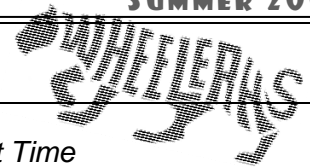


WHEELER PTSA FRESHMAN PAGES

SUMMER 2009



Welcome To The Class of 2013!

Here's What You Need To Know: *A,B,C's Of Attending Wheeler For First Time*

A WildCat Daze Thursday, August 6

5:00 - Tours-Meet at the Main Office on the "W"

6:00 - New Student Orientation- Meet in the Auditorium

Following the Orientation, proceed to Cafeteria to take part in Wildcat Daze activities. Below is a list of Wildcat Daze activities for both students and parents. **Bring cash or multiple checks** since payment must be made separately to each organization.

Students & Parents Should:

- Find your homeroom on the posted list
- Pick up your class schedule
- Pay your class dues and get your class T-shirt
- Order your yearbook
- Get your Activity Card (great discounts, free admission to several school events)
- Buy your Athletic Pass (free admission to ALL Wildcat regular home games)

- Join clubs
- Join PTSA. Yes, even students!
 - Pay dues. Make donation.
 - Purchase calendar & directory
- Sign up for sports at the athletic tables
- Purchase Wheeler spirit wear – car magnet, T-shirts etc.
- Pick up parking permits
- Look up your bus route (or go to www.cobbk12.org and click on Transportation > Bus Routes.)

Magnet Students & Parents Should Also:

- Make annual donation to Magnet Foundation
- Pick up information packet at Magnet Foundation table

Parents Should Also:

- Join Academic Booster Club (ABC), a great student support organization
- Prepay student lunches or go to www.cobbk12.org, click on Mealpay Plus

B First Day of School Monday, August 10

- Report directly to your homeroom no later than 8:18
- Warning bell rings at 8:18
- School Hours 8:25-3:25
- Pencil/pen and paper are all that students need on the first day of class
- School Supplies-purchased **after** the first day of class, according to teacher requirements
- Lockers will be given out in homeroom during the first week of school

C Open House Tuesday, August 25

- 5:45-6:30 - Obtain your child's schedule at the main school entrance
- 6:00-6:30 - Q & A with Wheeler Administration in the Old Gym
- 6:30 - PTSA General Meeting in the Old Gym
- 7:00(approx) - Parents follow student's schedule & meet teachers

Sign Up for Wheeler's Weekly Enews

The best way to keep informed of the news and events at Wheeler during the school year is to receive the *Wildcat Weekly*, our weekly e-newsletter. To receive the *Wildcat Weekly* at your home, office or both:

→ Go to www.wheelerhigh.com & click on "Signup for Wheeler Enews"

Parents and Students, We Need Your Help!

We understand that cell phones are a part of today's society. However, making personal phone calls and texts during the school day can have and has had a negative impact on instruction and the school environment. We have experienced many incidents where communication via text or cell phone call was either the source of a student conflict or intensified the conflict. We completely understand that phones can be a safety net; however, please support Wheeler in the following:

1. Students may not have a phone on or visible from 8:25 - 3:25.
2. If needed, students may access a phone in any school office with teacher or administrative permission.
3. Consequences for having a cell phone visible or using a cell phone between 8:25 - 3:25 are outlined in the student handbook which students will receive the first day of school.

Thank you for your support!

Challenging All Freshmen!

Dear Wheeler Wildcats,

Welcome to Wheeler High School, Class of 2013! Your exciting journey into a wide variety of learning opportunities at Wheeler High School is about to begin.

I challenge you to take advantage of the professionals at Wheeler who will teach you about academics, teamwork, community service, and life. Choose from approximately 200 courses that challenge your thinking. Participate in clubs and organizations that challenge you to serve others and develop your talents. Set goals that challenge you to become the best that you can be.

Make wise decisions and develop beneficial study habits. Wheeler's staff members are all here to help and support you. I look forward to a great year and the opportunity to meet each one of you.

Sincerely,

Cathy Wentworth
Wheeler Assistant Principal

Summer Guidance Office Hours

You must make an appointment to speak with a counselor (no walk-ins). Appointments for new families (to Cobb County), registration, and parent conferences can be made by calling the front office at 770-578-3266.

The Guidance Office is open 9:00 – 12:00 the following days:
July 1, 15, 20, 21, 22, 23, 27, 28, 29, 30

Guidance Counselor assignments for the upcoming school year are based on your student's last name. During the summer, however, you may speak to any of the counselors.

A-E: Karyn Corell	Magnet: Gale Suttles
F-Me: Jackie Edwards	ESOL: Kristin Schloemer
Mf-Si: Kristin Schloemer	AVID: Kristin Schloemer
Sj-Z: Richard Tavernaro	

WHS Summer Office Hours

Monday - Thursday
9:00 - 12:00 am
1:00 - 3:00 pm
Closed Fridays

770-578-3266

Summer Reading Requirements

9th Grade Honors Classes

- All students read and prepare chapter notes on **The Lord of the Flies** by William Golding.
*Write chapter notes and commentary including any questions you may have for submission to turnitin.com the first week of the semester.
*Be prepared to discuss this novel and participate in novel-related activities the first two weeks of the semester.
- All students will select a second book to read from the 9th grade reading list below, then be prepared to write an in-class essay on the novel the first week of the semester.

*Students may bring **one** page only of **hand-written notes** about their novel to the in-class essay. Typed and/or cut and pasted notes are NOT acceptable.

All On-Level Classes

Choose and read **ONE** book from your assigned grade level list. Complete your book before the **FIRST DAY OF THE SEMESTER** and be prepared to write an in-class essay the first week of the semester. *Students may bring **one** page only of **hand-written notes** about their novel to the in-class essay. Typed and/or cut and pasted notes are NOT acceptable.

*Attention Parents

Some of the titles on this list contain mature content. Parental discretion is advised.

9th Grade Reading List

A Child Called It—David Pelzer
Black Boy—Richard Wright
Bless Me, Ultima—Rudolfo A. Anaya
Ecology of a Cracker Childhood—Janisse Ray
Eragon—Christopher Paolini
Giver—Lois Lowery
Monster—Walter Dean Myers
Rebecca—Daphne du Maurier
Romiette and Julio—Sharon Draper
Speak—Laurie Halse
Tears of a Tiger—Sharon Draper
The Afterlife—Gary Soto
The Bean Trees—Barbara Kingsolver
The Beast—Walter Dean Myers
The Lord of the Flies—William Golding
The Skin I'm In—Sharon Flake
Twilight—Stephenie Meyer

Summer Math Packets

If you are planning to take Accelerated Math I or Accelerated Math II during the 2009-2010 school year, you are required to complete a Summer Math Packet.

All Accelerated Math I and Accelerated Math II summer math packets must be turned in for a grade no later than Wednesday, August 12, 2009, whether you are taking the math course during the first or second semester. You should complete the packet that has the same title as the course for which you are registered.

Visit www.wheelerhigh.com to download the individual packet, information about where to turn in the packet and instructions for each class.

Freshman Advisement

Freshman Advisement will be conducted in late January or early February to prepare a Four Year Academic Plan with 9th grade students and their families. Specific dates will be announced in the Wheeler Enews and a future PTSA newsletter. Parents are encouraged to accompany their student at this planning

Attendance Policies

Attendance is handled by Geri Gagat in the Attendance Office which is located immediately on the right at the front of the school.

- If a student is absent, they have 2 days to bring in a note to the Attendance Office, preferably before school. They will then be given an admit slip to class.
- Tardy students need to check in through the Attendance Office.
- Dated notes are required to check students out early from school.
- Photo ID is required to check students out.
- Deliveries can not be made to students while they are in class.

www.wheelerhigh.com

Bookmark Wheeler's web site for additional information on the latest happenings at the school.

The site includes a wealth of information including:

- Faculty/Staff listing & email addresses
- Student Handbook with policies such as attendance, early & late checkout, etc.
- Summer Reading & Math requirements
- Athletic Information
- Club Listings
- School Calendar

Frequently Asked Questions

Following are common questions Wheeler freshmen ask. For additional information or for other questions please visit www.wheelerhigh.com, read the student handbook, ask your tour guide during Freshman Tours, or call 770-578-3266.

Where do I go the first day of school?

The 1st day of school all students report to Homeroom at 8:18 a.m. Homeroom lists will be posted in the hallways on the first day of school. When you get to your Homeroom you will be given your class schedule.

What time does school start?

The Warning Bell rings at 8:18 a.m. and you must be in your 1st block class no later than 8:25 a.m. or you will be tardy. The 1st day of school all students will report to Homeroom at 8:18 a.m. After the first week homeroom meets on Wednesdays after 1st block and as needed.

If I am a car rider where do I get dropped off?

If you arrive by car, drive to the front of school and follow the signs for "Student Drop Off." Pull up a reasonable distance before unloading to allow others to pull up behind you. On your first day, if you arrive by car but plan to leave by bus, don't forget to find out your bus slot before dismissal.



Where do I catch the school bus and how do I know which one to ride?

Check the bus schedules posted near Admin I, visit the county website at www.cobbk12.org, or call the county transportation office at 770-528-6500 for route numbers. Your bus will park in the front or back of the same slot each afternoon. The bus lot is located in the front of the school. Magnet students should check the Magnet website at www.wheelermagnet.com for their bus routes.

Where do I go if I come to school late or need to leave early?

You need to report to the Attendance Office (at the front of the building in the far right corner) to get all attendance issues handled. Notes, with a parent phone #, are required to leave school early, and to excuse absences. Parents will be called before a student is allowed to leave school early. Excessive tardies will result in disciplinary action.

What happens if I arrive late to school?

If you arrive at school after the 8:25 tardy bell, you will need to get an admit pass from the Late Arrival System (LAS). Tardies are considered excused versus unexcused per Cobb County Policy. In order for the tardy to be excused you will need to be checked in through the Attendance Office by a parent, have a note from a parent or have a doctor's note (preferred).

What happens if I need to check out of school early?

Before 1st block begins, you should report to the Attendance Office with a note from your parent or guardian explaining why you must leave school. Attendance will issue a pass for you to leave class at the designated time. You must present your pass to your teacher whose class you are leaving, & report to Attendance to check-out. Your parent or guardian must sign you out of school at Attendance and present a valid photo ID.

How long are the blocks (class periods)?

90 minutes.

Is there a Lost & Found at school?

Yes, it is located in Admin III.

What do I do if I feel sick during school?

Ask your teacher for a pass to the clinic. The Clinic is located in Admin III which is through the back breezeway and to the right. The nurse will contact your parent if needed. You must go to the Clinic before being allowed to leave school when you are sick.

When will I eat lunch?

During third block, which is 120 minutes long, you will have 30 minutes to eat lunch, and 90 minutes of class time.

How much does lunch cost?

\$1.85 for the "main line."

How do I sign up for "Free or Reduced Lunch?"

To sign up for the "Free or Reduced Lunch" programs, use any web connected computer and go to www.cobbk12.org. Click on "Online Meal Application"

Can I prepay my lunch account like I did in Middle School?

Yes. Bring a check to the cafeteria, and the cashier will credit your account. You can also use MealPay - see www.mealpayplus.com. You will need to know your student ID number (It's at the top of your schedule).

Should I buy a student planner?

No, Wheeler High School provides a daily planner. You will get your planner in Homeroom. The student planner's back section serves as a hall pass which your teacher must sign in order for you to leave your classroom. You need to have this planner with you at all times. The Student Planner is also the Student Handbook . You are required to read the Handbook and sign a statement stating that you have read and understood the contents and shared the information with your parents. The Handbook is also available online at www.wheelerhigh.com.

What is the Wheeler dress code?

We follow the Cobb County dress code, and it is enforced! You will receive a copy of the dress code your student planner. It is on the Cobb Country Board of Education web site www.cobb.k12.ga.us.



How do I join a sports team?

Check www.wheelerhigh.com or the student handbook for a complete list of sports. You will be able to sign up for most of the fall sports at Wildcat Daze. Listen for announcements regarding your sport of interest. Visit www.wheelerathletics.com for more info.

How do I join a club?

Most clubs will have information at Wildcat Daze & at Open House. Visit www.wheelerhigh.com, go to the "student organizations" section and then click on Clubs.

When do I get my locker?

Your homeroom teacher will assign lockers and combinations the first week of school.

Can I make a phone call from Wheeler?

Students are allowed to bring cell phones to school but they must be out of sight and turned off between the hours of 8:25 a.m. and 3:25 p.m. Students may report to an Administration office or Attendance to make a phone call. Any cell phones, iPods or other electronic devices *visible* will result in disciplinary action.

Sports



Athletic Pass

Don't miss out on any Wheeler sporting events! Purchase an Athletic Pass at Wildcat Daze. This pass allows you to attend all home games (except playoffs). You must have your Student ID and your Sports Pass to gain entry.

Sports Information

For all sports information, schedules, medical forms, etc., visit www.wheelerathletics.com

Current Physical Required for Sports Participation during 2009-10

If you are a student who is planning to play a sport at Wheeler High School in the 2009-10 school year, you will need a physical dated after April 1, 2009.

You must have a Cobb Athletic Participation and Consent Form completed by your student's physician enabling them to play a sport. You can obtain the physical form from Wheeler's front office, from one of the coaches, or from the Wheeler Athletics website at www.wheelerathletics.com. Completed forms must be turned in to coaches at the start of the sport's season.

Elections for Freshmen Class Officers will occur in the early fall. Speeches will be given by each candidate to the freshmen class prior to elections. Listen for announcements for more information after the first few weeks of school.

Important Dates

August 6	Freshman Tours - 5:00pm
August 6	Freshmen Orientation & Wildcat Daze, 6:00pm
August 10	FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL, 8:25am
August 25	Open House, 6:30pm

Get Involved!

There are over 60 student organizations at Wheeler High School including athletics, arts, service, honorary, social and other activities.

Go to www.wheelerhigh.com and click on "Students" for a list of clubs, "Athletics" for a list of sports teams, or "Fine Arts" for a list of organizations such as band, orchestra, etc. that you may wish to join.

Focus on Academics

Calculation of your grade point average (GPA) begins with courses taken freshman year. It is very important to do your best work from the day you walk in the door freshman year. Counselors and Wheeler staff are here to help you.

Learning Links is a tutoring program that is available every Tuesday and Thursday from 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm. Transportation is provided, signup is required. Sign up in the Media Center.

Free SAT Prep online class is available at no cost to all high school students in Georgia. Come by Guidance to receive instructions and your student access code.



Joseph Wheeler High School
375 Holt Road
Marietta, GA 30068

WHS PTSA FRESHMAN PAGES

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