



Greetings Ferndale Families!

We are super excited about Week #3 of SY21-22. Here are a few important updates and reminders.

### **Instruction**

The week of August 30, 2021 is a normal instructional week and the instructional day begins at 9:20 AM each day. Please do not drop your student off before 9:00 AM each day as we need to ensure there is appropriate supervision for our students at all times.

Students that arrive after 9:20 am will be marked tardy, receive a phone call home, and multiple tardies will result in an impact to their attendance record and student event participation.

Beginning in the month of September, parents at each grade level will begin receiving a newsletter outlining the standards that students are working on each week along with celebrations of student academic achievement. Please ensure that we have the most current email address for you so that you may receive this information. You may send your most recent email to Principal Caesar-Crawford at [caesarl@gcsnc.com](mailto:caesarl@gcsnc.com).

LaToya Caesar, Principal

J. Marquice Miller, Assistant Principal    Ronnie Marshall, Assistant Principal    Maria Rivas de Kouba, Assistant Principal



## Transportation

If you are experiencing transportation issues at this time with an assignment you have already been provided, please contact our front office and we will be happy to assist you. If you have made a transportation request as recently as last week, it will take up to 10 days to fulfill this request. For further assistance with transportation see below:

[Who to contact](#) detailed contact list for Transportation Services.

[Here Comes the Bus](#) – Provides student bus assignment, GPS tracking of the bus arrival for pick up.

[School Bus Locator](#) – Provides parents access to view bus route information, student ID and birthdate are required to log in. Bus information will only exist if a request has been submitted.

[Parent Portal](#) – PowerSchool Transportation tab contains student bus assignment information.

[School bus stop appeal](#) - allows parents to request a change to their student's bus stop.

## Athletics

Is your student interested in playing a sport? It's about that time of the year Ferndale is preparing for an exciting 2021-2022 school year within our athletic department! Try-outs for fall sports will start on this MONDAY August 30th at 4:45pm - 6:30pm in the big gym. Fall sports include cheerleading, football, boys' soccer, and girls' volleyball. Girls' soccer and boys' volleyball will start in early October, however you do not need to show up on Monday. Students must have a completed North Carolina High School Athletic Association physical and concussion form. Parents can pick up their athlete in the bus loop, in the back of the school and all students must be picked up no later than 6:45pm. As a

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reminder, unvaccinated students will be required to undergo COVID-19 testing throughout the season administered by GCS. Parents will have had to sign the permission form sent to them allowing for this.

Good luck students and we look forward to seeing you promptly at 4:45pm in the big gym on Monday!

### **OneCard**

Our school will be transitioning to the use of One Card this week. Once issued their OneCard, students will be able to board the bus, enter the building, and be counted for attendance purposes daily. All students will be required to have their OneCard with them daily at the beginning of the instructional day in order to board the bus. Informational flyers will be sent home this week with more information for parents. This information will also be sent posted on our website.

### **Technology:**

All Grade 6, 7 and 8 students have been provided a laptop or Chromebook to use for instructional purposes. Further information regarding the use of these devices for instructional purposes at home will be provided.

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### **Cell Phones:**

A reminder that the use of cell phones for purposes other than an approved instructional activity are strictly prohibited. Parents, please remind students that they are to keep their cell phones in their backpacks during the school day unless instructed otherwise by a teacher or administrator that it can be used for instructional purposes. Non-adherence to this policy will result in a disciplinary action.

### **Front Office Hours:**

Our Front Office phones are answered between the hours of 8:45 AM and 4:45 PM. Our office number is 336-819-2855.

### **Nutrition:**

Breakfast will be served daily from 9:00 AM to 9:20 AM and is free for all students. Lunch will be served daily according to each grade level schedule. A la carte items will not be available the first week of school for student purchase.

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**Safety:**

All students are REQUIRED to wear masks at all times in class and common areas in the building. Students exhibiting any symptoms such as fever, cough, weakness, headache, etc. should NOT be sent to school. If a student exhibits these symptoms during the school day, the student will be isolated until a parent can pick them up.

**Car Riders:**

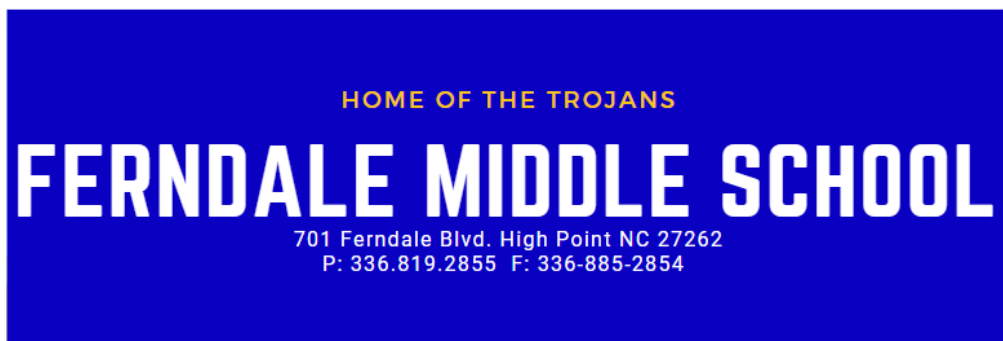
To keep our car rider line moving in the morning, please ensure that students have their masks on, bookbags sealed, OneCards ready, and are prepared to exit the vehicle as quickly as possible. Please do not stop or park your vehicle in the car rider line. Parking is available in surrounding areas of the school lot.

**Early Dismissal:**

Early dismissal will not occur before 2:30pm, and only then with prior notice to the front office. Early dismissal for students will be permitted for medical reasons and student or family emergencies, etc.

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**Immunizations:**

Parents of Grade 7 students are reminded that your student must have the TDAP booster and MCV Vaccine before the school year begins. The deadline for this vaccination is September 16. Your student will not be allowed to attend school after this date without proof of the immunization. If you are contacted to ensure that your student has received the immunization, please ensure that you have the appropriate documentation to submit with your student this week.

Have a great week!

Principal LaToya C. Crawford  
Ferndale Middle School

**FMS INFO BELOW:**

**#lovejoylearning #TrojanPride**

**FOCUS** for the 2021-2022 school year – **Love, Joy, Learning!**

**FMS VISION STATEMENT**

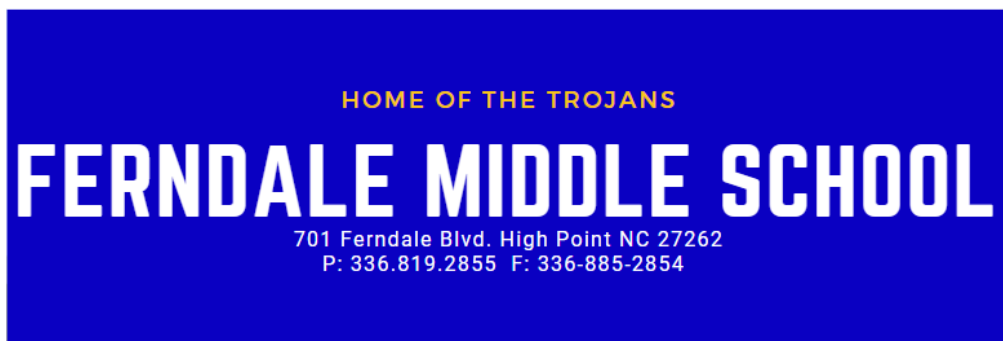
Ferndale Middle is a global learning community that inspires innovative leaders.

**FMS MISSION STATEMENT**

Ferndale Middle creates an empowering culture that fosters critical thinking, problem-solving, and achievement.

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**FMS SCHOOL-WIDE EXPECTATION-** At Ferndale Middle, we show  
**"PRIDE":**

- Positive Attitude
- Respect
- Integrity
- Dependability
- Excellence – in all we do.

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