

# **2011-2012 FAQ'S for Parents**

## **When does school start?**

Monday, August 22

## **What school will my child attend?**

The *school* a child attends is based on the parent/guardian's home address. Parents may call the Boundary Office at (561) 434-8100 or go online at [www.palmbeachschools.org](http://www.palmbeachschools.org) and click on the "Back to School Banner" and then on "Find My School" to find the appropriate *school* for your child.

## **When should students register for school?**

New students should call the school to register as soon as possible.

## **How can I find information about the school my child will attend?**

Call the school or visit the Community Web site, [www.palmbeachschools.org/Community](http://www.palmbeachschools.org/Community), to view the Florida School Indicators Report. These reports show how schools compare in areas such as class size, annual expenditures, school safety, test scores, teacher education and experience. At the Community Web site, click on Education Resources, then Education Links, then Statistics/Demographics, then Florida School Indicators Report.

## **What are the school hours?**

*School* hours vary from 7:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. to 9:30 a.m.-4:05 p.m. Go to [www.palmbeachschools.org](http://www.palmbeachschools.org) and click on the *Back to School* Banner and then "School Hours", or go to "Schools" and go to the School & Principal Directory and look under your child's *school*, or call the *school* directly.

## **What documents does my child need to register?**

**Below is a checklist to help the registration process go as smoothly as possible:**

You will need the following to register your child for school in Palm Beach County:

- ❖ Two proofs of residence reflecting the correct address
  - Documentation in the name of the parent or guardian may include:
    - Current telephone or electric bill

- Rent receipt with the name of tenant and landlord and contact information for all parties .
- Lease agreement with name of tenant and landlord and contact information for all parties.
- Mortgage
- Home purchase contract including specified closing date, with copy of deed to be provided within 30 days of closing date
- Automobile insurance policy
- Current Florida Driver's License/Florida Identification Card
- Cellular telephone bill
- Credit card statement
- United States Postal Service confirmation of address change request or evidence of correspondence
- Declaration of Domicile form from County Records Department

Please note: Additional proof may be required pursuant to Policy 5.011 section 2. To view policy 5.011 go to [www.schoolboardpolicies.com/p/5.011](http://www.schoolboardpolicies.com/p/5.011)

- Birth Certificate (Or acceptable alternative proof of age)
  - \*Entering Kindergarten Students must have reached the age of five on or before September 1st of the year they enroll.
- Evidence of Physical Examination
  - Students, grade K-12 entering a Florida school for the first time, must present evidence of a medical examination performed within twelve months prior to their initial enrollment.
  - Parents must provide a written notification of any health/medical problem that requires staff awareness and/or supervision for their child.
  - Medical Treatment Form should be completed, if needed
- Evidence of Immunization
  - Florida Certificate of Immunization (Form DH 680).
  - Permanent medical exemption (if immunization is contraindicated for one or all).
  - Religious exemption (Form 681), a temporary exemption (Form DH 680 Part B) or a medical exemption (Form DH680, Part C).
- A Completed Registration Form
  - You can obtain this form from your school or download a [New and Returning Student Registration](#) form.
- School Records (if any)
  - Latest report card and or transcript needed for proper grade placement

To find out the school(s) assigned to your residence you may call the Boundaries Department at (561) 434-8100 or view the website at <http://gis.palmbeach.k12.fl.us/SchoolLocator/>

What kind of immunizations does my child need?

## 2011-2012 Immunization Requirements

Prior to entry, attendance, or transfer to Florida schools (kindergarten through 12th grade), each child shall have on file a Florida Certification of Immunization, DH 680, documenting the following:

**Public/Non-Public Schools Kindergarten through 12th Grade:**

Four or five doses of diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (DTaP) vaccine

Two or three doses of hepatitis B (Hep B) vaccine

**Three, four, or five doses of polio vaccine\***

Two doses of measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine

Two doses of varicella vaccine† for kindergarten and grades one through three

One dose of varicella vaccine† for grades four through ten

*\* New requirement for 2011-2012, if the fourth dose of vaccine is administered prior to the fourth birthday, a fifth dose of polio vaccine is required for entry into kindergarten.*

*† Varicella vaccine is not required if varicella disease is documented by the healthcare provider.*

**Seventh Grade Requirement:**

In addition to compliance with all other required immunizations, children entering, attending, or transferring to the seventh, eighth, or ninth grade in Florida schools must complete the following:

One dose of tetanus-diphtheria-pertussis (Tdap) vaccine

For more information, Call (850) 245-4342 or Visit [www.ImmunizeFlorida.org](http://www.ImmunizeFlorida.org)

School Health Requirements for School Year 2011-2012														
Grades	PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
<b>DTaP/DT series</b>	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
<b>Tdap Booster</b>									√	√	√			
<b>Tdap /Td booster</b>												√	√	√
<b>Polio series</b>	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
<b>MMR (2 doses)</b>	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
<b>Hepatitis B series</b>	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
<b>Varicella (2 doses)</b>		√	√	√	√									
<b>Varicella (1dose)</b>	√					√	√	√	√	√	√	√		
<b>*Physical examination</b>	√	√							√					

### **What are choice programs? Where are they and how do I register my child for one?**

Contact the Department of Choice and Career Options at (561) 434-8755 or go to [www.palmbeachschools.org/choiceprograms/](http://www.palmbeachschools.org/choiceprograms/).

### **How can I ask to have my child attend another school?**

Visit the school or call Choice and Career Options at (561) 434-8755.

You'll be asked to complete a reassignment form. Requests are considered based upon space availability and the school's diversity goals. Valid reasons for transferring a student include supervision hardship, health reasons, change of legal residence, allowing a senior to finish the year at the school he or she had been attending, and transfers that improve the racial balance of both schools involved.

### **How can I find out what bus my child will ride and what time it will arrive?**

Each school has its own bus routes, schedules and a bus coordinator. Schedules are generally ready about one week before school and are available by calling the school your child will attend or by visiting the Transportation website at [www.palmbeachschools.org/transportation/](http://www.palmbeachschools.org/transportation/) and click on "Find My Bus Stop".

### **I work and can't wait for the bus to pick up my child in the morning and can't be home to supervise my child after school. What do I do?**

Most elementary schools have School-Age Child Care (SACC) programs in the morning and afternoon for students whose parents work or need extended care. Contact your child's school for details.

### **What about breakfast and lunch?**

Breakfast and lunch are served daily at all schools.

Breakfast (all schools): \$1 per day full price, 30 cents per day reduced price. Lunch at elementary schools: \$1.75 per day full price; 40 cents per day reduced price. Lunch at secondary schools: \$2 per day full price, 40 cents per day reduced price.

Under the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs, free and reduced price meals are available to students who qualify. Application forms are available from your child's school, online at <https://mealapps.palmbeach.k12.fl.us/> or you can call the School Food Service Office at 1-888-383-2025.

**My child needs special help with a learning disability. What do I do?**

Contact the Exceptional Student Education (ESE) coordinator at your school. If your child is not in an exceptional student education program, the ESE coordinator will arrange a meeting of the Child Study Team (CST) at the school. With your input, the CST will develop a plan to assist your child. If your child continues to have problems, the CST will request your permission to evaluate your child to determine if he or she needs special attention.

If your child is already in an exceptional student education program, the ESE coordinator at your school will invite you to a meeting to review your child's Individual Education Plan. The school district provides programs for all eligible exceptional students including mentally handicapped, speech- and language-impaired, learning disabled, visually impaired, hearing impaired, physically impaired, emotionally handicapped and gifted students.

**My child is just learning English. What help is there for him?**

All schools have programs to support the English language development and academic needs of students in the English for Speakers of Other Language (ESOL) program. If you have questions, call the Department of Multicultural Education at (561) 434-8620.

**I'm interested in a private school for my child. When do they start classes?**

Generally, private schools are open the same days as the public schools; however, dates and times do vary. Call the school for specific information.

**What about a dress code?**

The dress code policy or uniform guidelines vary from school to school. Call the school that your child will attend.