



# PANDA PAW

404-802-4100 • [atlantapublicschools.us/parkside](http://atlantapublicschools.us/parkside)

## Arrival and Dismissal

### ARRIVAL:

- Students are **NOT** allowed to enter the building before 7:30 am. For the safety of your child please do not leave them alone in the front of the building **BEFORE 7:30 am**.
- Instruction begins at 8:00 am. We encourage ALL of our students to be in class by 8:00 am.
- At 8:01 am, students are marked tardy.
- Parents dropping off students must drop them off in the Rotunda. If you would like to meet with the teacher please schedule a conference with your child's teacher.

### DISMISSAL:

- Parents please notify the school **prior to 2:00 pm** if there is a change in student's mode of transportation.
- Early dismissal for students must be prior to 2:00 pm.
- Parents please **do not enter** building during dismissal between 2:00 p.m. and 2:50 p.m.

**STUDENT SAFETY IS A TOP PRIORITY AT PARKSIDE**

## Volunteers

Volunteering is an important part of your child's education. Volunteers can be parents, grandparents or interested community members. **Volunteers make a difference in our students' lives** and play an invaluable role in their education and development. Students' behaviors improve drastically when they know their parents or other interested parties are a part of the school. Examples of volunteers include parents/guardians volunteering for a field day or school fair, classroom helpers, in-class tutors, performers and speakers from external agencies.

- ◆ If you would like to volunteer at Parkside, you **must** complete the *Volunteer Training and Criminal History Release Form*.
- ◆ The training will be held **every Wednesday at 8:30 AM** in the Media Center.
- ◆ Please see **Mrs. Brown, School Counselor**, if you have any questions.

## Upcoming Events



### PANDA CALENDAR

- September 27 Parent University (SEL) 5:30-7:30PM
- September 28 Panda Community Gathering 8:00AM
- September 28 Screen on the Green 7:30PM
- October 8-12 Fall Break NO School

## Join us on "REMIND"

REMIND is an easy way to **stay informed** and **connected** with Parkside and Principal Foster. You'll be able to receive convenient text updates directly to your phone.

It is convenient, easy, and very helpful.  
Over 270 parents are already on board.



**From Your Phone:**

**Text the message: @pandainfo**

**To the number: 81010**

**DIVERSITY • PRIDE • COMMUNITY**

# Project Based Learning Activities

## Parkside Pandas POWER UP with Project Based Learning!

One of our school wide initiatives is to increase inquiry based learning at Parkside. Project based learning is designed to help students learn and practice the skills they will need for college, career, and life success. Project based learning is a teaching method that seeks to motivate students, help students meet standards, and do well on tests that ask students to demonstrate in-depth knowledge and thinking skills. PBL also encourages and allows for teachers to use more creativity in their instructional strategies, encouraging a more kinesthetic learning environment inside and outside of the classroom, with increased exposure to outdoor learning. Project based learning units usually begin with a driving question/inquiry for students to investigate over an extended period of time, with the focus connected to authentic real-world issues. One of the GREATEST aspects of Project Based Learning is that the expectation is to involve parents, citizens in our community, and people from many backgrounds to share experiences that relate to the standard that is being addressed in PBL, as well as to increase students, speaking, viewing, and listening abilities through student presentations. This school year the focus of project based learning will be within the social studies and science content areas.

Some highlights:

- August 21<sup>st</sup> Fifth grade is planning their project that will align to the presentation provided by Georgia Power.
- September 14<sup>th</sup> Kindergarten class focused on Citizenship. Students interviewed the custodial staff during a presentation. Students cleaned the school grounds as their project.
- September 21<sup>st</sup>-Mr. Gusta's third grade students will present a Georgia Habitats Power Point and share a Major Landforms brochure to parents! Thanks parents for assisting with this project.
- September 28<sup>th</sup>-First grade students will present their social studies museum from 1:00 – 1:30 p.m. First grades focus is America the Beautiful! They will share patriotic songs!
- October 5<sup>th</sup>-Kindergarten Presentation: People in Our Neighborhood/Community Helpers. Community Helpers will set up informational booths in the media center. Kindergarten students will take a gallery walk around to the booths, dressed as the careers they desire to be when they grow up..
- Second grade is working on their MOVE IT project!
- Fourth grade will be completing a Solar System garden project! Parents are welcome to assist!!! (contact Mr. Hugley)
- Gifted class will be presenting their Alien designs! Don't miss it!!! How will they survive on that planet???
- Ms. Weekes, Ms. Henderson, and Ms. Cantu, our specials teachers, have collaborated with grade levels with the implementation of PBL as well as projects in their classrooms.
- BIG SHOUT OUT to District Coordinators in Science and Social Studies for their collaboration with Parkside Elementary!!! Staff PBL planning day is September 25<sup>th</sup>!

If you have any questions, or would love to volunteer to assist with Project Based Learning at Parkside, please contact, Dr. Alexander, Assistant Principal.

# Message from Gifted



The parent referral window for gifted testing is open. Please adhere to the following information:

Any parent with a child enrolled in an APS school may refer his or her child for gifted and talented testing. Parents must complete the Gifted Referral and Parental Permission Form and submit it to the school's gifted eligibility team for review. The permission forms are located in the main office in the parent communication corner, as well as, the Gifted and Talented tab under the Atlanta Public Schools website.

Please give all completed forms to Dr. Donerlson in Room 114 or the front office. The window **will close September 28th**. For additional information regarding the program, please visit the APS website, click department and services, followed by a click on Gifted and Talented.

## Movie Night

PARKSIDE ELEMENTARY PTA PRESENTS THE 4TH ANNUAL  
**PARKSIDE SCREEN ON THE GREEN**  
 FEATURING  
 Disney · PIXAR  
**COCO**

FRIDAY SEPT. 28<sup>TH</sup> | 7:30PM | RAIN OR SHINE

**FREE ENTRY!**

GATHER STARTING AT 7:00 WITH BLANKETS AND CHAIRS. SHOWTIME IS AT 7:30. LIGHT CONCESSIONS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE WITH ALL PROCEEDS GOING TO SUPPORT THE PARKSIDE PTA. PARKSIDE IS LOCATED AT 685 MERCER STREET, GRANT PARK.

MORE INFO [FACEBOOK.COM/PARKSIDEELEMENTARYPTA](https://facebook.com/parksideelementarypta)  
 VOLUNTEER INFO [TINYURL.COM/PARKSIDEMOVIE2018](https://tinyurl.com/parksidemovie2018)  
 CONCESSION VOLUNTEERS [TINYURL.COM/MOVIESALE2018](https://tinyurl.com/moviesale2018)

Logos for sponsors: Intown, Premier Glass Products, Preferred School Care, Shein & Brandenburg, ISU Paragon, Monroe Group, Beacon Atlanta, City Atlanta, Man Overboard, David Dreyer, and Parkside Elementary PTA.