



PRINCETON DAY SCHOOL

Upper School

Back-to-School Information

2017-2018

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From Head of Upper School

Jason F. Robinson

July 2017

Dear Upper School Families,

Given how quickly this summer has unfolded, I am reluctant to hasten its conclusion by writing a “Back to School” letter. By tradition, however, we always like to post a mid-summer communication so that you have information about the upcoming school year as early as possible. My hope is that you’ll read this letter at your convenience, let me know if you have any questions, and then return to your well-deserved summer vacation.

For planning purposes and to confirm that all families have accurate information, **school will officially begin on Tuesday, September 5.**

New Students and Parents

To new students and parents, I would like to extend my warm, heartfelt welcome to the PDS family. I know you will soon experience the same qualities that drew me to PDS when I first stepped into these hallways. This is a place of limitless possibility, committed to providing our students with the most rigorous education and unparalleled opportunities for growth and discovery. While committed to excellence and exacting standards, we are also a warm, humane community dedicated to supporting students and surrounding them with caring teachers and advisors who are devoted to the well being of every child entrusted to their care. It is this special balance of challenge and support, of high standards and humane mentoring that to me defines the greatness of our school.

Although many wonderful opportunities await you upon your arrival, I also realize that new beginnings can produce feelings of both excitement and anxiety. I know you will have many questions, and I am here to help you throughout this transition. In order to facilitate your adjustment to PDS, we have scheduled several orientation events which I would like to describe below:

Upper School Student Orientation

- 9th graders who are new to PDS will attend a two-day orientation on **Wednesday, August 30 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and Thursday, August 31 from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**
- 9th graders who are coming to us from the PDS Middle School are only required to attend the **Thursday, August 31 Orientation Session from 11:15 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.**
- 10th and 11th graders who are new to PDS will attend a one-day orientation on **Wednesday, August 30 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.**
- For the full orientation schedule, visit: <http://www.pds.org/orientation-schedule>

During these orientation sessions, we will distribute class schedules, locker assignments, and take photos for student IDs. We will also have technology assistance on hand to help new students activate their PDS email addresses and configure their devices (laptops, tablets, etc.) for PDS wireless network access. There will also be a number of activities to help students get acclimated to the Upper School.

Textbook Ordering

Details about Follett, our online textbook ordering system, and the process of online book ordering can be found in a separate document appended to this Back to School Packet.

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Orientation Events for New Parents

For new parents, please note the following events that will help orient you to PDS:

On Thursday, August 24, there will be a new parent lemonade social at the home of Head of School Paul Stellato from 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

On Tuesday, September 26, there will be a reception and dinner in the Campus Center for all new parents (PreK-12). Time TBA, but usually at 6:30 p.m.

Returning Students and Parents

To returning students and parents, I want to extend an equally warm “welcome back” to PDS. I hope you are enjoying the opening weeks of summer break, and I trust that your time away from campus will provide some much-deserved rest and renewal after a very busy spring term.

Our wonderful PDS course scheduler, Steve Gadd, is working over the summer to configure student schedules for this coming year. Your child’s preliminary schedule will be posted online by the beginning of August. To the extent possible, we try to minimize the number of scheduling changes that take place after this date (given the complexity of the scheduling process). Nevertheless, if you have questions or concerns about your child’s schedule before school opens, please contact Steve Gadd (ext. 1736 or sgadd@pds.org) or me. Once classes begin, we expect to get into the rhythm of the school year as quickly as possible.

*As students review their schedules for the coming year, I would like to remind them that **the standard course load is 5 majors and 1 minor**. In exceptional circumstances, students may request to take six majors through a formal petition process in the spring before the new academic year, although such requests are subject to careful review and evaluation to ensure that each student has a balanced, sustainable course load.*

Regarding Advanced Placement (A.P.) courses, many of the departments offer A.P. courses, which have nationally based curricula, entailing a level of commitment and rigor appropriate to a college level course and culminating in a three-hour national exam. The school makes sure that this level of challenge is appropriate for a particular student by consulting with the teachers, department chairs, and advisors, who verify that the student meets the criteria for entering these courses. Not all students are eligible for A.P. classes, and the school reserves the right to make that decision.

General Announcements for New and Returning Students

We have spent the summer planning for an exciting new school year with 51 new students (46 Freshmen, 4 Sophomores, and 1 Junior), and 6 new Upper School faculty members. Later this summer you will see the bios of new faculty members posted on the PDS website. We made some truly exceptional faculty hires in the Upper School, including two newly-created positions: a Coordinator of our new STEAM initiative and a Teaching Fellow in our Science Department (part of a new partnership we have formed with the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education and ten of the nation’s top independent day schools).

In September, we will implement a new daily academic schedule and will also transition from a trimester-based system to a semester-based system. More information is available in a special section of our website, which can be found here: <http://www.pds.org/academics/schedule>

In addition, the Student Handbook is posted online, and we will continue to have all our new policies/guidelines on the PDS website (www.pds.org/school-life/student-handbook).

iPads, Technology, and Devices

Last year, we implemented a more flexible educational technology policy, and that flexibility will continue for the 2017-18 academic year.

- Students may choose from iPads, Apple laptops, or Windows laptops, so long as the device meets our technical specifications. Details can be found here: <http://www.pds.org/academics/upper-school/technology>
- Students who already own an iPad or have leased one from the school do not need to buy a different device. iPads remain a perfectly acceptable device for our students, and many will continue to use them.

Additional details can also be found on our website at www.pds.org/academics/upper-school/technology.

New STEAM Initiative

In September, we will also implement the Upper School components of a groundbreaking new STEAM initiative, which will transform the teaching of Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Mathematics at Princeton Day School. Highlights include a comprehensive new STEAM curriculum, a new Coordinator of STEAM Education, and a state-of-the-art new STEAM Center, which is being constructed this summer and will be ready for the opening of school in September. More details can be found here: <http://www.pds.org/academics/steam-initiative> in a special section of our website.

Other Reminders

- ***Please contact me if you are considering taking your child out of school for more than one day.*** It is critically important that you ask the school's permission for extended absences, and we respectfully ask that these requests be done sparingly and only in special circumstances. We specifically ask that families not extend vacations on the front or back end of major breaks (like Winter Break and Spring Break). If there are extenuating circumstances, such as a family emergency, by all means we will make an accommodation. But we do ask that students and families respect the integrity of our academic calendar, which has generous breaks and vacation time built into its structure.
- Please observe the posted 10 M.P.H. speed limit on campus.
- Please remember that PDS is a closed campus for all students except seniors who have sign-out privileges. Freshmen, sophomores, and juniors may not leave the campus unless being picked up by their parents. Even then, students must have a note from a parent explaining the departure, which must be signed by the class dean and then given to the receptionist when the student officially signs out. Your help in communicating this matter to your daughter/son is most appreciated.
- We remain committed to providing a safe and secure school environment. On a practical level, virtually all doors to the school with the exception of the front hall doorway will continue to be locked. Upper School student ID cards will allow students to access the building during the school day only.
- As part of our abiding commitment to safety and student well being, we also seek to educate students about the dangers, consequences, and moral issues arising from drug and alcohol use. Our school policies in this area have a number of different, complementary goals: educating students, ensuring their safety and those of others in the community, helping those in need, and holding students accountable when they do not live up to our community's expectations. In this area, as in all others at PDS, we want to support students by providing education and counseling, while also cultivating in them a sense of personal responsibility, sound judgment, and respect for the principles that all PDS students must embrace. I encourage you to read carefully all the rules and policies in the Handbook relating to our Drug and Alcohol policies.
- A Class Dean will be assigned to work closely with each grade in the Upper School, along with Elizabeth Monroe who will continue to serve as Dean of Students. The Freshmen Dean will be Michelle Simonds; the Sophomore Dean will be Mia Manzulli; the Junior Dean will be Carlos Cara; and the Senior Dean will be Samuel Hunt.
- A reminder about the Class Deans: Their role is to be the parent of the class and coordinate grade-level activities. Although all faculty and advisors are in communication with parents, it is the Dean who is the central liaison with parents about issues relating to the class. Because of their experience at PDS, the Deans have a wealth of information and a great deal of wisdom. The Deans are also central to maintaining school rules. They have the right and responsibility to enforce them. In particular, they are the ones who bring the students, if warranted, before the school's student-faculty Judiciary Committee, which, in turn, makes a recommendation to me about an appropriate school response. Should you have questions regarding the rules and disciplinary actions, please address them to the Class Dean first.
- It is important to remember that the Upper School has an Honor Code. We also have a computer network code, "Upper School E-Code and Acceptable Use Policy" (see Student Handbook available by clicking this link: www.pds.org/school-life/student-handbook).

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- As you enjoy the remainder of your summer, please encourage your child to complete the assigned summer reading for English and History. The US reading list for English can be found by clicking this link: <http://sites.google.com/pds.org/us-english/reading/required-summer-reading>. Additional information about summer reading can be found by clicking this link: <http://pds.libguides.com/2017requiredreads>.
- Also, if students want to fulfill some of their community service requirement over the summer, please also see our website — under the heading, “School Life — Community Service at Princeton Day School,” (www.pds.org/school-life/community-service).

I am looking forward to the school year with genuine excitement and anticipation. It is truly a privilege to serve as the Head of Upper School at such an extraordinary institution, to work with such exceptional students, and to lead a faculty as talented and committed as any in the independent school world. I believe the coming years will be truly transformative ones for your children. If you have questions or if I can ever be of assistance, do not hesitate to call or make an appointment to see me. I look forward to a wonderful school year. And thank you again for the privilege of working with your children during these vitally important years in their growth and development.

Sincerely,



Jason F. Robinson
Head of Upper School and Assistant Head of School for Academic Life

Princeton Day School

Mission Statement

Princeton Day School nurtures the mind, the body, and the character of each student. In academics, athletics, the arts, and service, we celebrate the pursuit of individual excellence and the spirit of collaboration that binds us together as a community. We seek diversity of cultures, views, and talents to promote the intellectual growth and moral development of our students.

Our rigorous and broad PreK-12 program is designed for motivated and academically talented students. We emphasize both creative and critical thought and their clear expression. Supported by an exceptional faculty and a cooperative partnership of school and home, our students discover the joy of learning. They explore their interests, cultivate enduring relationships with teachers and peers, take risks, and thrive.

Integrity, respect, and compassion are essential to the school's mission. Our students leave Princeton Day School well equipped for college and beyond: prepared to act knowledgeably, to lead thoughtfully, to share generously, and to contribute meaningfully.

Princeton Day School's Honor Code

To Learn Honorably
Is To Live Honorably

In order to foster the development of our community of learners, I will:

- uphold personal and academic integrity
- respect myself and others
- act responsibly and lead by example
- be honest in my own work
- embrace the values expressed in this code

The PDS Student Handbook further defines those types of behavior that support, and those that undermine the values of the PDS community. The School accepts the responsibility to uphold this code and to ensure adherence to the Student Handbook. The Handbook is online at www.pds.org/school-life/student-handbook.

Attendance at PDS

Attendance is important at PDS. Understandably, the primary focus at PDS is on academics and the classroom educational experience. PDS needs to know who is at school at all times, and conversely students must meet all academic commitments, even those first period. Students are required to check in daily with their advisors. Only if the student arrives late (after 8:05) is s/he to sign in at the reception desk. Not signing in with either the advisor or the receptionist is unacceptable.

Notes: If late to PDS, students or parents must submit a note to the receptionist explaining the reason for the late arrival. The note explains but doesn't negate the fact that the student is late, and it is recorded as such.

Not signing in: For safety and liability reasons, it is important to know whether or not a student is in school. Being at PDS but not signing in is unacceptable. Students who have two no-sign-ins will receive a warning, and subsequent ones will result in a detention for each one.

Lates, missed classes, and extra-curriculars:

- Students missing class because they are late will get a detention for missed classes, but will still be able to participate in extracurricular activities.
- Five lates or two no-sign-ins per trimester will result in a warning to the student and student's advisor. Continued lates will result in detentions. Repeated lates/no-sign-ins may result in further disciplinary action, including probation.

PRINCETON DAY SCHOOL Calendar 2017-2018

August

Mon., August 21	Pre-Season Athletics Begins
Tues., August 22 & Wed., August 23	New Faculty and Staff Orientation
Thurs., August 24	Opening Faculty Meetings/In Service
Fri., August 25	Opening Faculty Meetings/In Service
Mon., August 28	Opening Faculty Meetings/In Service
Tues., August 29	Opening Faculty Meetings/In Service
Wed., August 30	US Orientation for New 9th Grade Students and New 10th & 11th Grade Students MS Orientation
Thurs., August 31	US Orientation for New & Returning 9th Grade Students LS Orientation for All PreK & K Students & New 1st-4th Grade Students

September

Tues., September 5	PreK-12 Classes Begin
Thurs., September 14	LS Back-to-School Night
Mon., September 18	MS Back-to-School Night
Tues., September 19	US Back-to-School Night
Thurs., September 21	No School, Rosh Hashanah
Tues., September 26	New Parent Dinner

October

Mon., October 9	No School, Columbus Day
Sun., October 29	Fall Athletics Season Ends

November

Thurs., November 2	No Classes, Parent/Teacher Conferences
Fri., November 3	No Classes, Parent/Teacher Conferences
Mon., November 6	Winter Athletics Season Begins
Tues., November 21	Thanksgiving Break begins after Dismissal
Mon., November 27	No Classes, Faculty In-Service Day

December

Fri., December 15	Winter Break begins after early dismissal (Lower School after holiday concert at 10:00 a.m.; Middle School at 1:30 p.m., and Upper School at regular dismissal.)
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January

Mon., January 1	No School, New Year's Holiday
Tues., January 2	PreK-12 Classes Resume
Mon., January 15	No School, Martin Luther King Jr. Day

February

Fri., February 16	No School, Presidents' Day Weekend
Mon., February 19	No School, Presidents' Day Weekend
Sat., February 24	Winter Athletics Season Ends
Mon., February 26	Spring Athletics Season Begins

March

Thurs., March 1	LS Parent/Teacher Conferences (No Classes for LS students)
Fri., March 9	Spring Break begins after dismissal
Mon., March 26	PreK-12 Classes resume
Fri., March 30	No School, Good Friday

April

Fri., April 20	No School, Spring Weekend
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May

Sat., May 19	Spring Athletics Season Ends
Mon., May 28	No School, Memorial Day

June

Tues., June 5	LS Final Assembly: Early Dismissal; No MS classes
Wed., June 6	MS Final Assembly: Early Dismissal
Thurs., June 7	Last Day of US Classes: Early Dismissal
Fri., June 8	US Commencement

Student Driving and Parking

All students with a driver's license as of September 1, 2017 who plan to drive and park at PDS this year must complete and have a parent sign both the **PDS DRIVER'S REGISTRATION** and **PDS STUDENT PARKING POLICY**. Only with this sheet and signatures will we assign parking spots. Even if a student was previously registered, a new registration form is necessary. For an understanding of our policies, please read the information below.

DRIVING AT PDS is a privilege, and safety is paramount. We will contact parents whenever a student driver breaks any driving or parking rule. The dean will send home to the parents a vehicle infraction form stating the infraction and punishment. We would ask that you speak to your child about driving safety and rules if you receive this form.

PARKING AT PDS is also a privilege. Parking on campus requires an I.D. decal placed on the rear bumper. Parking tickets are sent out if parking rules are violated. The cost of a parking ticket is \$25 and \$50 after three tickets. Below are the general areas where students may park:

Senior Parking: The primary lot is by the ice rink; additional parking spots for seniors are located near Baker field. A senior's parking spot is determined by a random drawing shortly before the first day of school.

Junior Parking: Junior parking is in the parking spaces along Baker field; juniors are assigned parking spots after the registration deadline.

The **PDS Driver's Registration** form is included in this packet as well as the PDS Student Parking Policy. Please sign both and return to the upper school office by **August 14, 2017**. Students may pick up their driving decals from the Upper School office after school begins.

Parking assignments will be posted by September 8, 2017.

Student Driving Guidelines:

The School remains committed to maintaining a safe environment with safe roads for students. To this end, students driving on school property must have a valid driver's license unless they are driving within the guidelines of a legal driving permit. At all times, students driving on campus are expected to use good judgment and are discouraged from engaging in any activity that might endanger the safety of others. **Reckless driving is a primary infraction of the Upper School Student Code.** Other violations may include: speeding; not observing one-way signs, or other rules of the road; parking in a no parking zone/fire zone; driving groups of students around campus; failure to register car; failure to display parking decal. The posted speed limit is 10 m.p.h. on campus. Students speeding on campus will lose their privilege to drive/park on campus.

—A completed **PDS Driver's Registration** form must be signed and returned to the Upper School office; failure to register one's car will result in loss of driving privileges.

—Students with valid NJ driver's licenses are allowed to drive to school and park.

—Students with a Pennsylvania license may drive and park a Pennsylvania registered vehicle on campus. However, they may not drive a New Jersey registered vehicle on campus unless special arrangements have been made with the School.

—Parents are urged to send their children to school early to avoid fast driving and improper parking.

—PDS has no jurisdiction over who rides with whom. Parental guidance is strongly suggested, however.

—Students may not drive a group of other students around campus to sporting events or other destinations.

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Student Parking Guidelines:

Students wishing to park a motor vehicle on campus must read and sign the PDS Student Parking Policy form on the next page.

Every day PDS provides parking for approximately 350 faculty, staff, visitors, and students. Students must keep in mind that parking on campus is a privilege, not a right. Because space is at a premium, the school assigns an individual parking spot to each of us on campus and reserves space on the front circle for visitors only. Complicating the parking issue is the fact that two times a day—the start and end of the school day, when traffic on campus is most congested—there is competition for parking space by parents and school van drivers who are dropping off or picking up students. Access for emergency vehicles is also a major concern—fire and safety codes dictate that we keep the circle, fire lanes, and gym areas clear in case of an emergency; the township has issued costly tickets to student drivers who have parked in these areas.

Once on campus, **parking areas are off limits during the academic day.** Students may not go to use their cars until the school day has been completed and all commitments have been satisfied, unless they have legitimately signed out with a note from home, or are leaving campus under the guidelines of their senior or junior privileges. If students need to go to their car to retrieve something during the school day, they must ask any dean for permission since parking lots are considered “out of bounds.”

Approximately 115 parking spaces have been set aside for students and will be assigned to them by the Upper School office no sooner than one week before they are eligible to take their driving test. These spaces are located in the ice rink lot and near Baker field. (If a student expects to use a parking spot infrequently, he/she should see the class dean to make special arrangements.)

PDS Driver's Registration 2017-18

Decal #

Please print information and sign below

	<u>Make</u>	<u>Color</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Plate Numbers</u>					
Car #1 Primary									
Car #2									

Birthdate: _____ *Please note: Student may not register more than one week before they are eligible to take their driving test.*

Phone: Mother (day) _____ Father (day) _____

Princeton Day School Driver's Permission

My daughter/son _____ in grade _____ has my permission to drive: ____ Yes ____ No

Signed: _____

PDS Student Parking Policy

PLEASE READ AND SIGN BELOW

Registration for Student Parking at PDS. To be parked on campus legally, a student must: 1) read and sign a copy of the PDS Student Parking Policy, 2) complete a PDS Driver's Registration form, and 3) return it to the Upper School office. The PDS Driver's Registration form contains such information as the vehicle(s) make, color, and license plate number. This form must be signed by a parent.

Parking Decal. Once properly registered, the student will receive a parking decal, which must be permanently affixed to the bumper or the rear window of the car. Students with multiple registered vehicles will receive the appropriate number of decals. If a student drives a non-registered vehicle to school, he/she must immediately notify the Upper School office or his/her dean, or the car will be deemed "illegally parked" on campus.

Parking in Assigned Spots. Students must park in their assigned spot or location. Any student, who is parked in a space that has not been assigned to him/her by the US office, will be considered illegally parked. After 3:30pm, students are free to park in any legitimate open parking spot on campus. Students cannot give other students permission to park in their space. The School assumes no responsibility for theft or damage to any car parked on campus.

Parking Tickets. Students will be ticketed for illegally parking on campus. Examples of reasons for being ticketed: 1) not having your vehicle properly registered, 2) parking in other than your assigned spot, 3) not properly displaying a parking decal. Each parking ticket will result in a fine of \$25. A copy of the ticket will be mailed home. After receiving three parking tickets, the price per ticket will be increased to \$50. (If the ticket remains unpaid for 15 days, it will be charged to the student's account.) A continued disregard for the parking rules may result in the student facing the Judiciary Committee.

After reading the above guidelines regarding student parking at PDS, please sign and return this form to the Upper School office by **August 14, 2017**.

Student's Signature: _____

Parent's Signature: _____

Date: _____

**Please return the Driver's Registration to:
Upper School Office, Princeton Day School, P.O. Box 75, Princeton, NJ 08542**

From the Health Office

July 2017

Dear Princeton Day School Families,

Greetings from the health office! As you continue to get your children ready for the school year, we would like to familiarize you with our services, and inform you of the requirements that need to be completed prior to the first day of school.

Our office hours are as follows: Monday–Friday, 7:45 a.m.–3:30 p.m. A health professional will be available during those times each day to address any medical needs your child may require. Should you need to contact the office for any reason, feel free to call the office at extension 1190 or email me directly at nkeller@pds.org and it will be our pleasure to assist you in any way. Please note that there is no nurse on campus after 3:30 p.m., so emergency services may be called should someone require immediate medical attention.

For New Families: We must receive a copy of the New Jersey State A-45 Health Card from your child's last school in New Jersey by **August 1, 2017**. If your child is transferring from a New Jersey school, please instruct the school to forward the A-45 cards to our attention. In addition, you will receive an email at the end of July about the Magnus Health System which we use to process and store our student health forms.

For All Families: All students must provide Magnus Health with their annual physical exam report, updated immunization record, and complete all other School requirements by **August 1, 2017**. In addition, athletes competing in the fall season **MUST** submit the Fall Health History Update prior to Pre-Season Athletics, which begin on August 21.

Regarding Medications at the School: We require written parental consent and a **doctor's order** to dispense medications other than those listed on our "Permission for Over the Counter Medication" form. (You can find this form on your child's Magnus profile.)

Guidelines regarding medications at school are as follows:

- Prescription medication and all medications not included in the "Permission for Over the Counter Medication" form requires the "Request for Medication Administration by School Nurse" form.
- Inhalers/Nebulizer Treatments require an "Asthma Treatment Plan" form.
- Epi-pens/ Benedryl require an "Allergy Action Plan" form.

*In all of the above: Please hand in forms with the medication in its original labeled bottle to the Health Office.

For more information, please review the "Health & Student Services" page on the School website, found under "School Life." In addition, please make a note of the **Magnus Help Desk phone number: 1-877-461-6831**. The Magnus staff will assist you with any questions you have, as well as guide you with faxing, uploading or mailing the required health forms.

Thank you, and enjoy your summer,

Nina Keller RN, MSN

Athletics

Important Information for Upper School Fall Athletics

The Upper School fall sports season will officially begin on Monday, August 21. If a student is interested in playing a fall sport, he or she must be rostered on that team by notifying Steve Gadd, Upper School Scheduler at sgadd@pds.org. Upper School coaches will then reach out to rostered athletes by mid-July to inform them of specific team opportunities to prepare for the upcoming season.

Upper School sports are very competitive, and training throughout the summer is encouraged for all athletes to prepare for the start of the season on August 21. Coaches will reach out to inform their athletes directly about specific team practice schedules for the weeks leading up to the beginning of the school year. Once classes begin on September 5, general practice time will be from 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Games and matches are listed on the website at (www.pds.org/athletics), and parents are encouraged to check this site frequently.

Important Fall Dates

US Fall Season, 8/21–11/1

Fall Weekend 10/14

US Fall Sports Awards 10/31, 4:00 p.m.

Athletic Philosophy

Athletics at Princeton Day School play an integral role in the overall education of each student. We believe in the classical ideal of *Mens sana in corpore sano*, “a sound mind in a sound body” with a dedication to the lasting values of personal integrity, responsibility, commitment, teamwork and sportsmanship.

Our athletic program, which consists of 24 sports and more than 74 teams, is broad enough to prepare gifted athletes to compete at the college level while, at the same time, ensuring that all students are exposed to the lifelong benefits of athletic participation and physical fitness.

Fall

Girls: V & JV Cross Country, V & JV Field Hockey, V & JV Tennis, V & JV Soccer

Boys: V & JV Cross Country, V & JV Soccer, Football (Middle School only)

Winter

Girls: V & JV Basketball, V & JV Volleyball, V & JV Ice Hockey, V & JV Fencing

Boys: V & JV Basketball, V & JV Ice Hockey, V & JV Fencing, V Squash (Co-Ed)

Spring

Girls: V & JV Lacrosse, V & JV Softball, Co-Ed Skating, V Golf (Upper School Only),
Track & Field (Middle School only)

Boys: V & JV Lacrosse, V & JV Baseball, V & JV Tennis, V Golf (Upper School only),
Track & Field (Middle School only)

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Upper School Teams

Varsity: Our finest athletes in terms of ability and attitude are chosen to represent our school in varsity interscholastic competition. We expect a strong commitment to the team. In order to maximize success, playing time and other strategic decisions are determined solely by the coaching staff. Thus, there may be contests in which some athletes do not play.

Junior Varsity: Junior varsity teams are geared toward learning and improving the fundamental skills needed in order to play at a more competitive level. Coaches attempt to give all players adequate playing time, but they also take into account attendance, attitude, and game situations. The goal of all JV teams is to develop future varsity players.

** At times participation numbers will necessitate a freshman or a second JV team to be created. These teams will provide additional practice and playing opportunities to help develop student-athletes for varsity competition in later years.

Team Selections

Choosing the members of a team is the sole responsibility of the coaching staff. Whenever possible, there will be a place for an interested student-athlete on a team that is appropriate for his/her skill level. Although we would like to have every player who tries out for a team earn a spot on the roster, this is unfortunately not always possible. At times, certain teams who are constrained by facilities will have to employ a roster limitation. All roster limitations are thoughtfully and carefully approached so that a positive resolution can be found for all.

The Role of a Student-Athlete

Academics: Academics at PDS come first and it is imperative that student-athletes maintain satisfactory grades in all subjects. On that note, annual studies conducted by the Department of Education have clearly shown that students who participate in co-curricular activities do better in their class work, in part because they have better learned the skill of successful time management and are better able to reduce stress.

Sportsmanship: While Princeton Day School takes great pride in winning, we discourage any and all pressures, which might impede good sportsmanship.

Health: We expect our athletes to prepare for the upcoming season and to take advantage of the Patrick Kerney '94 Fitness Center by contacting Strength and Performance Coach Darius Young dyoung@pds.org. Being prepared physically and mentally sets the stage for a positive and rewarding season.

Dedication: Once placed on a team, we expect that the student-athlete will remain committed for the entire season. Student-athletes are expected to be on time, prepared, physically fit and focused in practices and games. A positive attitude toward your teammates and coaches is expected at all times.

Role as a Parent

PDS Athletics believes a partnership among parents, coaches and players provides a foundation for a successful athletic program and team experience. Parental support is crucial to the confidence, progress, and performance of student-athletes.

continued on the next page

PDS Athletics encourages parents to be enthusiastic and encouraging. Please support your children in doing his/her best at whatever level they participate. Student-athletes should set their own athletic goals and standards. Be positive and supportive as they progress toward them.

Let the coach be the coach. Regardless of your own sports experience, please do not publicly criticize the coach or teammates. It is crucial to the team's spirit and success that players develop a respect for their coach. Demonstrate good sportsmanship at all times.

Role of a Coach

Parents should expect the following from PDS coaches:

- Scheduling of a pre-season meeting between the coaching staff and families of your team
- Creation of a communication email list that will allow the coaches to communicate frequently with you
- Expectation of personal responsibility, camaraderie with teammates, commitment to the team, a strong work ethic, and good sportsmanship on and off the field for all players
- Assurance of safety and welfare of all players
- Fostering a demanding but welcoming competitive environment

Important Note about Athletics Health Forms

Princeton Day School uses the Magnus Health System, which is found on the parent portal on Inside PDS, and we would like to highlight some important dates for the upcoming sports season. All Magnus requirements have a "next action date" of August 1, 2017. You may check the status of your child's file by logging onto the Magnus Health site. Please note, if your child is planning to play a fall sport, practices for Upper School begin Monday, August 21. **Please complete and upload (or fax) all paperwork to Magnus by August 15.** *Only student-athletes with complete Magnus Health files will be permitted to participate.*

- **As per NJ state law, all student athletes must have an updated annual physical performed by a family/school doctor. Please be sure to include all four pages of physical.**
- **In working with NJ state law, PDS policy states a sport health history update must be completed by the parent/guardian before *each* athletic season, regardless of their last physical exam date.** (Note that the health history update must be completed before each athletics season, so if your child plays a sport in the fall, winter, and spring, the form must be completed 3 times.)

Here are a few things to keep in mind for the upcoming sports season:

- All student-athletes must have their own water bottle for practice and games
- New educational materials regarding concussions are available on the PDS athletics website

If you have any further questions, please contact Head Athletic Trainer Henry Minarick at hminarick@pds.org.

From the Communications Office

July 2017

Dear Parents,

Our school website www.pds.org is your primary source for school news, events and sports calendars, athletic team pages, social media links, photos, videos, Parents Association information, Follett, our online bookstore, and much more.

Be sure to log into **Inside PDS**, where you will be linked to the parent portal that includes lots of helpful information, including links to our online parent directory, NetClassroom (where you will find grades and comments), and Magnus Health. (Note: Parents new to PDS will receive an email at the end of July with instructions on how to log into Inside PDS.)

Please take a moment to visit the **“Update My Profile”** tab in the parent portal to update your information for the **school directory by August 18**. You will receive a printed version of the directory at the beginning of the school year, and you can always find an up-to-date version on the parent portal on Inside PDS.

Note that **each parent/guardian has a unique username** and password to access Inside PDS. If you have forgotten your login information, please click on “Retrieve Login Information” and type in your email address. You will receive your username and a link to change your password. If you need assistance, please email communications@pds.org.

You will also receive newsletters from your child’s division. LS News and Focus Notes (the MS newsletter) will arrive in your inbox once a week, and US News will be delivered once a month. These newsletters include a message from the division head as well as announcements about upcoming events.

There is **a great webpage for new parents here**, <https://www.pds.org/new-parent-information>, which includes orientation schedules, recent email messages, and links to different useful pages on the site.

Have a wonderful summer, and we all look forward to seeing you in the fall! If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact me at krosko@pds.org.

With best wishes,

Kathryn Rosko
Director of Communications

From the Safety and Security Office

July 2017

Welcome to the Princeton Day School 2017-2018 School Year!

In our ongoing efforts to make our community a safe place to learn and grow, we wanted to remind everyone of some ways to help keep PDS a great environment for your children, faculty and staff, and you.

- Please drive slowly. The campus speed limit is 10 MPH.
- Follow the traffic control in place at drop off and pick up times. Kindly move your car forward as much as possible to allow your fellow drivers room and ease back-ups.
- Please use hands-free devices so you can pay full attention to the roadway and students.
- Pull over instead of circling the loop, which leads to congestion.
- Please use the painted crosswalks.
- **DO NOT** leave your car unattended in the fire lane. This can result in large fines for the school and you, and could prove disastrous in case of an emergency.
- Please use properly marked/designated parking areas and spaces.
- **ALL visitors** need to sign in at reception and obtain and wear a visitors' badge. This is for everyone's protection so we know you have business inside the school.
- If inside the school building, do **not** open the door for people coming in. If they have legitimate reasons for being here, they should use their badge or go to reception.
- *Upper School students need to have their badge at all times to get into the building.*
- Parents who wish to get a badge may do so, but need to use it and sign in each day.

All of these measures are meant to ensure we minimize risk to everyone on campus. Please help us to keep your children safe and sound.

Feel free to call me at 609-924-6700 ext. 1420 if I can be of assistance to you.

Regards,

Robert K. Toole
Director of Safety and Security



Sustainability Initiative 2017-2018

July 2017

Dear Princeton Day School Families,

Sustainability continues to thrive at Princeton Day School. There is so much to report—new programs and awards, developing curriculum—that I hope you'll check out our brand new webpages at www.pds.org/sustainability.

We encourage you to support your child's learning and our sustainability program in 2017-18 by participating in the activities below.

ATHLETICS: YOUR ATHLETE NEEDS A REUSABLE WATER BOTTLE & A SNACK!

A reusable water bottle is a required piece of daily athletic equipment. Please make sure your child has one in his or her after school athletic gear bag everyday. Even if we recycle disposable water bottles, imagine how much plastic is used in making them and how much gas is used in transporting them to your store! Please send your athlete with an after school snack. We are also trying to cut down on single serving snack bags and ask you not to bring in cases of bottled beverages or multipacks of disposable snack bags for teams. The snack bar stays open after school for your child to buy a snack if you don't wish to send one.

NO CAR IDLING POLICY: For the health of our children, we have a no idling policy. Reduce the amount of pollution all of our children inhale by not idling your car while you wait for your child. Experts advise that if you are waiting for more than 10 seconds, you should turn off your car. You will also seriously reduce your environmental impact and save gas money. Check out our [sustainability webpages](#) for more information. Last year we created "Panthers Never Idle" magnets for the back of your car. We hope you'll display them proudly. If you don't have one, we'll be happy to give you one in the fall.

CARPOOL TO SCHOOL: Carpooling is another great way to practice sustainability. To make it easier for families to search for other families in their area with whom they can carpool to Princeton Day School, we have a carpool map on "Inside PDS" in the parent portal under the left navigation menu. Save time, save gas, reduce carbon emissions.

ZERO WASTE CAMPUS: Help us move closer to a zero-waste campus. If you send your child with lunch or a snack, please package it in a reusable lunchbox/bag. Consider reusable plastic containers (of the Tupperware type), a reusable bottle, and a cloth napkin. Taking care of the lunchbox is a good way to help your child learn responsibility. Our composting program has put 90 tons of food waste and nutrients back into the soil rather than sending it to the landfill. You can be a part of the solution!

PDS HARVEST DINNER: SAVE THE DATE: OCTOBER 7, 5:30pm

The Upper School Environmental Action (EnAct) and Food & Garden Clubs will unite again to cook and serve a sustainable dinner feast using veggies from our own PDS garden and from other local farms as a fundraiser for the PDS garden. Families of all ages are welcome. There will be garden tours, music, beehive visits, a grand feast, and students will be speaking about environmental issues.

PARENT SUSTAINABILITY & GARDEN GROUP: PSGG is the wonderful Parents Association committee that supports sustainability and the garden at our school. We plan many activities for parents and organize volunteer days in the garden. For more information contact: Susan Tourville: susan.tourville@yahoo.com or Heather Schofield: hmschofield@me.com

If you have any questions or ideas, we welcome them. Please feel free to contact me at lcutler@pds.org.

Liz Cutler
Sustainability Coordinator

The Anne Reid '72 Art Gallery



© Thatcher Cook

Gallery Schedule

2017–2018

September 11 – October 5

50th Anniversary

Arts Council of Princeton

October 16 – November 9

Princeton Day School

Visual & Design Arts Faculty

November 20 – December 14

Women in Mali Resisting Jihad

Katie Orlinsky

January 8 – February 1

Charles Bryan

February 12 – March 8

Lindsay Feuer

Carrie Norin

Madelaine Shellaby

April 2 – April 26

Imagine the Possibilities

Melissa Sweet

May 7 – May 30

Student Exhibition

June 1 – June 8

Senior Thesis Exhibition

From the Parents Association

July 2017

Dear Parents,

The Parents Association of Princeton Day School would like to extend a warm welcome to all of our families for a new and exciting 2017–2018 school year. The Parents Association (PA) is a vibrant and vital part of our PDS community and you, our parents, play an essential role. Each year, the Parents Association organizes and supports various school events and programs which benefit our children, our parents, and our school, so please come join the fun and volunteer.

There are many volunteer opportunities to fit your schedule and interests that are either school-wide or by division. Whether you help in the classroom, decorate for an event or chaperone a dance, you are keeping our community strong. The Volunteer Opportunities form is available on the PDS website (www.pds.org/volunteer-form) and I would encourage you to review, complete and submit the form online so a PA representative can reach out to you and discuss specific volunteer roles. Please know that we value and appreciate all of your efforts!

Our first PA meeting will be held early this fall on Tuesday, **September 26** at 8:15 a.m. in the McAneny Theater. We do hope you will join us. These meetings are a great way to keep parents informed throughout the year. You will hear updates from Head of School Paul Stellato, as well as educational lectures for parents on topics ranging from raising children to health and wellness to college counseling. The dates for these meetings will be posted on the PDS website.

Using the PDS website (www.pds.org) is the best way to stay up-to-date on important information, school and athletics events, and more. Click on “Inside PDS” and log in to find information specific to you and your child(ren). For help in logging in or if you have any questions about the website, email communications@pds.org for assistance.

I look forward to meeting parents new to PDS at our New Parent Dinner, which is scheduled for Tuesday, September 26. Our PA Event and Committee Chairs will be available to answer any questions about volunteer opportunities. This dinner is not to be missed, as you will hear from Paul Stellato, as well as Rebecca Bushnell, the Chair of the Board of Trustees. This is also a great way to meet other new and current families.

I look forward to seeing everyone this fall and working with you throughout the year to make this a successful and memorable one for all of us.

My warmest wishes to you and your families for a wonderful summer!

Shari Phillips
President, Parents Association

Ordering Textbooks at Princeton Day School

Princeton Day School has partnered with Follett to offer our families a convenient online book purchasing option. You will receive an email at the end of July with detailed instructions for book ordering and rentals through Follett via the PDS website (www.pds.org).

Our online bookstore will open on Tuesday, **August 1**.

ALL ORDERS PLACED FROM AUGUST 1 – AUGUST 14 WILL BE SHIPPED DIRECTLY TO THE SCHOOL for a lower flat-fee shipping rate. Students may still order books after August 14, but the books will be shipped home at a slightly higher shipping rate.

We encourage you to order your hardcopy texts EARLY, especially if you are interested in purchasing used textbooks, as that inventory generally sells quickly. Also, please order any e-books by August 27 to ensure they are available for download before the first day of school. However, note that e-books are not returnable, so please do not order until you are sure that your student's schedule is set and will not change.

You can pick-up your books at our “Welcome Back Book Pick-up Event” on August 30 and August 31 (8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.) and September 1 (8:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon) in the Upper Gym. You will also be able to check out our newest Panther Den apparel and gear and stock up on your school supplies.

Finally, please note that there is no obligation to purchase books through Follett—you may purchase books from your favorite online vendor. The PDS Follett online bookstore is offered as a convenient, one-stop shopping option for our families.

Questions? Contact Panther Den Store Manager Jennifer Laurash at jlaurash@pds.org