

Dear Middle School Parents:

Hello! I am pleased with the start of the school year. Portions of the first week of school were dedicated to having the students set goals for the school year and empowering them to establish guidelines to help them reach these goals. These activities for starting the school year are a few of many *Developmental Designs* strategies aimed at meeting the unique combination of social, emotional, physical, and intellectual needs of the young adolescents with whom we interact.

Thursday, September 17, 2009 is Back-to-School Night. We will begin with an “evening meeting” at 6:30 p.m. in the McCormick Auditorium at which you will hear from Head of School, Jim Newman, the specials teachers, and me. Topics I will cover include: the role of Middle School, how much homework your child can expect and the manner in which it will be graded, and new programs in the Middle School (Technology Integration, increased focus on reading comprehension, and the new 8th grade history class—*Current Global Issues*). You will receive short presentations by the physical education, art, music, and technology departments. After the introductory meeting, you will have the opportunity to meet the rest of your child’s teachers. Once in the classroom, each teacher will provide a brief overview of the course and where you can find course information and resources electronically. Please arrive early so that you can pick up the appropriate schedule to allow us to start promptly at 6:30 p.m.

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| 6:00 – 6:25 p.m. | Parent arrival, schedule distribution, be seated in Auditorium |
| 6:30 – 7:40 p.m. | Opening Welcome in the Auditorium |
| 7:40 p.m. | Subject 1 |
| 7:50 p.m. | Subject 2 |
| 8:00 p.m. | Subject 3 |
| 8:10 p.m. | Subject 4 |
| 8:20 p.m. | Subject 5 |
| 8:30 p.m. | Subject 6 |
| 8:40 p.m. | Subject 7 |

Please note that Back-to-School Night class sessions begin every 10 minutes and, as a result, they are designed for you to receive a brief overview of the class and are not suitable for parent conferences. Parent conferences are currently scheduled for **November 11**. If you desire a conference prior to this time, please feel free to contact the teacher or me directly to arrange a meeting date and time. I look forward to talking with many of you, and I hope that you find the evening to be informative and enjoyable.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Klemunes, M.S.
Head of Middle School