

## Manalapan-Englishtown Middle School

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Parents, Guardians, and Students

I hope this letter finds you and your families well and that you are enjoying your Summer. On behalf of the entire MEMS staff, I am thrilled to welcome you to the start of the 2024-2025 school year. As the principal of MEMS, I am extremely proud of our school's enduring history of excellence. I am even more excited for the countless opportunities that await our students as we begin the upcoming year.

Students, as you enter a new school year, I challenge you to seize the opportunities available both inside and outside the classroom. Our school offers a rich array of programs designed to foster growth, creativity, and engagement. Whether your passion lies in athletics, the arts, academic clubs, or community service, there is something at MEMS for you. I encourage you to get involved, pursue your interests, and explore new ones with enthusiasm and dedication. By embracing opportunities and setting lofty goals, you can contribute to MEMS' rich legacy, experience personal growth, and create lasting memories that will shape your future.

As we start the new year, there are a few things I would like to share:

- **Orientation:** 7th Grade Orientation will be held on August 28th and 29th. <u>Please click here for</u> <u>more information</u>. Please note that orientation will be held according to the community. Your child's assigned community will be listed on his/her schedule.
- **Parent Portal/Class Schedule:** We anticipate the parent portal opening on the afternoon of Friday, August 23rd. Please note that you will need to acknowledge all required forms prior to viewing your child/children's schedules. Additionally, the yearly Chromebook usage fee needs to be paid through payschoolscentral.com prior to accessing schedules. Payschool will be open to pay the \$50 fee beginning August 20th. Bus passes will be available on the Parent Portal at the end of August.
- Supply Lists Supply lists and other important information can be found here.
- Sports Physicals: <u>Please click here for information about sports physicals</u>.
- Summer Math and Reading: Please make sure your child has completed his/her summer math and reading work before the first day of school. <u>Summer assignments can be found here</u>.

- **Parent Drop off and Pick up:** All parent drop off and pick up (7th and 8th) are at the same location. All vehicles will follow the arrows for 7th grade and drop off and pick up students outside of the cafeteria. Please do not show up prior to this, as it will create a backlog onto the road and may block bus arrival. Doors will open for parent drop off at 7:15am.
- **First Day(s) of School**: I can only imagine that as you and your children prepare for the start of this school year, there is both a sense of excitement and perhaps trepidation. This may be especially true of our 7th graders. In order to help the first days of school function as smoothly as possible, we have taken several steps to help our students make their way around MEMS with confidence. Staff will be in the hallways helping students navigate the building. We have also posted color-coded signs that correspond with 7th grade communities to guide students.
  - Alpha Community is red
  - Beta Community is blue
  - Delta Community is yellow
  - Gamma Community is green.

As 7th graders exit the bus or get dropped off, staff will direct them to follow the color-coded signs/balloons to the appropriate doors and stairways that will lead to their community's wing on the second floor. If your 7th grader mistakenly uses the incorrect entrance or stairwell, there is no need to panic; all he or she needs to do is get to the second floor where all 7th grade homerooms are located. Staff will help guide students to their homeroom. It will be helpful if students bring a printed copy of their schedule with them on the first day of school. Homeroom teachers will assign lockers after the first day of school to allow extra time for students to acclimate to the procedures.

Once again, welcome to the new school year. I look forward to embarking on this collaborative journey with faculty, parents, and students.. Our dedicated, caring, and experienced staff is eager to work with you to help your child grow academically and socially throughout this year. I am sure you will find MEMS is a place alive with energy, enthusiasm, and high standards. More importantly, I know you will find that MEMS is a place where you and your child will feel a true sense of community.

Should you have any questions about this or anything regarding the start of the school year, please feel free to contact the main office at 732-786-2650.

Sincerely,

*Michael Fiorillo* Dr. Michael Fiorillo