Dear Parents and Families of North Mianus School,

Hello to all North Mianus Families. What an exciting time of year! We are eagerly anticipating the start to another fantastic year at NMS!! We hope this letter finds you healthy and enjoying your summer. This is sure to be an exciting year! We have spent the summer preparing for the return of our wonderful students and staff as well as welcoming our new Hawks to the NMS Community, and we are eagerly awaiting everyone's arrival in the building! Our goal is to work together with our families and staff to provide an engaging, safe, healthy, successful and rigorous learning experience for all of our students.

To that end, please feel free to reach out to me or Mrs. Anders at any time with any questions or concerns. We aim to work together with our parents as partners in learning.

Please take some time to read the information in this letter as it is important in preparation for the new school year.

On Thursday, August 31st, students <u>NEW</u> to NMS in grades 1-5 are welcome to visit and drop off any school supplies from 9:15-10:15! Again, this is ONLY for <u>NEW</u> students. It is also NOT for Kindergarteners (please see below for them).

Also on Thursday, August 31st, our Kindergarteners can visit from 11-11:30 and drop off any school supplies!

The first day of school is Friday, September 1. It is a full day. Arrival is between 8:30-8:45 for Grades 1-5.

Kindergarten arrival for the first day ONLY will be 9:30 so we can meet our newest students outside and walk them into the building together with their families.

Staff will be stationed at the designated parent drop off and bus arrival areas to help ensure the students enter the building safely. Please review the <u>BE SAFE Drop off and Pick Up Procedures</u> carefully.

Back to School Documents

Please be sure to review all back to school documents accessed via this link

Class lists

Class lists will be sent out Friday, 8/18.

Class Placement

Given the significant complexity of this process, no changes will be made to class lists.

The Handbook

Please take time to read through the NMS Handbook on our Back to School webpage. The "Receipt of Handbook Form" is **required**. Please send it to school once signed.

Emergency Contact Information

Our home-school notification system known as **Blackboard/Parent Link** will continue to enable us to inform you of important events and emergencies through automated messaging. **Please inform the main office immediately of any changes to your personal contact information to ensure you receive these emails.** Also, you should receive a Smore Newsletter each Friday. If you are NOT receiving these weekly Smore Newsletters, please let the main office know.

Reporting Absences

Please enter your child's absence into *School Dismissal Manager* or call the main office at 203-637-9730.

<u>Please be on the lookout for an email allowing you to set up your School</u> Dismissal Manager account.

<u>School Lunch</u>

Lunch Account information is on the Back to School webpage. Lunch this year is \$4.15.

School Supplies

The 2023-2024 School Supply List can be found on the NMS Back to School page. If you ordered your child's school supplies through the PTA, they will be delivered to your house. For all others, please make sure to send the supplies in with your child on the first day of school.

New This Year! Welcome Emails!

This year GPS elementary schools will be working to make parents partners in their child's education. Our first step will include teachers sending welcome emails. Our teachers want you to know who they are, and they want to know their students' family too. Your knowledge of your child will help their teacher know the student faster, and can be the beginning of 2-way sharing to support your child throughout the year.

Welcome NEW and Returning Staff (in new positions)!!!!

Ellen Lazarev is super excited to be joining our Second Grade Team! She will be in Room 126!

Monica Ware is returning to North Mianus, this time as a 5th grade teacher! Mrs. Ware was a parent here for her three children while teaching Grade 5 at Riverside! We are so excited Mrs. Ware has joined our team!

Jaclyn Smith has transferred to Eastern Middle School so our lucky NMS students will see her there!

Lianne Metter is joining us this year as our new Art Teacher!! Ms. Metter comes to us from the Side-by-Side Charter School in Norwalk, CT.

Victoria (Tori) Boretsky is joining us part time in music from North Street School! We welcome Ms. Boretsky to our team!

Diana Luzzi is coming to North Mianus as a part-time speech and language therapist. We welcome Ms. Luzzi to our team!

We are in the process of hiring a Maternity Leave sub for Mrs. Bekic and two building subs. We will share their names ASAP.

We are still looking for ONE cafeteria monitor on Thursdays! Please encourage any applicants to apply using this <u>link</u>.

Enjoy the last few days of summer vacation and we look forward to seeing your children soon!

Sincerely,

Kathleen and Abby