

Pond Cove Principal's Notes

Week of March 7, 2022

Dear Families,

I hope you all enjoyed a lovely February vacation. A lot has transpired over the past week and this note includes three important updates including information about parent teacher conferences, masking guidelines, and adjustments to our recess.

As always, please feel welcome to reach out with any questions.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Jason Manjourides



Parent-Teacher Conferences

Pond Cove teachers will host parent-teacher conferences this month. Although the afternoon of March 23 is designated for conferences on our district calendar, some teachers choose to provide meeting options before or after school throughout the month of March. This depends entirely on each teacher's availability and preference.

Classroom teachers have the option of offering parents a meeting via Zoom or in-person for spring conferences. Although many may be excited about the reinstatement of in-person conferences, some families and staff members will prefer to Zoom for a variety of reasons. Given the personal nature of these decisions, it is incredibly important for all of us to respect each individual's choice and level of comfort.

Masking Update

The Cape Elizabeth District Planning Committee met on Thursday, March 3. At that meeting, the committee agreed to recommend an optional masking policy for students and staff starting Monday, March 14. This will be voted on at the School Board meeting next Tuesday. In the meantime, we will forge ahead to prepare for the policy adjustment.

We recognize that this news may come with mixed emotions for families and staff. We ask all within our community to be respectful of each individual's personal choice. While masks will be optional beginning March 14th, it is important to keep in mind that there may be special

situations where individuals will still be required to wear a mask in school. Specific information will be forthcoming from Superintendent Record.

Starting Wednesday, March 9, staff will begin conversations with students about the change from required to optional masking. Our message to all children will center on showing respect and acceptance for others' decisions and how to be safe, respectful, and kind. Resources and talking points for parents will be shared as well.

Thank you for your continued support and flexibility as we navigate our next steps during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Recess Adjustments

We will soon provide students with more opportunities to engage with grade-level peers, as well as access more areas of the playground during recess. This means that students will have access to play in more than one zone of either Little or Big Adventureland, depending on their grade level, and with any classes who are also outside during their recess period.

We will allow time for students to learn expectations for playing with other classes, and provide our counseling team and teachers sufficient opportunity to provide guidance and support. To accomplish this, we will follow a two-week roll out: second, third, and fourth grade students will begin playing with other classes the week of March 7; kindergarten and first grade classes will begin mixing cohorts on the playground the week of March 14.



A week has passed since we started using PikMyKid. Each day, our staff has become more comfortable with the software, and our time at dismissal keeps getting quicker. Thank you for your patience!

Please remember to enter your student's change of dismissal by 1:00 PM each day, and on campus, make sure to post your car tags in the passenger window.

Please also note that permission for after school activities should be submitted in PikMyKid. For attendance changes (absences, tardies, and early dismissals), please continue to use the PowerSchool portal.

If you have not registered yet, please do so. Here are two videos to get you started.

[Parent App Training Video](#)

[Parent App Registration Video](#)

Here is some more helpful information about PickMyKid.

[Parent App User Guide](#)

Frequently asked questions:

[Will I need to have a smartphone to pick up my child in the carline?](#)

No. If you do not have a smartphone to announce your student's pickup, the staff members on duty will use the information on your car tag to locate your student.

[Can I have a duplicate car tag for my student\(s\)?](#)

If you are in need of another PikMyKid car tag, please click on this [link](#) and fill out the request form.

[I am having trouble getting set up on PikMyKid. What should I do?](#)

If you are in need of extra help, you may contact the Pond Cove office for basic information. PikMyKid does have a dedicated support team to help you when you have a question. You can contact them at: support@pikmykid.com.

Kindergarten Registration

Our office is now accepting kindergarten registrations for the 2022-2023 school year. If you have a child turning 5 on or before October 15, 2022, please click [here](#) to begin the pre-registration process. Also, please help spread the word to other Cape families who may be interested in registering their children for kindergarten next year.

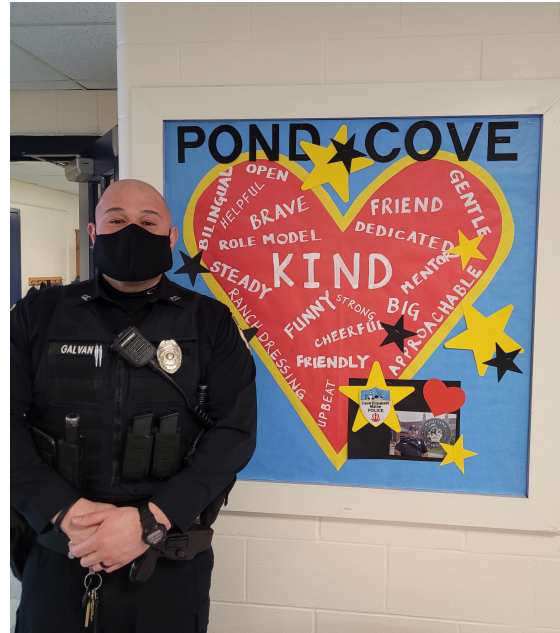
Once your kindergartener's pre-registration has been approved by our office, you will receive a detailed email guiding you through the enrollment process via the PowerSchool portal. Upon form completion, you will need to upload the following documentation:

1. Child's birth certificate
2. Proof of immunizations
3. Proof of residency

If you are in need of extra support throughout this process, please contact our office.

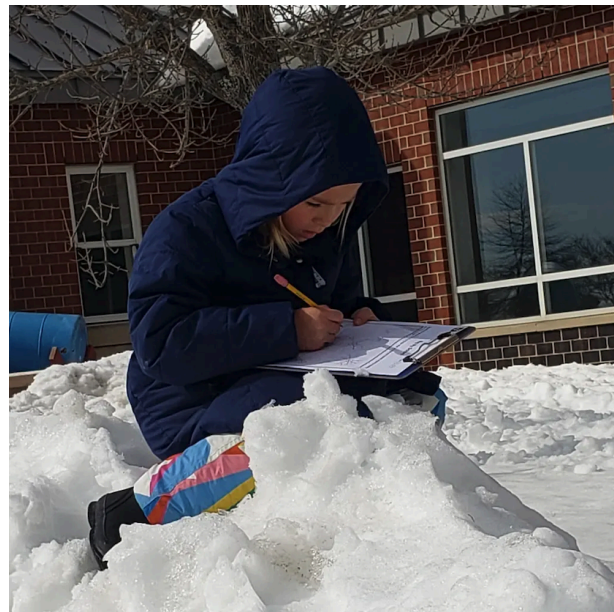
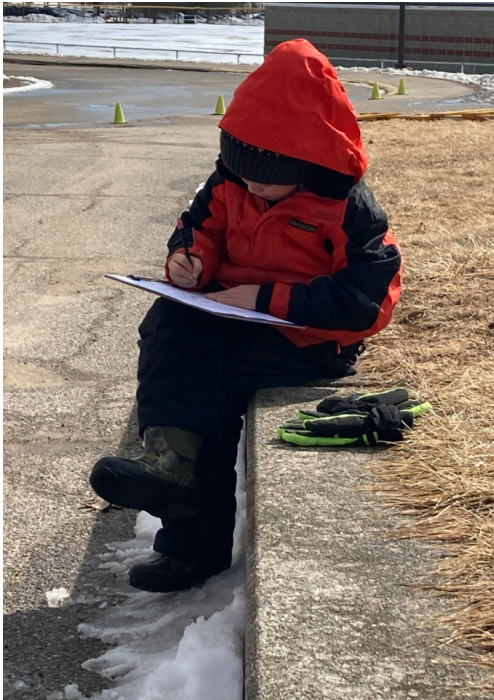
Pics From this Week:

Pond Cove showed appreciation for Officer Galvan, our School Resource Officer, shown here with Mrs. Choi who helped create the boards with Mrs. Sheskey (not pictured) and Principal Manjourides.



Students in Mrs. Carroll's Grade 2 class mapped the school entrance, using a bird's eye view.





Here are William Neely (left) and Reese Ready (right) making their maps.

Counselors' Corner

Mrs. Gallagher and Mrs. O'Neill



[Pond Cove's Wellness Space](#)

Bri



Gallagher

Megan O'Neill

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moneill@capeelizabethschools.org



Looking Ahead

- March 9 from 8:45-9:15 AM: 4th Grade Band/Chorus Demonstration (Cafeteria)
 - *SNOW DATE: Thursday, March 10th (same time)
- March 11: Staff Development Day (No School for students)
- March 23: Parent Teacher Conferences (Students dismissed at 12:05)
- April 6: Staff Development Afternoon (Students dismissed at 12:05)
- April 15-22: Spring Break/No School
- May 11: Staff Development Afternoon (Students dismissed at 12:05)

Important COVID Reminders

- Please complete the [Daily Symptoms Checklist](#) for your child each day before they attend school. This is very important as we work to keep our campus open for in-person school this year.
- If students arrive late to school, please have them enter the Pond Cove front door and check in at the main office.
- Due to the pandemic, we are discouraging parents/guardians from dropping items off at school this year. It takes us all working together to keep everyone healthy and safe. Thank you for all your efforts at home!
- For questions related to COVID-19 protocols in our school, please check [COVID-19 Parent/Student Handbook](#).
- To sign your child up for pooled testing: **Consent Form:**
<http://testcenter.concentricbyginkgo.com//minor-consent> (Access code: oC46EP - the first digit is zero)
- Any questions related to COVID, pooled testing, or any other health concern, please contact Nurse Taylor: etaylor@capeelizabetschools.org

Looking Ahead [2021-2022 District School Calendar](#)

Office Contact Information:

- Jason Manjourides, Principal: jmanjourides@capeelizabethschools.org
- Sarah Forrey-Pettit, Assistant Principal: sforreypettit@capeelizabethschools.org
- Sarah Choi, Administrative Assistant: schoi@capeelizabethschools.org
- Charity Wetzel, Administrative Assistant: cwetzel@capeelizabethschools.org
- General office email: pcoffice@capeelizabethschools.org