



MAMS Family

Newsletter

September 2, 2024

SCHOOL STARTS ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, AT 8:10. LET'S HAVE A GREAT 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR! REMEMBER 9/5 AND 9/6 ARE EARLY DISMISSAL DAYS.

Orientation presentation

Were you unable to attend our new student orientation program? No problem! View the [MAMS orientation presentation](#) to see important information about our school.

Lockers update

All MAMS locker combinations have been changed for the new school year. We had a small number of locker combos that did not work properly at orientation. Any locker issues have been corrected and your child's finalized locker number and corresponding combo will be viewable on their schedule in the parent portal. Login to the Genesis [parent portal](#) on Wednesday, 9/4, after 12:00 noon to access this information. Please make sure that your child has their locker number and combo ready when they arrive for the first day of school on Thursday, 9/5.

Free/Reduced meal applications

This year, meal applications will be completed electronically through the Genesis [parent portal](#). Meal applications must be submitted each year. If your child was eligible for free or reduced meals last school year, you must still complete and submit a new application for this school year. If you need a paper application, please contact our main office or download the application here [2024-2025 F&R Meal Packet English.pdf](#) [2024-2025 F&R Meal Packet Spanish.pdf](#). If you have questions about meals or free/reduced status, please contact our Business Office at 732-705-4016.

School hours

Make sure to know our [MAMS bell schedule](#), including the times for early dismissal and delayed opening. **Note that September 5 and 6 are early dismissal days. The first regular-length school day is Monday, September 9.**

Arrival procedures

Students will enter the building at 8:10 and report directly to their Advisory class; please make sure that your child knows their Advisory teacher and classroom. Attendance will be taken at 8:15. If you are driving your child to school, please be on time. Anticipate that traffic will be heavy for the first few days of school so plan accordingly. There are three areas for parents/guardians to drop off students:

- 6th graders will enter at door #29 (on the side of the school facing Grove Street).
- 7th graders will enter at door #28 (on the side of the school facing Grove Street).
- 8th graders will enter at door #1 (main entrance)

Remember that these entrances are drop-and-go; please do not exit your vehicle. Also, if your vehicle is stopped, please turn the engine off. Leaving your car idling causes unnecessary noise and air pollution that is unhealthy for our students, staff, and neighbors. If your child is riding the bus, they should be at their bus stop 10 minutes before the time shown in the parent portal. Bus times may be slightly longer on the first days of school so please be patient.

Dismissal procedures

For normal school days, all students are dismissed at 2:33. **Note that September 5 and 6 are early dismissal days and students will be dismissed at 12:10.** "Walkers" will be dismissed at the same exterior doors as used for arrival (see above). Bus riders will report to either the newer gym or the cafeteria (depending on their bus #). Staff will announce the bus numbers (as they arrive) and students must listen for their bus being called.

Being safe and polite while driving

If you are driving your student to/from school, please drive slowly and safely around our school and especially in our parking lots. Please be patient and courteous to walkers and other drivers. Do not park in marked fire zones and avoid double parking or blocking other vehicles. These steps are for the safety of our school's students, staff, and visitors. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Dress code for students

MAMS students should be dressed appropriately for school. This expectation is outlined in our [MAMS Student Handbook 24-25](#) and the [MAMS Code of Conduct 24-25](#) and will be reinforced during orientation, assemblies, Back to School Night, and more. The dress code will be enforced so please make sure to familiarize yourself with these requirements. Clothing items that are not allowed include, but are not limited to:

- Clothing with holes in inappropriate places
- Clothing with obscene, derogatory, inflammatory, or biased language
- Hats, hoods, or other head coverings inside of the building (except for religious observance)
- Unsafe footwear such as flip-flops, slides, slippers, barefoot sandals
- Tops such as halter, midriff, spaghetti straps, tank tops, tube tops
- Mesh or see-through clothing
- Skirts or shorts that are very short or other tight-fitting clothing which is inappropriate for school
- Pajama pants

Students who violate the dress code will be given an opportunity to contact parents and arrange for a change of dress.

Cell phones and AirPods are not allowed during school hours

Please know that MAMS students may not use cell phones while at school. These devices interfere with our students' ability to focus on academic work and can be detrimental to learners' social and emotional well-being. MAMS' students may keep personal phones turned off and placed in their lockers. Cell phones are not allowed in classrooms, hallways, locker rooms, common areas, cafeteria, gymnasium, restrooms, or other school spaces. If a student is found using a cell phone, the Code of Conduct will be enforced. We would like parents/guardians to be more knowledgeable about the use of smartphones by children. We encourage parents/guardians to learn about the *Wait Until 8th* pledge which empowers parents/guardians to delay giving children a smartphone until at least the end of 8th grade. For more information, please see the attached flyer [W8_UpdatedFlyer2024_2-2.pdf](#) and resource guide [W8_ParentResourceGuide2024.pdf](#).

Chromebooks

MAMS students will use their district-issued Chromebooks each day for classwork and homework. Students are responsible for bringing their Chromebook to/from school each day. Students took their Chromebooks (and chargers) home for the summer months so please make sure that these devices are well-kept and ready for the new school year. If a Chromebook is lost or damaged, parents/guardians will be responsible for the cost of

replacing/repairing the device. Details for lost/damaged devices can be [found on our school website](#). Note that use of a district-issued device is a privilege and learners may lose this privilege if their device is used inappropriately.

Back to School Night

Establishing a strong home-school partnership is key and attending Back to School Night is a great first step in building this relationship. MAMS' BTSN will be on Monday, September 9; 6th grade will be 6:00-7:00 and 7th & 8th grades will be 7:30-8:30. There will be a general presentation for parents at 5:30 in the auditorium. Come meet your child's teachers and become familiar with our programs and classroom procedures. We hope to see you there!

PTSO news

Please view the PTSO's current flyers:

[MAMS PTSO FALL MUMS FUNDRAISER Payment Venmo \(@MAMS-PTSO\), cash, check \(MAMS PTSO\).pdf.pdf](#)