

GREAT NECK PUBLIC SCHOOL
John L. Miller – Great Neck North High School
35 Polo Road
Great Neck, New York 11023

(516) 441-4700



OVER 85 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

August 24, 2020

Dear Parents & Students:

I would like to welcome you to J. L. Miller Great Neck North High School! We have certainly shared an unprecedented educational experience in recent months and are eager to open our doors and get this new school year started! While there are some changes such as new social-distancing in our classrooms, fewer students in the building on a daily basis, and mandatory face-coverings, we have absolutely no doubt that you will enjoy being a freshman at Great Neck North High.

The upcoming four years are of critical importance not only to forge a path towards graduation, but also to grow, discover, and mature. High school is a time for students to discover their passions, develop self-confidence and grit, and become stronger, smarter, and more socially responsible. Through active participation in co-curricular activities and immersion in the Great Neck North school culture, you will not only have fun, but also find meaning and fulfillment in your career as a student. Together, with the support and guidance of our talented and caring staff of teachers, administrators, coaches, and counselors, we will construct a meaningful, vibrant, and personalized experience for all our students.

As I'm sure you're aware, and in the interest of safety for all, we plan to conduct some traditional fall activities using a virtual platform. In conjunction with the Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO), two important events will be scheduled and follow-up information will be forthcoming. The first is an orientation program for all 9th grade parents. This will provide an opportunity for you to meet with and receive important information from Pupil Personnel and Guidance staff, and discuss the social-emotional, and academic challenges that students may endure.

The second will be our Annual Open House. This event, designed to celebrate a new school year, serves as an invitation to be involved in your child's high school experience, and provides the opportunity to meet your child's teacher and become familiar with the course content and expectations.

Our Calendar-Handbook is almost complete and will be published on our website shortly. When it is, I encourage all students and parents to review the regulations and expectations in the handbook and to view the Back to School video slide presentation posted on our website. We have found that when parents and students read and discuss the expectations together, they can have a shared and collaborative understanding of our school expectations. This year, students are expected to arrive at school wearing appropriate face masks and ID badges. It is important to note that bandanas, gators, and masks with vents are not acceptable face coverings. In addition, please

reinforce with your child that the wearing of masks at all times, with the exception of eating, is mandatory and that there is a zero-tolerance for non-compliance. If you have questions regarding health and safety protocols, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

The PTO and Shared Decision-Making are two vital collaborative groups that work with our staff to keep lines of communication open and effective. In both of these important groups, parents and school staff work together to discuss, design, and plan initiatives to strengthen our school and our school community. I encourage you to become a member of our very active PTO and attend our monthly meetings.

Finally, we look forward to seeing all our 9th graders on September 3rd! Students will start the school day in their Advisories on both Thursday, September 3rd and Friday, September 4th where they will be greeted by their advisory teacher and a peer leader who will answer any questions and/or provide whatever support they need to embark on their school day.

The staff at J. L. Miller Great Neck North High School is committed to fostering a safe, nurturing, welcoming, and supportive environment for all students. We look forward to meeting you and sharing a successful and exciting school year together! Please do not hesitate to contact us should an issue arise.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dan Holtzman', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dan Holtzman, Ed.D.
Principal