

# *Moonachie Public Schools*

ROBERT L. CRAIG SCHOOL  
20 WEST PARK STREET  
MOONACHIE, NEW JERSEY 07074

JAMES KNIPPER  
Superintendent/Principal  
jknipper@moonachieschool.org

OFFICE: (201) 641-5833 ext. 110  
FAX: (201) 641-3723

August 26, 2021

Moonachie Families & Friends –

The start of school is just a few weeks away! Our faculty, teachers, and custodial staff are hard at work preparing for the opening of our school year. Our custodial team did an outstanding job this summer cleaning and preparing our building! It looks great! We are planning for a more traditional school opening for our students and staff. This letter is to inform you of our back-to-school plans.

## Teacher Assignments & Supply Lists

Teacher Assignment Letters & Supply Lists were mailed out during the week of August 9<sup>th</sup>. If you did not receive it, please call the main office.

## Morning Entrance

All students will enter through the Gymnasium doors this year (See Entrance Map attached on last page). The main entrance will not be used for students. Please pull as far down the 'horseshoe' as possible before stopping to let your student(s) out. Drop off is between 8:10am – 8:45am. Homeroom begins at 8:50am.

## Dismissal

Dismissal will work very similar to last year. We will utilize the 'Car Line' to dismiss students individually. If weather permits, we are encouraging families to walk. This will decrease the number of cars in the line. We thank you in advance for your patience during our Dismissal process.

Dismissal will begin at 2:50pm for Grades PK-5. Grades 6-8 will dismiss at 3:05pm. If you have an older and younger student, please plan to pick both up at 3:05pm.

## Important Dates

Tuesday August 31 @ 7:00pm – Virtual Town Hall with Administration & Nurse Gallo. Please come ask questions in an open forum.

Google Meet Joining Info:

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/vuj-tryx-qtj>

Or dial: (US) +1 470-771-2900 PIN: 594 238 120#

Tuesday September 7 – First Day of School – 1:00pm Dismissal

Wednesday September 8 – Full Day of School – 3:05pm Dismissal

Wednesday September 8 – YMCA After School Programming Begins

Tuesday September 14 – Back to School Night – The format has not been determined. More information to follow.

The Updated School Calendar can be found here: <https://www.moonachieschool.org/domain/182>

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## Parent Portal in Realtime

We will be sending out information shortly on activating your Parent Account in Realtime. In the Parent Portal you will be able to view your student's grades, report cards, attendance, communicate with our teachers, update your contact information, and receive building notifications.

## YMCA After School Program

YMCA After School Program for grades 3-8 will be fully operational this year. It is free of charge, from 3pm-6pm. Students will receive homework help, tutoring, enrichment opportunities, participate in STEM activities, and engage in physical activity.

We are excited to introduce the YMCA program this year for grades 1 & 2, from 3pm-6pm. This is a tuition-based program. Financial Assistance is available.

Please contact Mr. Facendola at the school for additional information or to register for either program.

## Bussing Assignments

We are finalizing our bussing assignments and bus stop times. Letters will be sent home next week. Remember: Masks must be worn on buses, seating will be assigned, and windows will be open.

## Technology

Our 1-to-1 Technology initiative is underway! Every student will have an assigned device to use, while in school. We have received a majority of the devices. Our technology team is working to get all devices programmed. We are projecting for classroom teachers to be able to use the devices early this Fall.

## School Store

We are excited to open our School Store, The Craig Shoppe, "on wheels" this year! The school store will visit classrooms a few times each month and students will earn ClassDojo points for Positive Behavior, which can be redeemed for prizes.

## PTO

If you are looking to get involved in our PTO, please contact President Ms. Linda Esposito at [Lesposito@moonachieschool.org](mailto:Lesposito@moonachieschool.org). We are in need of Class Parents & Volunteers.

## Covid-19 Protocols – Very Similar to Last Year

### 1) As per Executive Order 251:

- a. All students and staff are required to wear face masks while indoors at school, unless: wearing a mask impedes an individual's health, when engaging in aerobic activities and able to maintain 6-feet of social distancing, when eating or drinking, or if listed as an accommodation in a student's IEP or Section 504 plan.
- b. Masking is optional outside.
- c. Masking is mandatory on all buses.
- d. Increased mask breaks will occur during extreme heat for classrooms without Air Conditioning.

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- e. All visitors are required to wear a mask inside the building.
- 2) As per Executive Order 253:
  - a. All Employees of the Moonachie School District and the YMCA After School Program, as well as any individuals who perform regular duties at the school, will be fully vaccinated by October 18<sup>th</sup> OR will produce a Negative test for Covid-19, weekly.
- 3) As per NJDOE, there is No Remote Learning Option this year.
- 4) MyMedBot will be utilized. The questionnaire will mirror the current guidelines for exclusion. Ms. Spitaleri will be in touch with families next week if we are unable to activate your account from last year and/or if you are new to our district.
- 5) As per NJDOE guidelines, students will maintain a minimum distance of 3-feet. Per NJDOH, if students are between 3-6 feet apart in class and appropriately wearing their mask, quarantining will not be required.
- 6) Students will remain in cohorts. The exception is Physical Education. PE class will take place outside (weather permitting). Indoor PE class will maintain 6-feet of social distancing between students.
- 7) Cleaning and sanitizing will continue in our building throughout the day and each evening.
- 8) If a student is symptomatic during the school day, he/she will be isolated with Nurse Gallo in the isolation room. A parent/guardian will be called for immediate pick up from school.
- 9) If a student is symptomatic in the morning, the student will be marked absent. Nurse Gallo will advise the family based on current NJDOH guidelines. Students will be provided ample time to make up missed work upon their return to school. If your student is not feeling well, please keep them home.
- 10) Should a student, group of students, or entire classroom need to be quarantined, Synchronous Remote Learning will be activated for the duration of the Quarantine. As per NJDOE, quarantine is the only time Remote Learning will be utilized.
- 11) Should a student test positive for Covid-19, contact tracing will occur. Nurse Gallo will advise based on current NJDOH guidelines.
  - a. Close contacts will be contacted immediately and advised by Nurse Gallo.
- 12) Confirmed positive cases will be communicated to the entire school community.
- 13) NJDOH no longer recommends temperature screening. We will NOT be temperature screening.
- 14) All Visitors, including parents, will remain in the vestibule or outside. Only Staff and Students will be permitted past the front vestibule area.

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15) MERV-13 filters will continue to be utilized in our ventilation system and changed according to the manufacturers recommendations. Additionally, classroom windows will be open to introduce the fresh-air component.

16) Breakfast will be sent home for the following day.

## Who To Contact

Should you have any reopening questions, please direct them to myself at: [jknipper@moonachieschool.org](mailto:jknipper@moonachieschool.org).

Should you have any health related questions, please direct them to Nurse Gallo at: [dgallo@moonachieschool.org](mailto:dgallo@moonachieschool.org).

Should you have any new student registration information, please direct them to Ms. Alyssa Spitaleri at: [aspitaleri@moonachieschool.org](mailto:aspitaleri@moonachieschool.org)

Should you have any class assignment questions, curriculum, or scheduling, please direct them to the Director of Curriculum & Instruction, Ms. Dana Genatt at: [dgenatt@moonachieschool.org](mailto:dgenatt@moonachieschool.org)

Should you have any transportation (bussing) questions, please direct them to Ms. Sandy Diaz at: [sdiaz@moonachieschool.org](mailto:sdiaz@moonachieschool.org).

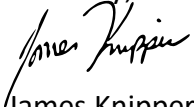
Should you have any technology questions, please direct them to Mr. Jason Diaz at: [admin@moonachieschool.org](mailto:admin@moonachieschool.org).

Should you have any special education questions, please direct them to our Director of CST, Ms. Paula Hill at: [phill@moonachieschool.org](mailto:phill@moonachieschool.org)

As we prepare for the new school year, I want you to know that our district is working diligently to make this year a success for all of our students, staff, and our parents/guardians. We are committed to doing this in the safest and healthiest way possible for everyone who learns, works, and visits our district. As we did last year, we will learn, adapt, and adjust as the year progresses. We thank you for your trust, patience, and grace as we work together to build the best school in the State of New Jersey.

I look forward to the start of the school year and cannot wait to see your children soon.

Sincerely,



James Knipper  
Superintendent/Principal

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## Entrance Diagram

