

**Great Neck Public Schools
John L. Miller - Great Neck North High School
35 Polo Road
Great Neck, New York 11023**



August 18, 2021

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 over the past 15 months and with many of the challenges of the prior school year still ahead of us, we must continue to remain vigilant and focused on the health and well-being of our North High family. We are eager to open our doors and start this school year with a fresh perspective and a renewed appreciation for the importance of kindness, gratitude, and empathy in our lives. We have absolutely no doubt 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 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.

In conjunction with the Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO), three important events are being planned and follow-up information on those events 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 to discuss any social-emotional and academic challenges of concern. This 9th grade meet and greet for parents is scheduled for Thursday, August 26, at 9:00 A.M., in the commons (located on the lower level of the high school). We will also use that day as a schedule change day for 9th graders from 9:30- 11:00 A.M. and 12:00- 1:30 P.M.

Our annual orientation program for underclassmen (juniors, sophomores and freshmen) as well as Senior College Night is scheduled for Thursday, September 23rd at 7:00 P.M. (details will follow in the coming weeks) and is a great opportunity to learn more about your child's educational journey.

In addition to the other events, our Open House is scheduled for September 30, at 7:00 P.M. 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 teachers and become familiar with course content and expectations. More specific information pertaining to Open House will follow.

Our Calendar-Handbook is almost complete and will be published on our website by the end of the month. 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 handbook together, they have a shared understanding of our school expectations. This year, students are expected to arrive at school wearing appropriate face masks

and visible 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 Committee 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 August 31st at 1:00 in the Commons for their Freshmen Orientation and first Advisory session! On this day, the 9th graders will be greeted by their Advisory teacher and peer leaders who will answer any questions and/or provide whatever support our 9th graders need prior to the first day of school. Details regarding the specific schedule for that day are forthcoming. On the first and second days of school, (Wednesday, September 1 and Thursday, September 2), students will report to their Advisories at 8:00am where they will again be greeted by their Advisory teacher and peer leaders.

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.

As a review, please note the following dates:

Date	Activity/Event	Time	Place
8/26	9th grade parent orientation	9:00am	Commons
8/26	9th grade schedule changes	9:30am-11:00/12:00pm-1:30	Guidance Office
8/31	9th grade Freshmen Orientation and Advisory	1:00pm	Commons
9/1	First day of School!	8:00am	Advisory classroom
9/23	Underclassmen Orientation Night/ Senior College Night	7:00pm	TBD
9/30	Open House	7:00pm	TBD

We look forward to meeting you and sharing a successful and exciting school year together!

Sincerely,

Dan Holtzman

Dan Holtzman, Ed.D.
Principal