



April 2020 Newsletter

Polk State College & Gateway Updates

Greetings parents & students,

We'd like to give you an update. Our virtual office hours are 7:30AM – 4:30PM Monday – Friday. If you contact us outside of office hours, we will be sure to respond to messages during office hours the following business day. A friendly reminder that only essential personnel are allowed on campus to prevent the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19). Polk State's leadership team is monitoring the rapidly evolving situation closely and responding as quickly as possible with daily communication among the leadership team, with the Florida Department of Education, and guidance from the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) (CDC).

All high school classes for the remainder of the Spring term and all college classes for the summer will be completely ONLINE.

Additionally, the College is following the CDC's guideline for large events and mass gatherings which recommends canceling or postponing in-person events that consist of more than 10 people. Please visit the College's [COVID-19 webpage](#) for a full list of canceled College events. The list will continue to be updated. Please see the full list of high school canceled events in the next section.

It is critical to closely monitor Polk State emails and College accounts, as well as www.polk.edu and the College's social media for updates. More information and answers to frequently asked questions regarding the coronavirus are available on the College's [COVID-19 webpage](#).

Polk State Lakeland Gateway to College Climate Survey

Here at Gateway, we are always looking for ways to improve our school. We invite all our parents, students, faculty and staff members to complete our 2019-2020 Climate survey. The deadline for completion is May 1, 2020. Thanks, and have a great day!

Survey Link: <https://www.formpl.us/form/1070096017>

GHS Updated Contact Numbers

Gateway Main Office Phone – 863-417-9941

Dr. Corey Barnes 863-546-0394

Ms. Battle 863-417-9302

Dr. Downing-Townsend 863-417-9952

Mrs. Murray 863-417-9657

Mrs. Chandler (Ortega) 863-417-9715

Ms. Jones 863-546-0754



Junior Fall College Course Request Forms

If you would like to request college courses for the Fall semester please **complete the survey quiz provided on Canvas before April 24, 2020**. **Answer all questions** once you begin the quiz. If you do not want to take a course in a subject, please indicate Not/Applicable or N/A as your answer. **Please be sure to include ALL reference numbers for the courses that you would like to take. If you are unsure how to do this please contact one of the office staff during office hours.**

If you completed a survey quiz and for some reason you change your mind about a course, this is fine you can change your mind a total of five (5) times. After your fifth attempt you will no longer be able to edit your survey. I will use your last response to schedule your courses.

PLEASE NOTE: In order to take college courses, you must have earned the PERT cut scores. PERT cut scores are at least (106) in Reading, at least (103) in Writing and at least (114) in Math. YOUR FINAL SCHEDULE IS OUR DISCRETION... (Please note that we will have your best interest in mind if changes are made)

If you have questions regarding college course requests, please email Mrs. Chandler (Ortega) or Dr. Downing-Townsend.

The last week of PERT testing has been postponed until further notice. Dr. Downing-Townsend will notify you when testing will resume.

Graduating SENIORS if you plan to take FALL classes at Polk State college, you will need to reapply to Polk State College. The college will then assist you in academic advising, course requests, registering, etc..... Graduating Seniors, YOU will be responsible for paying for your own summer/fall course fees.

Interim Reports

High school interim reports will be distributed via email on Friday April 24, 2020. If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Downing-Townsend.

Plato/Edmentum & Emails & Seniors

Because we've had to move to a completely online platform the high school courses are in Edmentum/Plato except for Mrs. Clayton's English 3 class. You must sign in daily for attendance purposes. Every day that you don't work creates an absence for your class with the teacher whose class you aren't working in. If you have questions, please contact your individual teachers.

EMAILS!!!!!! 😊 Please check them daily and sometimes multiple times a day. Mrs. Chandler (Ortega) and I often send messages via your my.polk.edu email, remind, or Canvas mail.

We are available during office hours Monday – Friday 7:30AM-4:30PM



Cap & Gown Update



Senior students and parents,

Cap & Gown Pick Up will be alphabetical by last name. The process will be as follows: **(LOT 1 near the school busses) DO NOT EXIT YOUR CAR**

4/13/20 9AM last name A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M

4/13/20 10AM last name N, O, P, Q, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z

- a. **BRING YOUR OWN INK PEN TO SIGN FOR YOUR ITEMS**
- b. **REMAIN IN YOUR CAR**

If someone other than you will be picking up your cap and gown, you MUST email Dr. Townsend before your assigned time.

GHS Faculty/Staff Contact List

Dr. C. Barnes, Principal (cbarnes@polk.edu)

Dr. M. Downing-Townsend, Assistant Principal (mdowning-townsend@polk.edu)

Mrs. T. Chandler (Ortega), Student Resource Specialist (tortega@polk.edu)

Ms. T. Jones, School Counselor (tajones@polk.edu)

Ms. Kimberly Battle, Administrative Assistant (kbattle@polk.edu)

Mrs. C. Murray, Program Assistant (clmurray@polk.edu)

Mrs. C. Terry (cterry@polk.edu)

Mrs. C. Bonney, Instructor (cbonney@polk.edu)

Ms. M. Smith, Instructor (mdsmith@polk.edu)

Mr. P. Jean (pjean@polk.edu)

Mrs. A. Ryan (aryan@polk.edu)

Mrs. A. McIntosh (amcintosh@polk.edu)

Mrs. T. Clayton (Bass) (tclayton@polk.edu)

GHS Recruit Season

Due to COVID-19 we've had to become VERY CREATIVE!
We were able to record our first VIRTUAL RECRUIT NIGHT!

Do you know someone who would like to attend Gateway? Have them apply! See the application process below.

Space is limited. Seats are by lottery.

See the Video here:

<https://www.facebook.com/PolkStateGateway/videos/271863117156924/>

Polk State Lakeland Gateway to College VIRTUAL Recruit Night!

1. Please be sure to listen to the video in its entirety, there is a lot of important information.
2. Due to COVID-19, please note that our office hours are VIRTUAL ONLY Monday - Friday 7:30AM - 4:30PM phone: (863-417-9941) via email: Gateway@polk.edu
3. Our Application is currently open: <https://www.formpl.us/form/992286033>
4. Please be sure to complete our survey, AFTER viewing the video in its entirety: fpls.in/nkw85a