EISENHOWER MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Preparing the children of today for tomorrow...

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Subject: Welcome to the 2026-2027 School Year!

Greetings Eisenhower Middle School families,

I hope this correspondence finds you and your loved-ones well, and enjoying all the joy and rejuvenation these final weeks of summer have to offer. On behalf of Eisenhower's faculty and staff, we warmly welcome you to the new school year! Experience has taught us that a smooth start to the year paired with a strong bond between home and school can go a long way in optimizing your student's overall middle school experience. With that goal in mind, please take a few moments to read through the important dates, notes and information below:

****EMS Summer Open House - August 12 - All current EMS students and families are welcome****
10:00-10:15 - Welcome from administration - EMS Auditorium
10:15-11:30 - Find your homeroom, practice following your schedule, get to know the building layout

Additional Information for the Upcoming School Year

Schedules & School Supplies - All EMS daily bell schedules are available for your review **here**. Student schedules will be available in the Genesis Parent Portal on August 10 at 3:00 PM. All required forms must be completed online by both student and a parent/guardian in order to retrieve your student's schedule. Once you have identified their academic team, please review the appropriate supply lists by **clicking here**. Any special supply requests not noted here will be communicated by the teachers once school resumes. Any questions or concerns regarding your student's schedule or academic team should be directed to their school counselor or case manager.

Arrivals - Morning arrivals are from 7:38 - 7:58, with regular school day hours of 7:58 - 2:30.. Buses drop students off at the front entrance, with morning car line drop-offs occurring at **the side entrance by the gym** from 7:38 - 7:58 am. Walkers/riders may use either entrance, and there are bike racks near both the front and side doors. To ensure adequate supervision, students are not to be dropped off prior to 7:38 am. Late arrivals (after 7:58) must enter through the main office.

Dismissals - Dismissals begin at 2:30, with buses/walkers/riders exiting the front of the building. Car line students report to the auditorium. The north lot by the gym is the car line staging area. Please do not arrive in the car line prior to 2:15. Once all the buses have cleared, the car line will be waved to the front loop by a school official. Please **click here** for a visual guide to our afternoon car line format.

- **Early pickups** must be completed at least 15 minutes in advance of dismissals (2:15 on a regular day). Pickup requests made after 2:15 will be sent to the car line. Students who are not feeling well should be checked out by our nurse in the health office prior to being picked up early by a parent/guardian.

Visitors - In-person visits from parent and community partners are warmly welcomed. For security reasons, please email or call ahead to make an appointment and be sure to bring a valid driver's license or photo ID.

Single-day bus passes - In order to ensure the safe return home of all pupils, single-day bus change requests (including *new route* and *same route, different stop*) must be submitted by a parent/guardian no later than the morning of the request. These must be hand written notes with an original parent/guardian signature.

Attendances: It is our expectation that your student will attend school every day they are healthy and able to do so. Their consistent presence is the greatest contributing factor to the level of success they will experience here in middle school. If your child is unable to attend school, please utilize the Genesis "Notify Attendance" feature to inform us of their absence. Homeroom teachers take routine daily attendance promptly at 7:58, and any student not present or accounted for in Genesis will receive an automated phone alert via the Blackboard Messenger service.

Lockers & Locks - Lockers are assigned based on your student's homeroom class. Locks are $5 and must be purchased through your child's homeroom teacher. Please bring $5 cash on the first day of school if you wish to purchase a lock. 8th graders can re-use their locks from last year. For security purposes, **only school-issued locks may be used**. All students are strongly encouraged to use locks and keep their combinations confidential. The school will not be responsible for lost or stolen personal items. Please also note that students may not carry backpacks from class to class.

Cell Phones/Devices/Headphones - Absent a documented medical reason, student use of cell phones/personal electronics is prohibited during school hours (7:58-2:30). All phones must remain in lockers for the duration of the school day. If you need to get a message to your child, please call 973-584-2973. If a student needs to contact their family, they may use the phones in the front office. Additionally, the use of wireless headphones/earbuds is also prohibited during school hours. **Please provide your child with a pair of *wired* earbuds/headphones for the year.**

Summer Learning - Please **click here** to review summer learning opportunities, including *mandatory assignments* for students enrolled in Pre-Algebra (7), Algebra 1 (8) and Applications of Algebra (8).

School Lunches - **Click here** for menus and prices. Please **click here** to apply for free/reduced lunch.

Physical Education (PE) - PE is on alternating days (A/B). Students will need to wear sneakers and appropriate clothing on their PE days, or change in the locker rooms before/after class. Locks are NOT provided for these lockers, and students are responsible for clearing their gym locker at the end of class.

Key Dates - Please Mark Your Calendars (click here for online school calendar):

- **8/10** - Schedules available in Genesis (3:00PM)
- **8/12** - Summer Open House @ EMS (9:30-11:30)
- **8/26 -** First Day of School
- **8/28** - EMS Fall Sports Interest Meetings (during lunches)
- **9/10 -** EMS Back to School Night (7-9 pm)
- **9/11** - EMS Club Fair (during lunches)
- **9/15-16:** School Picture Days - Student pictures taken during regularly scheduled PE periods…dress for the occasion on the day you have PE! Picture makeups scheduled for **November 18**

Thank you for your support and attention to these matters. Looking forward to a great school year here at EMS!

Kind regards,

Mr. Paul Gallagher
Principal, Eisenhower Middle School