

August 2009

Dear Parents and Students:

With summer recess winding down, it is time to begin preparing for the opening of school. We are looking forward to a successful and productive school year with high expectations for our students. On behalf of the staff and administration, I would like to welcome you back to Mendham High School. Enclosed please find a copy of your son/daughter's schedule and also their bus transportation pass. **Some of the forms that have been traditionally mailed home can now be found on the MHS website, www.wmmhs.org, for your convenience.** These include: Bell and Rotating Period Schedule, Rotating Schedule by Day, Guidance Calendar, Over the Counter Medical Form, Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), and School Calendar. If you do not have access to these forms via computer, please call us to have a mailing sent.

There will be no schedule changes unless there is an error on the schedule. Counselors verified all course requests to ensure that all schedules are accurate. Please notify the Counseling Office immediately if you feel an error has been made on the schedule.

Freshmen will have a special orientation on Thursday, September 3rd, beginning at 12:30 p.m. in the high school auditorium. Freshman counselors and peer leaders have planned a program to help students make a smooth transition to our high school. Orientation for freshmen will run from 12:30 p.m. until 2:50 p.m. with buses departing at 3:00 p.m. If you are taking a bus to school, you are to be at your designated pick-up point **five (5) hours later** than stated on your Bus/ID card.

All students, grades 9-12, will report for the first day of school on Wednesday, September 9th, at 7:35 a.m. for a full day schedule. Buses will make pick-ups as indicated on the bus pass.

The Student/Parent Handbook will be distributed during the first week of school. Upon receiving it, please review its contents with your child. The handbook is also available on our website under "***About Mendham***". Of particular importance are guidelines related to student attendance and responsibilities. Student attendance at school is mandatory. Should you have a question concerning your attendance during the year, you are advised to consult your grade level administrator.

Students in advanced and upper level math courses are recommended to purchase a Texas Instruments TI-83 Plus or TI-84 graphing calculator. Students will be informed of their other instructional needs upon meeting with their teachers.

Please complete the enclosed Emergency Card and return it to your 1st period teacher during the first full day of school or return it by mail to the attention of the Health Office prior to the start of the school year. Please pay particular attention to work telephone numbers of the parent or guardian.

Senior parking and Honeywell Instant Alert information are on the reverse side of this letter. Also, please find enclosed correspondence from our Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO) and a letter from Mr. Carpluk detailing our E-mail Broadcast System.

Enjoy the remaining days of summer. Feel free to call us at 973-543-2501 if we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Michael Matyas
Principal

INSTANT ALERT SYSTEM

The **Honeywell Instant Alert System** is a form of communication that will contact parents through voice, e-mail and/or text messaging. **This is different from our E-mail Broadcast System.** The **Instant Alert System** is used for snow days, delayed openings, other emergency school issues and/or announcements. For current freshmen (Class of 2013) and other students new to the District, a link and directions are posted on our homepage under ***“About Mendham”***. Each family, through the web-based program, will have the opportunity to input the telephone numbers, e-mail address and cell phone numbers of their choice. At any time during the school year, parents may add or delete contact information.

All 2009 upper classmen (grades 10, 11 and 12) have already set up their accounts during the 2008-2009 school year. Last year’s information is still in the system and is active for the 2009-2010 school year. Parents are reminded that they have access to the program and may update their information using their own login and password.

SENIOR PARKING

Parking spots will be provided for seniors who intend to drive. However, spaces will not be assigned until an application is submitted. Parking spots will be assigned at random.

Parking permits will be distributed in the Main Office of the school on Friday, September 4, from 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 8, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. and Wednesday, September 9, during lunch.

Seniors who intend to drive must submit an application along with a copy of their driver’s license, registration and insurance. The application can be downloaded from the school website. Additionally, all students and parents must attend an “Alive at 25” presentation in order to park on campus. (Dates are provided on the parking application)

Seniors are not allowed to park on school grounds if they do not have a parking permit.