



**MAHWAH HIGH SCHOOL**  
50 Ridge Road, Mahwah, NJ 07430

**Danielle L. Wood**  
Principal

**Craig V. Jandoli**  
Assistant Principal

**Michael G. McCabe**  
Assistant Principal

**James G. O'Hara**  
Director of Guidance & Counseling

**Roger L. Pelletier**  
Director of Athletics

July 2026

Dear Thunderbird:

**Welcome to the Mahwah High School Thunderbird Family!** We hope you're enjoying a wonderful summer and are as excited as we are for the forthcoming school year. To support a smooth transition and ensure a successful high school experience, you're invited to our Orientation for new students on **Thursday, August 20, 2026**. This event offers a fantastic opportunity to meet your peers, connect with school and class leaders, receive your school issued laptop, and get familiar with our campus and program offerings. Our Freshman Advisory Coordinators, Mr. Matthew Miller & Mr. Randy Fuchs, look forward to welcoming you to the Thunderbird community!

The orientation will begin at 8:40 a.m., Thursday, August 20, 2026, in the high school auditorium. Enter using Door 3. School transportation **will not** be available for the orientation. While the orientation features a rotation of activities, below is a sample agenda for the program:

AGENDA - 9 <sup>th</sup> GRADE		AGENDA - TRANSFER STUDENTS 10 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup>	
8:40 a.m.	Arrival	8:40 a.m.	Arrival
9:00 a.m.	Welcome	9:00 a.m.	Welcome
9:30 a.m.	Team Building Activities	9:15 a.m.	Meet Student Assistance Counselor, receive schedule
10:00 a.m.	Meet Freshman Advisory Leaders, get student ID cards, review rotating schedule	9:30 a.m.	Walk the building with SGA Officers, locate classrooms and locker
10:30 a.m.	Walk the building with schedule, locate locker	10:00 a.m.	Student Laptop Distribution
10:30 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.	Student Laptop Distribution	10:30 a.m.	Dismissal
11:45 a.m.	Dismissal from Thunderbird Door 1		

**MAHWAH TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
A district with a reputation for excellence in education  
[www.mahwah.k12.nj.us](http://www.mahwah.k12.nj.us)  
Follow MHS on Social Media at @MahwahHS

**Main Office** 201.762.2300  
**Fax** 201.529.1614  
**Fax** 201.512.0949 (Guidance Office)  
**Fax** 201.529.8038 (Health Office)

## **Download the Realtime Student App on your Smartphone**

Students are required to download the Realtime Student Portal app on their smartphone because it will provide each student with a copy of their ID card and barcode that may be used to scan out books, materials, and devices, as well as to scan into MHS office locations without touching a keyboard. It does not allow you entry to the building doors, only your actual FOB/ID card will give you building access. The app will also give you access to your schedule on August 18<sup>th</sup>. More information at [Realtime Mobile App Directions - Mahwah High School](#)



## **Laptop Distribution Procedures:** Requirements that must be completed for laptop pick-up

- All outstanding fines must be paid in full. You will not have portal access if you owe a fine. Fines are cleared through the guidance department. Outstanding lunch fines should be paid via PaySchools Central and a copy of the payment receipt brought to the guidance department.
- Electronically answer all the required questions and read documents in the Realtime Portal. Portal opens on August 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Both the parent/guardian and student must answer the questions on their respective student and parent portals.
- Bring a copy of proof of \$60.00 laptop insurance payment. PaySchoolsCentral.com opens on August 14<sup>th</sup>. Insurance payments should be made via [www.payschoolscentral.com](http://www.payschoolscentral.com) Link is also available on the high school website under "Popular links".
- Grade 9/newly enrolled transfer students will be given ID/FOB cards at orientation. You do not need to pay for your ID/FOB card, the district provides you with your first high school ID/FOB card free of charge. **Do not** click on the lost fee listed in PaySchools Central.
- ID/FOB replacement fee. The fee is listed on every account in PaySchools Central should you need to use it during the year to replace a LOST or damaged ID/FOB.
- Students must pick-up their own laptops. Laptops will not be given to a parent without a student present.

## **Laptop Distribution schedule will be as follows for those not able to attend orientation:**

Students may pick up laptop computers after school on September 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> if they are unavailable to pick up during August distribution.

Freshmen will be taking their school photographs in their physical education classes on September 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2026. Order information is located on the high school website in the Opening Packet 2026-2027.

We are looking forward to seeing you at the orientation and working with you during the 2026-2027 school year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James G. O'Hara".

James G. O'Hara

Director of Guidance & Counseling K-12