

SWEETWATER

Pelican Press

September 2022

Sweetwater Elementary, the highest performing school in Volusia County

<http://schools.volusia.k12.fl.us/sweetwater/>

386-322-6230 school phone #

386-506-0012 school fax #

Volume 29, Issue 1

Dear Parents,

Thank you to everyone for making the opening of the 2022 - 2023 school year a smooth one. It is a pleasure to welcome our new and existing families to our A+ school! Sweetwater Elementary is an outstanding school thanks to our hard working students, dedicated teachers and staff, and supportive parents.

Next week you will receive a flyer on the benefits of homework. Here at Sweetwater Elementary, we have always had specific reasons and goals for having homework. We continue to do everything we can to provide a sound and balanced education for our students.

Please keep this issue of **The Pelican Press** handy for important information. The link to Pelican Press will be posted on our website at the beginning of each month, as well as our Sweetwater Facebook page and PTA Facebook page.

As always, we appreciate your support and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Tamara Hopkins

Tamara Hopkins, Principal

Sweetwater

Mission

Statement

We, the caring community of learners at Sweetwater Elementary, strive toward a lifetime of achieving our "personal best", guided by a positive attitude in a nurturing environment.

Volusia County Schools Mission

Statement

"Through the individual commitment of all, our students will graduate with the knowledge, skills, and values necessary to be successful contributors to our democratic society."



LABOR DAY HOLIDAY

There will NOT be school for students and teachers on **Monday, September 5, 2022** in celebration of Labor Day.

OPEN HOUSE

Please mark your calendar for Thursday, **September 22 from 5:30-7:00**. Details will be sent out about how to pre-register again, like families did for Meet the Teacher Day.

Individual Pictures

Individual pictures will be taken on **September 13, 2022**. These pictures will be used in our yearbook. Don't forget to SMILE!

Coffee Talk: September 20, 8:30-9:30am

Parents are invited each quarter to learn about different topics! Please RSVP to Mrs. Howard. (See page 6 for more details!)

Dismissal Times

This year we are continuing our staggered dismissal to help reduce large crowds of students at parent pickup. If you are a parent of a younger student, please plan to arrive earlier to be at the front of the line. If you also have an older student, please wait for the later time.

2:20 K/First (1:20 on Wednesdays)

2:25 Second/Third (1:25 on Wednesdays)

2:30 Fourth/Fifth (1:30 on Wednesdays)

SAFETY FIRST

Parents, volunteers, and other visitors are required to sign in at the office in Building 1 and get a name badge to wear before proceeding to classrooms or other areas of our campus. Before leaving, please sign out. If you need to "drop off" something that your child has forgotten, please "drop it off" at the office in Building 1. We will make sure your child gets the item in a timely manner. We thank you for helping us preserve our precious class time without unnecessary interruptions and for helping us keep our campus safe!



Informed Students are Happy Students!



Please make sure your child knows how they are getting home from school **EVERY DAY**, before they arrive at school in the morning. This will keep our phone lines open during the day and reduce interruptions to the classroom. Thank you for your cooperation!

Arrive Before 7:50



This is a reminder that students should be at their classroom by 7:50. We have supervision on campus beginning at 7:30, and the first bell rings at 7:40, for them to enter their classrooms. Please leave home early enough so that you are not caught in traffic! Thank you!

**FORTIFYFL**
Suspicious Activity Reporting App

See suspicious activity
at your school?
Report it.



Visit www.getfortifyfl.com to
submit a tip or download the app

#FORTIFYFLORIDA

Pelican Press



Hello, Sweetwater Families!

I am so excited to have joined Sweetwater Elementary School this school year! Since I have not had the opportunity to meet everyone yet, I wanted to take a moment to introduce myself.

Originally from Buffalo, New York, I began my educational career as a paraprofessional supporting Students with Disabilities through the BOCES program. After a few years I desired my own classroom of students, so I moved to Daytona Beach to be closer to my family and began teaching English Language Arts and Intensive Reading at Mainland High School. While I enjoyed having a classroom and students of my own, I desired to make a larger impact on my school and community, and soon transitioned into the position of academic coach. As an academic coach, I supported teachers not only in helping them maximize the effectiveness of their instructional practices, but also showing them how to increase literacy in their content areas, decrease disruptive behaviors, and analyze data to improve student achievement rates. After serving at Mainland for several years, I was asked to join the administrative team at Campbell Middle School and then went on to serving as Assistant Principal at Ormond Beach Elementary for the last five years.

This past summer I had the opportunity to begin working with the teachers, administration, and staff of Sweetwater Elementary. I'm so grateful to have joined such an amazing team of educators who not only love their students, school, and our community, but work tirelessly to provide students with a rigorous education while holding them to high character/self-expectations through the Lifelong Guidelines.

I have had a wonderful beginning of the school year and look forward to supporting all the great programs and events at Sweetwater. I'm looking forward to getting to know each of our students, families, and to support you as we make this educational journey together.

Best Regards,

Mrs. Sarah Callahan

Assistant Principal, Sweetwater Elementary School



INTRODUCING

Please welcome these teachers to our Sweetwater family!

Megan Buck, Kindergarten

Ms. Buck previously taught at St. Peter's Catholic School and Orange City Elementary. This is her fifth year teaching. She enjoys going to the beach and exercising!



Megan Crabtree, Second

Ms. Crabtree comes to us from Alabama, as a first-year teacher at Sweetwater! She loves spending time with family and relaxing on the beach.



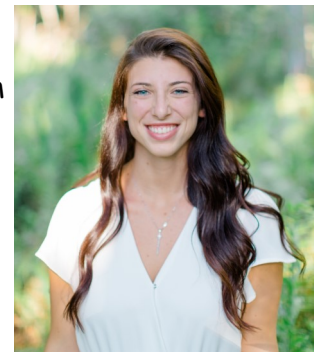
Julia Herrick, Second

Ms. Herrick recently moved here with her husband from the big state of Texas! Her favorite subjects to teach are reading and writing, and this is her 19th year of teaching. She has three children and loves spending time with her family. She also enjoys walks on the beach, reading, gardening, and cooking.



Julia LaBosco, Second

Ms. LaBosco comes to us from Orange City Elementary, where she taught 3rd grade last year. This is her second-year teaching. She was born and raised here in Port Orange. She has 2 dogs and loves to travel.



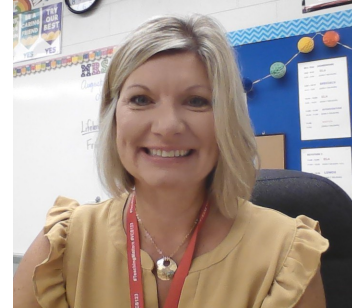
Valerie Tackney, Fourth

Mrs. Tackney spent the last 4 years teaching in Fort Myers, FL. She previously taught for 18 years at Horizon Elementary here in Port Orange, FL. She has two children and enjoys spending her free time going to the beach and playing with her two grandbabies.



Andrea Kas, Fourth

Mrs. Kas comes to us from North Carolina where she taught for 23 years. She has two grown sons whom she loves to spend time with. She also enjoys reading and the beach!



Jessie Krammer, EBD

This is Ms. Krammer's 9th year teaching in Volusia County! She has experience teaching 3rd and 5th grade, being an ESOL Contact, and doing Support facilitation for K-5. She is married with two children and a dog, Tantor. Her favorite pastimes include boating, swimming and reading!



Ed Meadows, P.E.

Coach Meadows is originally from Volusia County and has taught here for over 26 years at Creekside and Silver Sands Middle Schools. He is excited to join the Sweetwater team this year!



Christina Kennedy, Speech

Mrs. Kennedy comes to us from a private practice in Florida. She has 10 years of experience working with children with speech and language exceptionalities. She has 3 boys and 3 dogs, and loves the adventures that they bring!



Pelican Press

Welcome back to school! We hope that everyone had a healthy, active summer. A few reminders for a successful year in P.E. are: 1. Please make sure your child wears sneakers to P.E. This is for their safety. Sandals, Crocs, boots, etc. do not provide the necessary support and traction. 2. Please make sure your child dresses appropriately for the weather. It is very hot outside, so jeans and long sleeves are not the optimal P.E. attire until the cooler weather arrives. 3. Encourage your child to drink plenty of water during the day and at lunch. Proper hydration is very important in this heat. 4. If your child has an injury or illness that prevents them from participating in P.E., please send a written note so that we are aware. If he/she doesn't have a note, then participation is expected.



During students' first week of P.E., we discussed our P.E. expectations, rules, and consequences. We have a lot of FUN while learning during our P.E. classes, but we are very mindful of students' safety and always expect students to display their best Sweetwater behavior. Our consequences are as follows: 1. Warning 2. Time-out from the P.E. activity to reflect on what behavior needs to be corrected. 3. If a behavior isn't corrected after a warning and time out, your child will come home with a yellow P.E. note to be signed by a parent/guardian and returned the following day. Please discuss with your child what is expected and acceptable behavior during P.E. A student will not be allowed to participate in P.E. until we receive the signed note. 4. Office Referral

We are looking forward to a fantastic year and greatly appreciate your support!
Coach Cooney, Coach Meadows, and Coach K :)

Welcome Back Pelican Families!

We hope that your children are ready for a new adventure here in the library this year!

Mrs. Osiborski, Elfis, Buddy and myself are really looking forward to sharing our newest book selections with you this year – from our newest Sunshine State Reader Award books to some exciting new titles that are sure to keep your child reading!

Happy Reading!

Ms. Gruenewald, Mrs. O, Elfis and Buddy

A GIANT CONGRATULATIONS to these students who passed the Summer Beanstack Reading Challenge by logging 40 days of reading!



Turner	Joyce	1st Grade
Ashtyn	Chicerchia	1st Grade
Amelia	Miller	1st Grade
Titus	Smith	1st Grade
Sebastian	Lugo	1st Grade
Piper	Adkison	1st Grade
Kaius	Bostaph	1st Grade
Colton	Gibson	1st Grade
Kaylynn	Goldberg	2nd Grade
Eden	Smith	2nd Grade
Journey	Struska	2nd Grade
Brynleigh	Rothwell	2nd Grade
Elizabeth	Herbert	2nd Grade
Breno	Cazeiro	2nd Grade
Garrett	Gibson	2nd Grade
Aniah	Dilley	3rd Grade
Bayleigh	Baker	3rd Grade
Kirollos	Kamel	3rd Grade
Olivia	Walsh	3rd Grade
Georgia	Adkison	4th Grade
Selin	Recel	4th Grade
Ayden	Shults	4th Grade
Jeana	Yovanovich	4th Grade
Thomas	Kingston	Kindergart
Harley	Hower	Kindergart



Counselor Corner

News from Ms. Howard & Mrs. Elliott

September 2022

Welcome Back to School!

Where is Mrs. Elliott?

She was asked to assist at another school that was starting the year without a school counselor.

We know we will get her back home to Sweetwater as soon as they hire their own counselor.



How to contact the Counselor's office:

Ms. Tina Howard

TMHoward@volusia.k12.fl.us

386-322-6230

Extension: 33497

Coffee Talk



Join us for our 1st quarterly Coffee Talk in the Sweetwater Media Center.

Topic: PBIS / MTSS: Not sure what they are? Join us to learn about these two important initiatives on our campus.

Date: Tuesday, September 20, 2022

Time: 8:30-9:30

Please RSVP by returning the flyer or calling the guidance office.

KC Club

(Kindness and Compassion)

Be on the lookout for our fantastic 5th grade KC members. They are ready to make a difference on the Sweetwater Campus. This month, several KC Club members will be trained in peer mediation skills so they can assist their peers with conflict resolution. We are very proud of this great group of kids. You may have seen them out and about the first few weeks of school helping to welcome everyone back and assist with our primary dismissal.



This month, our classroom guidance visits will focus on stories and lessons about **KINDNESS** and the importance of positive relationships and respect; creating a classroom and school community of caring individuals to make Sweetwater the best place to be!



From the PTA President

Welcome to our new and returning Pelicans!

The school year is off to an amazing start, and we have lots of great events planned for this year.

Joining our PTA is the easiest way to support our school. You can purchase your PTA memberships and other Pelican swag online at Sweetwater.Memberhub.store. Thank you to all who have already joined our PTA. If you haven't done so; please do. The first 3 classes to get 100% membership, will earn a class treat. Don't forget to show your school spirit every Friday for Spirit Day.

Kona Ice will begin Thursday September 1st. They will be on campus every Thursday. Kona Ice is \$3 or you can pre-order bands at Sweetwater.Memeberhub.store. Thank you to all who support this program.

Our first Spirit Night will be September 15th at Giuseppe's Pizza from open to close. This is good for dine in, delivery or to go orders. Just mention Sweetwater Elementary when you order and 20% of your bill will be donated back to the PTA. It's a great way to support our local sponsor and the school.

Calling all local business: if you are interested in becoming a Sweetwater Elementary PTA sponsor or would like to get a banner on the fence, please email us at sweetwaterelementarypta@gmail.com or pick up a sponsorship packet from the front office for more information. Thank you to those who have already committed to be a sponsor for the 2022-2023 school. Your sponsorship is greatly appreciated.

Donation Drive Fundraiser envelopes will be going out soon. This is our first major event for the year. The Donation Drive Fundraiser 100% funds the Teacher Mini Grant Program. These are grants submitted by Sweetwater teachers for classroom needs. In previous years, the Donation Drive has been able to fulfill grants for class book sets, computer learning programs, a piano, xylophones, classroom rugs, classroom organization and much more.

Thank you for your support and looking forward to a great school year ahead!

Sincerely,

Lauren Peacock
PTA President



Please display
your car tag to
pick up
students!



If you don't have
a car tag, you'll
be asked to park
& show your ID
in the office.

For Parents

- **If you drive your children to school, drop them off and pick them up in the designated drop-off/pick-up area identified on each campus.**
- Be especially alert for student drivers on high school campuses.
- When turning at an intersection, be sure to yield to pedestrians and cyclists.
- If your child is walking to school or a bus stop, plan a safe route and make sure your child knows the route and can navigate it safely. Choose the most direct route with the fewest street crossings. If a school crossing guard is available, be sure that your child crosses at that location. If your child is young or is walking to a new school, walk the route with them beforehand and continue to walk with them for the first week or so until they feel comfortable with the route.
- **Do not use a cell phone while in the school zone or on campus.**

For Students Who Ride the Bus

- Stay out of the street while waiting for the bus.
- Wait for the bus to come to a complete stop and the doors open before approaching the bus from the curb.
- Make sure you remain in clear view of the bus driver.
- Look both ways before crossing the street to get on the bus.
- After getting off the bus, look both ways and then move immediately onto the sidewalk and out of traffic.

For Walkers/Bike Riders

- For bike riders, wear a helmet at all times. Research shows that this simple act can reduce the risk of head injury by up to 85 percent.
- Bike riders should ride on the right, in the same direction as traffic, and use appropriate hand signals. Bicyclists also should respect traffic lights and stop signs.
- Walk or bike with a friend. It's safer that way.
- Walk on sidewalks where available.
- Always cross at intersections not mid-block.
- Both bikers and walkers should wear bright clothing to make them more visible to drivers.
- To avoid distractions, bikers and walkers shouldn't use a cell phone or headphones while riding or walking.

September 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			PTA Mini Grant Fundraiser Kick Off ↑	1 Kona Ice Begins	2 Spirit Day	3
4	5 Labor Day Holiday NO SCHOOL	6	7 Early Release, 1:30pm	8	9 Spirit Day	10
11	12	13 Fall Picture Day	14 Early Release, 1:30pm	15 Giuseppe's Spirit Night All Day Carry-Out or Dine-In!	16 Spirit Day	17
18	19	20	21 Early Release, 1:30pm See You At The Pole	22 Open House, 5:30 - 7:00pm PTA General Meeting, 7:00pm	23 Spirit Day	24
25	26	27	28 Early Release, 1:30pm	29	30 Spirit Day Last Day For PTA Mini Grant Fundraiser	

October 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 PTA Mini Grant Parties ↑	3	4	5 Early Release, 1:30pm	6	7 Spirit Day	8
9	10	11	12	13	14 Spirit Day	15
16	17 Teacher Duty Day/ Student Holiday NO SCHOOL	18 Picture Makeup	19 Early Release, 1:30pm	20	21 Spirit Day	22
23	24	25	26 Early Release, 1:30pm	27	28 Spirit Day	29
30	31					



Breakfast K-5 September 2022

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

*Menus are subject to change

Breakfast Prices:
Students: Complimentary
Adults and visiting children: \$2.00
Prepay at [MySchoolBucks.com](https://myschoolbucks.com)

Monday Sausage Croissant Yogurt, Strawberry/Banana Pineapple Cup Juice, Apple 4oz Choice of Fresh Fruit Cereal, Cinn Toast Crunch Cereal, Cocoa Puffs Cereal, Lucky Chams Toast, Cinnamon Toast, Buttered	Tuesday Egg & Cheese on Sweet Bun Pop Tart, Strawberry WG Peach Cup Juice, Orange Cereal, Cinn Toast Crunch Cereal, Cocoa Puffs Cereal, Lucky Chams Toast, Cinnamon Toast, Buttered	Wednesday Chicken Biscuit Oranges, Mandarin Cups Juice, Apple 4oz Cereal, Cinn Toast Crunch Cereal, Cocoa Puffs Cereal, Lucky Chams Toast, Cinnamon Toast, Buttered	Thursday Chicken Griddle Yogurt, Strawberry/Banana Peach Cup Juice, Orange Cereal, Cinn Toast Crunch Cereal, Cocoa Puffs Cereal, Lucky Chams Toast, Cinnamon Toast, Buttered	Friday French Toast Sticks Choice of Fresh Fruit Juice, Apple 4oz Cereal, Cinn Toast Crunch Cereal, Cocoa Puffs Cereal, Lucky Chams Toast, Cinnamon Toast, Buttered
Monday Packaged Pancake Packaged Waffle Pop Tart, Strawberry WG Peach Cup Juice, Apple 4oz Choice of Fresh Fruit Cereal, Cinn Toast Crunch Cereal, Cocoa Puffs Cereal, Lucky Chams Toast, Cinnamon Toast, Buttered	Tuesday Cafe Griddle Yogurt, Strawberry/Banana Peach Cup Juice, Orange Cereal, Cinn Toast Crunch Cereal, Cocoa Puffs Cereal, Lucky Chams Toast, Cinnamon Toast, Buttered	Wednesday Ham and Cheese Croissant Pop Tart, Strawberry WG Pineapple Cup Juice, Apple 4oz Cereal, Cinn Toast Crunch Cereal, Cocoa Puffs Cereal, Lucky Chams Toast, Cinnamon Toast, Buttered	Thursday Sausage Biscuit Mix Fruit Cup Juice, Orange Cereal, Cinn Toast Crunch Cereal, Cocoa Puffs Cereal, Lucky Chams Toast, Cinnamon Toast, Buttered	Friday French Toast Sticks Choice of Fresh Fruit Juice, Apple 4oz Cereal, Cinn Toast Crunch Cereal, Cocoa Puffs Cereal, Lucky Chams Toast, Cinnamon Toast, Buttered
Monday Bacon Egg & Cheese Biscuit Peach Cup Juice, Apple 4oz Choice of Fresh Fruit Cereal, Cinn Toast Crunch Cereal, Cocoa Puffs Cereal, Lucky Chams Toast, Cinnamon Toast, Buttered	Tuesday Chicken Croissant Pop Tart, Strawberry WG Applesauce Cup Juice, Orange Cereal, Cinn Toast Crunch Cereal, Cocoa Puffs Cereal, Lucky Chams Toast, Cinnamon Toast, Buttered	Wednesday Pancake Sausage Wrap Oranges, Mandarin Cups Juice, Apple 4oz Cereal, Cinn Toast Crunch Cereal, Cocoa Puffs Cereal, Lucky Chams Toast, Cinnamon Toast, Buttered	Thursday Chicken Griddle Yogurt, Strawberry/Banana Peach Cup Juice, Orange Cereal, Cinn Toast Crunch Cereal, Cocoa Puffs Cereal, Lucky Chams Toast, Cinnamon Toast, Buttered	Friday French Toast Sticks Choice of Fresh Fruit Juice, Apple 4oz Cereal, Cinn Toast Crunch Cereal, Cocoa Puffs Cereal, Lucky Chams Toast, Cinnamon Toast, Buttered
Monday Sausage Croissant Yogurt, Strawberry/Banana Pineapple Cup Juice, Apple 4oz Choice of Fresh Fruit Cereal, Cinn Toast Crunch Cereal, Cocoa Puffs Cereal, Lucky Chams Toast, Cinnamon Toast, Buttered	Tuesday Egg & Cheese on Sweet Bun Pop Tart, Strawberry WG Peach Cup Juice, Orange Cereal, Cinn Toast Crunch Cereal, Cocoa Puffs Cereal, Lucky Chams Toast, Cinnamon Toast, Buttered	Wednesday Chicken Biscuit Oranges, Mandarin Cups Juice, Apple 4oz Cereal, Cinn Toast Crunch Cereal, Cocoa Puffs Cereal, Lucky Chams Toast, Cinnamon Toast, Buttered	Thursday Waffles w/Bacon Mix Fruit Cup Juice, Orange Cereal, Cinn Toast Crunch Cereal, Cocoa Puffs Cereal, Lucky Chams Toast, Cinnamon Toast, Buttered	Friday French Toast Sticks Choice of Fresh Fruit Juice, Apple 4oz Cereal, Cinn Toast Crunch Cereal, Cocoa Puffs Cereal, Lucky Chams Toast, Cinnamon Toast, Buttered



Lunch K-5 September 2022

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

*Menus are subject to change

Lunch Prices:
Students: \$2.00 Reduced: \$0.40
Adults and visiting children: \$3.50
Prepay at MySchoolBucks.com

Monday Cheese Sticks w/Marinara Sauce, Marinara Cup Turkey Ham & Cheese, Sandwich Corn Cucumbers Assorted Juice Peach Cup	Tuesday Chicken Sandwich Dipper Bento Green Beans with Bacon Celery Applesauce Cup Choice of Fresh Fruit	Wednesday Cheese Pizza Pepperoni Pizza Broccoli w/Cheese Tomatoes Choice of Fresh Fruit Pineapple Cup	Thursday Cherry Blossom Chicken Fried Rice Salad, Popcorn Chicken & Cheese Mini Dinner Roll Corn Carrots Oranges, Mandarin Cups Choice of Fresh Fruit	Friday Popcorn Chicken Dinner Roll Yogurt Bento Southern Baked Beans Broccoli Pear Cup Choice of Fresh Fruit
Monday Cheese Pizza Pepperoni Pizza Corn Cucumbers Slush, Rips Kiwi Strawberry Pear Cup	Tuesday Cheeseburger Dipper Bento Southern Baked Beans Tomatoes Assorted Juice Choice of Fresh Fruit	Wednesday Mini Comdog Power Protein Bento Broccoli w/Cheese Carrots Peach Cup Choice of Fresh Fruit	Thursday Chicken Tenders Pillsbury Frozen Dough Biscuit Salad, Cobb Dinner Roll Sweet Potato Crinkle Cut Fries Celery Choice of Fresh Fruit Applesauce Cup	Friday Cheese Filled Breadsticks W/Marinara Cup Sauce, Marinara Cup Frozen Mixed Vegetables Broccoli Pear Cup Choice of Fresh Fruit
Monday Cheese Pizza Pepperoni Pizza Corn Cucumbers Assorted Juice Pineapple Cup	Tuesday Mac & Cheese Dinner Roll Dipper Bento Green Beans with Bacon Carrots Slush, Rips Kiwi Strawberry Choice of Fresh Fruit	Wednesday Pepperoni Cheese Bread Power Protein Bento Broccoli w/Cheese Tomatoes Mix Fruit Cup Choice of Fresh Fruit	Thursday Cherry Blossom Chicken Fried Rice Salad, Popcorn Chicken & Cheese Mini Dinner Roll Corn Carrots Oranges, Mandarin Cups Choice of Fresh Fruit	Friday Popcorn Chicken Dinner Roll Yogurt Bento Southern Baked Beans Broccoli Pear Cup Choice of Fresh Fruit
Monday Cheese Sticks w/Marinara Sauce, Marinara Cup Turkey Ham & Cheese, Sandwich Corn Cucumbers Assorted Juice Peach Cup	Tuesday Chicken Sandwich Dipper Bento Green Beans with Bacon Celery Applesauce Cup Choice of Fresh Fruit	Wednesday Cheese Pizza Pepperoni Pizza Broccoli w/Cheese Tomatoes Choice of Fresh Fruit Pineapple Cup	Thursday Meat & Queso Nacho Tortilla, Round Chips 80/2oz/Cs Salad, Cobb Dinner Roll Cheesy Refried Beans Carrots Pear Cup Choice of Fresh Fruit	Friday Mini Hot Dog Yogurt Bento Sweet Potato Crinkle Cut Fries Broccoli Slush, Rips Kiwi Strawberry Mix Fruit Cup

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Pelican Pride



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