

Dear Student,

Welcome to the Middle School at Harrisburg Academy! Thank you for choosing to attend our Middle School--I think you are going to enjoy your time here! The start of the school year and a new school are great opportunities to start fresh with academic, extracurricular, and personal goals. The first few days of school will allow you opportunities to review and share these goals with your peers and teachers. The faculty and I like to know what you hope to gain from your experience at our school, so we can help you reach your goals. The purpose of this mailing is to provide information about the start of school, including new student orientation, and to share your daily schedule with you.

New Student Orientation

Monday, August 31, is New Student Orientation (this includes all fifth graders). It starts promptly at 8:30 AM, so plan to arrive 10-15 minutes early, so you can put any supplies you have already purchased in your locker and say hi to the other students. You will have an opportunity to tour the Middle School and find your classrooms during the Ice-Breakers/ Scavenger Hunt portion of this day. The schedule for this day is as follows:

	Students	Parents
8:30 – 9:00 AM	Welcome to HA Middle School!	(Auditorium)
9:00 – 9:30 AM	Ice Breakers (Gym) HA Scavenger Hunt (Starting in the Gym)	Library Resources Overview HA Technology Overview
9:30-10:15 AM	Technology Introduction (MS/US Computer Lab)	Q & A (Auditorium)

Daily Schedule

Included in this mailing is a copy of your daily schedule. It may look overwhelming at first glance, but I think you will get the hang of it within a week or two (I am impressed with our students’ ability to adjust to each year’s new schedule). Some students like to color code their schedules (one color for a given class—give it a try). If you have any questions about your schedule, please feel free to ask me at New Student Orientation, email me, or call the school and ask to speak with me (see contact information below).

Supplies

A supplies list is posted on the Harrisburg Academy Websites: www.harrisburgacademy.org on the Middle School Academics page (link on the right). Please review this list before purchasing school supplies. Pencils, pens, and loose leaf paper are necessary for students to be prepared for all classes. A book bag to carry supplies to and from school and locker shelves will aid in student organization. You may wish to wait to purchase locker shelves until you see how returning students in the middle

school organize their lockers. You may bring materials for the first day of school to New Student Orientation to start organizing your locker for the school year.

Drop-off and Pick-up

Our parking lot and Erford Road can get busy during morning drop-off and after school pick-up times. We thought of this catchy motto to aid in smooth traffic flow: **TO HELP TRAFFIC FLOW, PULL UP, DROP OFF, AND GO!** When you arrive in the morning, pull up as far as you can in front of the school building (look for orange cones for guidance). Efficient packing of your vehicle can minimize unloading time at school. Due to limited parking space at this busy time, please reserve parent escort of students into the school for the lower school students. Classes start promptly at 8:00AM. To ensure enough time for unloading materials to the locker and gathering appropriate materials for the morning classes, aim to arrive at the Academy no later than 7:45 AM. The school doors will be open around 7:30 AM daily. For pick-up between 3:00-3:15 PM, please drive your car into the parking area, the area directly in front of the school will be used for bus pick-up only. After 3:15 PM, students will be supervised in the After-School Program if they have yet to be picked up.

I look forward to seeing you soon! If you have any questions, please feel free to call the school (763-7811) and ask to speak with Carol Riordan (the Middle School Administrative Assistant) or myself, or email me: klemunes.j@harrisburgacademy.org.

Sincerely,

Jen Klemunes

Head of Middle School