



# The Eagle Express

Paul R. Smith Middle School - 1410 Sweetbriar Dr. Holiday, FL

## Principal's Desk

Dear Paul R. Smith Community,

We welcome everyone to the Fall/Autumn season.

I would like to thank our students, families, and staff for a great start to the school year. Many great things are happening at Paul R. Smith Middle School as we continue to work on our theme - for our Eagles to SOAR towards success.

Parent school communication is critical to our shared goal of helping every Eagle SOAR. Please consider requesting a parent-teacher conference with your child's teachers.

This conference can be done in person or via telephone. Also, please sign up for our myStudent Parent Portal to gain access to your child's grades and attendance. For more information on how to do this, please see our website.

Families, as you know, student learning starts with children attending school. Please be sure to encourage your child to maintain good attendance each and every school day. If your child is sick, please be sure to send in a note so that we can excuse the absence and get make up work issued.

Finally, I would like to thank our student athletes and musicians for a great opening season to football, volleyball, cheerleading, and marching band. Our students have been amazing and so have all the families that have come out to cheer on the children.

I'd like you to know that I'm proud to be an Eagle and I hope you are too!

Sincerely,

Mr. Di Vincent



### Important Dates:

**End of 1st Quarter**  
October 12

**Teacher Planning Day**  
October 15 - No School

**Report Cards**  
October 23

**Please visit our school web site**

where you can find dates for all our school events and athletics. <http://>



### MATH LAB INFO

Math Lab will be held every Wed. morning, from 8:00am-8:25am, in room 3-103.

### School Advisory Council

Meetings will be held from 4:00pm-5:00pm on the 3rd Thursday of each month. This month's meeting will be October 18th

### ASTRO SKATE

Oct. 19 from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm, the cost will be \$8, then stay from 8:00pm - 11:00pm for free

## Notice to Building Occupants and Parents

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has issued a final rule, 40 CFR Part 763, Asbestos Containing Material in schools, commonly referred to as AHERA. This rule requires all Local Education Agencies (LEA's) to identify asbestos containing materials (ACM) in their school buildings and to take appropriate actions to control the release of asbestos fibers. All inspections for Paul R. Smith have been completed and a Management Plan describing the results of the inspection and the action plan to control any asbestos found during the inspection, where applicable, has been submitted to the governor for approval. A copy of this plan is located in the administrative office of this school and at the Pasco County Schools Maintenance & Facility Services Department and is available for review upon request.

### NOTE-WORTHY

#### New Safety Procedures

As of September 14th, all Pasco County Schools will have new safety procedures in place for all sporting events. **Only clear plastic, clear vinyl, and clear Ziploc bags** will be permitted. Diaper bags, medically-necessary bags, and school/professional photographers' camera bags will be allowed. **No other bags of ANY kind will be permitted**, including backpacks, fanny packs, purses and duffle bags. **All bags are subject to search.** To learn more about new safety procedures go to <https://livepasco12fl.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/sites/>

## Attendance Matters

### Why regular school attendance is important

- Required school attendance (it's the law)
- Results in improved academic achievement
- Engages children and families with the school and community
- Emphasizes the value of education
- Develops positive and consistent habits at an early age
- Establishes a social network outside the home.

### What are some things you can do:

- Take an active role
- Talk to your child - identify potential sources of student anxiety (related to school, friends, other)
- Keep updated on school events and announcements; Go to the school's website and sign up for myStudent.
- Help get your child to school on-time and stay in school from bell to bell everyday.
- Limit the amount of time that your child misses school due to medical appointments or illness try to arrange around the school day.

### PRSMS dates to know

**Picture retakes** will be  
November 1st -November 2nd, 8:30am -3:00pm

**First Lego League Robotics** will be held  
Tuesday - Thursday, from 3:00pm-5:00pm,  
in room 2-105

## PARENTAL NOTIFICATION

### Out-of Field Teaching Assignments

Individuals who are teaching out-of-field are certified in at least one area and are qualified to teach, but are required to take additional course work or testing to add a coverage/endorsement to their certificate. The state also requires a teacher to take coursework/in-service towards an English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) endorsement, when the teacher is the primary language arts provider and/or reading teacher for an ESOL student.

The following teachers have agreed to teach out-of-field while completing certification requirement:

Ms. Berger ESOL Endorsement, Mr. Cabrera ESOL Endorsement, Ms. Fisher Health K-12, Ms. Mckee ESOL Endorsement, Ms. Orth Middle Grades English 5-9, ESOL, Ms. Poulsen ESOL Endorsement, Ms. Brooke ESOL Endorsement, Ms. Billick Middle Grades English-9, Middle Grades Science 5-9, Reading Endorsement, ESOL Endorsement