



Maplewood Richmond Heights Middle School

Dear MRHMS Families,

We hope you are having a great summer and students are enjoying the time off! Please see the information below about some very important topics pertaining to the upcoming academic year.

Back to School Night

Please join us at 6PM on August 6th in the theatre. We will meet briefly and then head to the outdoor commons for snacks and conversation. 8th graders will receive their schedules this night. 7th graders will receive their schedule during home visits. There is no need to bring school supplies this evening since teachers will be gathering school supplies on the first day of school. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

Home Visits- 7th Grade and new 8th grade families

Each summer, we like to welcome the families of our incoming 7th graders with a home visit along with new families that are joining us in 8th grade. This is an opportunity to ask any questions about the school or our programming, get to know your teachers, and also to get some information about the beginning of the year including your child's schedule. We currently have the home visit window scheduled for the weeks of July 13th through August 4th, Monday through Friday. When you call to schedule your home visit we will be able to inform you of which advisory class your child has been assigned to your child for next year and schedule an appointment with that teacher based on availability. Appointments will be made on a first come first serve basis. Please email [Ms. Jacque Thobbs \(jacque.thobbs@mrhschools.net\)](mailto:jacque.thobbs@mrhschools.net), our building secretary, with a date that works best, or call school at (314) 644-4406 and we will get back with you to confirm.

Chromebook Early Pick Up

Students will be able to pick up their Chromebooks prior to school starting again this year. Students will need to have a signed technology agreement and pay both their expedition fee and technology fee to participate in early pick up. Please stay tuned to Twitter, Facebook, and email for more details.

Expedition Fee

MRH Middle School believes in the importance of student learning through the expeditionary model and our 1:1 technology initiative. The expeditionary model takes students outside the typical classroom walls for learning approximately 20% of the school year. Expeditionary learning provides a platform for authentic learning through a hands-on approach. This model for learning, coupled with our high-level technology integration, in a 1:1 laptop environment, provides a unique and excellent environment for your middle school child to excel in their learning and to reach their potential. **The expedition fee for all students is \$50.** The dates for our two week long expeditions are:

7th Grade - Great Smoky Mountain Institute at Tremont - September 27 - October 2, 2015

8th Grade - Dauphin Island Sea Lab- April 18 - April 22, 2016

Technology Fee

Additionally, our 1:1 laptop initiative shows our commitment to the integration of critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and inquiry through instructional technology. For several years the middle school has made a commitment to integrating Google Apps For Education into our instruction. Each student will be issued a new Chromebook at the beginning of the year. We believe these devices will help develop the skills essential to building 21st century learners in our diverse and changing world. There is a **technology fee* to offset the purchase, the cost of maintenance and the repair of the Chromebooks.** Please note, that none of the technology fee amounts have changed from last year. The



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required fees to obtain a Chromebook for your student are as follows and must to be paid before Chromebooks are issued to your student:

\$50 for students not receiving free and/or reduced lunch
\$20 if the student receives a reduced lunch rate
\$10 if the student receives a free lunch

Payment of our expedition fees and technology fees must be paid prior to the student picking up their Chromebook the first week of school. These fees can be paid in the middle school office by check, cash, or credit card. Fees can also be paid over the phone with credit card by calling the middle school office at (314) 644-4406.

Sincerely,

Michael Dittrich, Ed. S
Principal

Dan Reeve, Ed. S
Assistant Principal