Accelerated Reader
- Lalilo

FOCUS PARENT PORTAL

The FOCUS portal allows parents and students 24/7 secure access to information such as attendance, assignments, grades, and discipline. Please visit yourcharlotteschools.net/mpe and click on the Parent Portal link to get started today!



REPORT CARD GRADES

Starting this school year, first and second grades will be switching from Standards-Based Report Cards to Letter Grade Report Cards. Students will receive one grade per subject (English/Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies).