

## #READY2RECONNECT: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW TO START STRONG!



Wednesday, Sept. 8 is the first day of school and we are excited to welcome most students back to classrooms for full-time, in-person learning! To help make our return to school as safe as possible — and to keep students safe throughout the school year — we are asking families to be diligent in following all health and safety protocols. Together, let's make it a great school year!

## BACK-TO-SCHOOL: TOP 10 CHECKLIST!

### 1. Mask Up!



Masks are an essential tool in preventing the spread of COVID-19 and protecting those unable to be vaccinated. Masks will be required for everyone, regardless of vaccination status.

### 2. Learn How We Are Keeping Schools Safe



The health and safety of students and staff is our top priority. Our prevention strategies include universal masking in school buildings and widespread vaccination. [Learn more](#) about our safety strategy including masks and PPE, cleaning and disinfection protocols, air quality, quarantines and more.

[View FAQs](#)

### 3. All Hands on Deck!



Each of us plays a role in returning safe and staying safe this school year! Whether it's completing daily self-checks on the [Frontline Health Portal](#), keeping sick children home or driving children to school to help with the bus driver shortage, we are counting on the diligence of each one of us to ensure the well-being of all.

### 4. No-cost Meals for All



Student meals are free for all this school year, including [virtual learners](#)! Families are still encouraged to complete the [meal benefit application](#), which determines eligibility for the Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer Program (P-EBT) and more. View [menus](#).

## 5. Reminders: Riding With Us



Face masks are required while riding the school bus regardless of vaccination status. Due to the national school bus driver shortage, families should plan for delays and we urge parents to walk, drive or carpool children to school if possible. Please note there have been updates to bus routes for the first day of school. Please [check for potential updates](#) to your child's bus schedule.

### School Bus App

Download the StopFinder school bus app from the App Store or Google Play to view student routes and bus location once school begins. Families must have an up-to-date email address in SchoolMax to activate the subscription. The app is available in English, French and Spanish. To receive notifications about where the bus is and when it is near, parents and guardians must set up a geo alert within the app.

## 6. Be Wise, Immunize!



Don't forget about routine immunizations for back to school! The Prince George's County Health Department is hosting clinics to bring students up to date on vaccinations. Students with an appointment for routine immunizations may also receive a COVID-19 vaccination on site.

### Upcoming Clinics (All clinics are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.):

Sept. 8-10 — Bladensburg High School  
Sept. 11, 18 and 25 — Cheverly Health Center

## 7. Schedule a COVID-19 Vaccine





Students ages 12 and over are encouraged to receive a free COVID-19 vaccine ahead of the return to school. Parental consent is required for vaccination. Parents/guardians are welcome to accompany their child to clinics, but are not required to do so. Students must bring completed consent forms to be vaccinated.

### **Find & Schedule a COVID-19 Vaccine Appointment**

[Prince George's County Health Department clinics](#)

[Prince George's County Vaccine Locator](#)

[Maryland Vaccination Sites](#)

## **8. Stay Connected**



Don't miss important news and updates! Check that you are [signed up](#) to receive email and/or text alerts. Also, be sure that your most current contact information is in [SchoolMax](#).

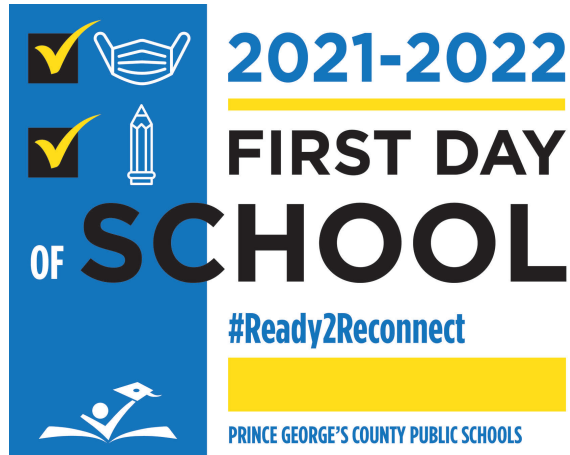
## **9. Attend Virtual Back-to-School Night**



The first few weeks of school can feel fast-paced, but don't forget about back-to-school night! It's an opportunity to meet and greet school leaders and teachers while learning about expectations and resources. It also sends a message to your child that you will have a present and active role in their education.

[Find My Back-to-School Night](#)

## 10. Show Us You're #Ready2Reconnect!



On Wednesday, Sept. 8 share your favorite pictures or video on social media using the hashtag #Ready2Reconnect or [upload them](#) for a chance to be featured!

[Download a First Day Sign!](#)



- [How will meals for virtual students work?](#)
- [Prince George's County Memorial Library System Resources](#)
- [PGCPS Teacher of the Year is State Finalist!](#)

[View More Stories](#)

## QUICK LINKS

- [2021-2022 School Calendar](#)
- [Student Meals](#)
- [SchoolMAX Family Portal](#)
- [Bus InfoFinder](#)
- [Registration/Enrollment](#)
- [PGCPS-TV](#)

STAY CONNECTED

