

# NESHAMINY SCHOOL DISTRICT MAPLE POINT MIDDLE SCHOOL

Dear Students and Parents:

Greetings from Maple Point Middle School! My name is Andy Sokol and I am the principal of Maple Point Middle School. I am excited and honored to lead Maple Point this year. We are looking forward to the year of learning that is about to begin and are getting ready for your arrival in just a few weeks. This newsletter will help you know more about our plans for the 2016-17 academic year. We sincerely hope that the remaining days of summer vacation will be relaxing and enjoyable.



## **OPEN HOUSE FOR ALL NEW STUDENTS – will be take place on Monday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>.**

This will be an opportunity for you and your son/daughter to find key locations in the building such as their classrooms and wings of the building. They will see the new lockers, the cafeteria, and the gymnasium. At 9:00 a.m., a brief presentation will be made in the Auditorium where we will introduce some of the people who will help you achieve success during the school year. I hope you will all be able to join us.

**Important information** - See below for information that will be helpful in preparing for the upcoming school year

- **Administration** – There will be one change in the Maple Point administration for the upcoming school year. Mr. Shawn Neely will be joining us as the 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade assistant principal. Mr. Neely will be replacing Mrs. Nicole Zuerblis. Mr. Neely has a wealth of knowledge and experience as a principal and is a great addition to our team. Mr. Andre Modica will be returning to Maple Point and will be our 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade assistant principal.
- **Bell Schedule** – The student day will begin at 7:55 and end at 2:55. Students may enter the building at 7:25. We do not have supervision for students any earlier.
- **First Period** - Students will start their day in **FIRST PERIOD**. There is no homeroom period to start the day. It is imperative that students get to school on time. If students are tardy, they are missing instructional time.
- **Clinics** - Clinic is an opportunity for additional academic help. The clinic schedule will be determined by the teacher. Students participating in the clinic program must obtain a pass specific for the day that he/she will be attending. When they arrive, they will show their pass and be allowed to go upstairs to their teacher's room. The pass is important. Without it, the teacher may not be at their room or in a meeting. Students without a pass but requesting to go to clinic will have to report to the main office to ensure that the teacher is available.
- **WIN Period** – At the end of the day, WIN (Whatever I Need) will take place from 2:25 until 2:55. Students may request a pass to see a teacher or teachers may give passes to students to go to their room for addition remediation, enrichment or make up work. The expectation of WIN for students is that they are getting help from a teacher, working on schoolwork that has been assigned, or if all work is completed, reading silently.
- **Courses** – This year, Geometry will be taught at the middle school level for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. Also, World Language will be taught as a course in 8<sup>th</sup> grade (Spanish or French options) and a FLES program is taught in 5<sup>th</sup> grade to introduce foreign language. **IPAD initiative** – 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students will take part in a 1:1 IPAD initiative. iPads will be distributed in the beginning of the school year. Paperwork will need to be completed. There will be more to come on this.
- **Late buses** – Late buses will be available at 4:15pm Monday through Thursday and 5:15pm Monday through Friday.

**BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHT** – is scheduled for the **evening of September 22<sup>nd</sup>** at the three middle schools. You will also have the opportunity to participate in our “PTO.” We are in need of parent support through our PTO. Our students directly benefit with your participation. Please join the PTO and all are welcome and invited to attend our next meeting!

**BOOK BAGS** - are not permitted during the school day. **Please note—the impact on learning and school safety is the key to this issue.** There is no place to store book bags in the classrooms and many students use their book bags to store papers instead of subject appropriate notebooks. Discontinuing the use of book bags during the school day has helped to reduce the risk of students carrying dangerous weapons, illegal substances and other annoying and distracting devices such as radios, beepers, sound effect devices, toys, etc. As students arrive in the building they are required to place their book bags in their lockers. Students should carry only those items required for the first three classes. Two 5-minute locker breaks are provided each day in order for students to exchange their materials for their next set of classes. Small gym bags containing a change of clothes on days when students have an assigned gym class will be permitted. These must be kept under the student's desk during regular classes. Books and other school supplies may not be carried in gym bags.

**CAFETERIA CHATTER** – Visit the Neshaminy web site for detailed information about menus, nutrition and prepayment options. All Neshaminy cafeterias have the **new** computerized **ParentOnLine** ([www.parentonline.net](http://www.parentonline.net)). **There will be more to come from the Food Services Department.** Meal prices for 2016-2017 will be determined at the August Board meeting.

**GUIDANCE** - THE GUIDANCE OFFICE CAN BE CONTACTED DIRECTLY AT:215-809-7234 / 7235.

Guidance Counselors will see students in all four grade levels and will be broken down alphabetically.

Counselor assignments are as follows:

- **Mrs. Kealey – A-D; Ms. Gale - E – LA; Mr. Martys – LE – P; Dr. Horsley - Q - Z**

**TEAM STRUCTURE FOR GRADES 6 THROUGH 8** – Each of the middle school facilities will include grades six through eight and will be taught by a team of teachers who are mapped to the same student groups.

Team	ENGLISH	READING	SOCIAL ST.	MATH	SCIENCE
<b>A</b>	Mrs. Kane Room A-216	Mrs. Harkins Room A-221	Mr. Kelly Room A-207	Mrs. Merchiore Room B-220	Mrs. Lare Room A-219
<b>B</b>	Mrs. Johnson Room A-213	Ms. Messenlehner Room A-212	Mr. Lever Room A-215	Mrs. Whiteman Room A-214	Mr. Hunt Room A-220
<b>C</b>	Mrs. Paris-Powell Room C-211	Mrs. Adamoyurka Room C-210	Ms. Rosales Room C212	Ms. Zdunczyk Room C-207	Mrs. Schenkel Room B208
<b>D</b>	Ms. Andrusko Room C-215	Ms. Hawkins Room C-220	Mr. French Room C-214	Ms. Turchi Room C-213	Dr. Wilson Room B-209
<b>E</b>	Mrs. Foley Room C-230	Mrs. Stoll Room C-232	Ms. Schmidt Room C-229	Mrs. Curley Room B-214	Mr. Lumio Room C-225
<b>F</b>	Mrs. Flaville-Boop Room C-231	Mrs. Stoll Room C-232	Mr. Hastings Room C-233	Ms. Reed Room C-224	Mr. Winter Room C-226

**5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teachers and Rooms** - The classrooms are scheduled in near proximity to each other and 5<sup>th</sup> grade will be on its own schedule, not on the daily bell schedule that grades 6-8 will follow. Their day will begin at 7:55 a.m. Their day will contain 120 minutes of ELA and 90 minutes of math. Students will have one special each day and will also have a recess/break period along with lunch each day. The teachers and rooms are listed below:

Team				
<b>G</b>	Mrs. Mahoney Room A-233	Mrs. Hagedorn Room B-223	Mrs. Blum Room A-234	Mrs. Anderson Room A-237
<b>H</b>	Mr. O’Leary Room A-230	Mrs. O’Boyle Room A-231	Mrs. Goldberg Room A-232	Ms. Allbrook Room A-226
<b>I</b>	Mrs. Rice Room A-224	Mr. Sauritch Room A-225	Mr. Weldie Room A-229	

**HOME ACCESS CENTER - (HAC)**

Please make sure to **update** all pertinent information at the beginning of the school year and throughout the year if that information should change.

**LOCKERS** - A hall lock and locker will be assigned to each student on the **first day of school**. Each student is responsible for the cleanliness and care of the interior and exterior of his/her locker. Since personal and school property is contained in the locker, the **security of the locker is the responsibility of each student**. Do not allow other students to use your locker. **In the event that the hall lock is lost or broken, the cost for replacement will be \$5.00.** **Gym lockers**--It is recommended that you obtain a lock for use during gym class. Students are advised that they should not bring valuable items to the gym area. Protect your valuables. The school cannot assume responsibility for lost or stolen items. Lockers belong to the school and will be checked periodically to ensure the safety and well being of all our students at Maple Point.

**MATH DEPARTMENT** – Tools for math - A Texas Instrument model: TI-xiis calculator is strongly encouraged for all middle school students to have for the start of school. The TI-84 Plus, graphing calculator is recommended for all Algebra 1, Algebra 1 Part 1 and Geometry students. These models are typically on sale during the month of August. Scan ads as prices can vary.

**NURSE** - Please send documentation of your child's immunizations to the nurse. **All students in all grades are required to have two measles vaccines.** See the nurse's web link on our Maple Point site for updated information throughout the year. [School Nurse information web link](#)

The School Health Law requires medical examinations for all children in 6<sup>th</sup> grade and dental examinations for all children in 7<sup>th</sup> grade. It is recommended that these examinations be done by your family physician and dentist. Please see the Nurse's webpage on Maple Point's website for the appropriate forms for these examinations. The completed forms should be in the Nurse's office by October 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **NEW REQUIREMENTS FOR IMMUNIZATIONS FOR ALL STUDENTS**

By the 2016-17 school year all students are required to have two varicella (chickenpox) vaccines. [Maple Point Middle School is a peanut-free school.](#) Several students in our school have a severe allergy to ingestion, smell, and touch of peanuts. These are the guidelines that we use in order to have a safe environment for all students with food allergies. Peanut free signs are posted outside the main office, the cafeteria, and many classrooms. Please only send peanut free snacks for special activities. If a student wants a peanut butter sandwich for lunch, it must be tightly wrapped and placed in a lunch bag.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION** – Physical Education uniforms will be on sale during the orientation. The recommended clothing for physical education classes is a red t-shirt and navy blue shorts with a minimum 6-inch inseam. For the parent's convenience, t-shirts and shorts with the Maple Point logo will be available. The shirts are \$5 and the shorts are \$10.



**SCHOOL PICTURES** – School pictures will be taken for all students on **Thursday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>**. Picture re-takes are **November 15<sup>th</sup>**.

**SPORTS** – Students in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade that are interested in participating in a fall sports activity such as football, girls' field hockey or coed soccer must have a physical on file in the physical education office. You cannot try out for a sport until you have had a physical. A PIAA physical card must be signed by a doctor and parent in order to participate. **The form can be obtained on line (see our web site).** Students who participate in any athletic activity must be covered by school insurance or personal insurance in your family plan.

**INTRAMURAL AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES** - There will be a comprehensive intramural program and extracurricular activities offered for students after school. These programs are designed for all students who want to be involved in an activity at any grade level including grade 5 and 6 students. Some of these activities may include: band, chorus, orchestra, student council, school store, yearbook, science Olympiad, and basketball, soccer, mat ball, and fitness just to mention a few. Clubs include No Place for Hate, SPARK, Homework Club, Debate, Chess, and Computer Science. The offering of these activities will be done through our morning and afternoon announcements thus it is important to listen carefully each day. A brochure, listing all of the offerings, will be available for students. These programs are run based on the number of students who are interested and sign up after the announcements are made. **No physical exam is required to participate in the intramural or extracurricular activity program.** A signed parent permission slip is all that is required for a student to be included in these programs.

**STUDENT AGENDA BOOK** - Supported and purchased through PTO: Every student will be given an agenda book that will contain study skills development information, checklists to help students get organized and plan their time more effectively and keep track of all their assignments. **Students are expected to bring this assignment book to all their classes. We strongly encourage students to take the agenda book home each evening for parents to look over and respond as needed. The agenda book is a great communication tool for parents and teachers when used regularly. Start by using it on day one of school. Our handbook is available on our web site.**

**STUDENT DROP OFF TIMES** – **Students are not permitted to enter the building before 7:25 a.m.** unless they are involved in a scheduled co-curricular program. For the safety and well being of all our students as they arrive each day we want to ensure sufficient staff supervision in the building. Students being dropped off or walking will enter the building through the Auditorium entrance. Buses will drop off students in the back of the building and students will enter in through the cafeteria. Students coming for clinic, which is a before school tutoring/small group instruction opportunity, must have a pass to go to see the teacher. Students will all be permitted to enter the classroom/locker areas at 7:50 a.m. daily. Between 7:30 and 7:50 a.m., breakfast will be available in the cafeteria. In the event of a two-hour delay the times above would reflect a two-hour change.

**5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>** grade students will be housed in the **cafeteria**

**7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>** grade students will be housed in the **gymnasium**, unless going to breakfast.

- **One-way traffic pattern** - Parents dropping students off are asked to enter the entrance off of Langhorne Yardley Road. Proceed to the front of the building for drop-off at the Maple Point main entrance and then continue out following the cones to exit on Woodbourne road. To help insure the safety of students and drivers, **one-way patterns are in affect at all times during drop off and pick-ups.** Parents dropping off and picking up students during bus transport

times **cannot** use the rear parking area. Doors will open at 7:25a.m. – 7:55 a.m. and pickup will occur at 2:55 p.m. We ask that you pull close to the curb to avoid blocking the drive.

- Early dismissals and late drop off may still use the front entrance during non-busing times (7:55 – 2:55).
- Directional cones in the front parking area are to assist motorists with directions.

**STUDENT INSURANCE** - Neshaminy School District **does not** carry insurance for students. Student accident insurance will be available for purchase and we strongly recommend you consider one of the school coverage plans. School insurance plan information will be given to your child on the first day of school.

**TRANSPORTATION** – Busing information for your child will be found on Home Access when available. Students should be at the bus stop ten minutes before the scheduled time. Students who walk to school should plan to arrive at school by 7:45 and be in homeroom at 7:55 a.m. each day. Please review late bus information noted above in the **New This Year** section.

### To stay informed throughout the year please check the following information sites:

[www.neshaminy.k12.pa.us](http://www.neshaminy.k12.pa.us)

**Neshaminy School District official web site.** School calendar, school closings, board reports, general information, addresses, phone numbers, alumni information, lunch menus, “PAM” and press releases.

<http://www.neshaminy.org>

**Maple Point Middle Schools web site.** There are many House web sites linked for more detailed information such as daily homework, trips and yearly highlights. Home and School, Music Boosters, nurse and guidance have additional links that are continually updated to help keep you informed.

The District now has a new automated phone calling system, that will be used, in the event of an emergency.

**Cable channels**

If you have cable, your provider will have “The Neshaminy Channel.” It provides additional information as well as airing special events throughout the District.

**Radio stations**

Radio is the official Source for notifying all students and parents that schools are closed. **Our school code is 752**

<b>WBCB</b>	<b>1490 AM</b>	<b>Levittown</b>
<b>KYW</b>	<b>1060 AM</b>	<b>Philadelphia</b>
<b>WPST</b>	<b>97.5</b>	<b>Trenton</b>

### An FYI...from the District.

*“Neshaminy School District has engaged Eagle Industrial Hygiene Assoc., Inc., to fulfill the requirements of the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA), 40 CFR Part 763, Subpart E. This law requires that each Local Education Authority (LEA) engage EPA accredited individuals to initially inspect and subsequently re-inspect every three years all student and staff accessed areas for the presence of both friable and non-friable asbestos containing materials (ACM) and to develop an Asbestos Management Plan from the information developed from the building inspections. All areas of our facilities were inspected for asbestos-containing materials. The Management Plan provides a description of the amount, type, location and condition of all ACM found in these areas. The Plan also contains a detailed schedule of responses and activities for handling the ACM. The Management Plan is available for review by interested parents, faculty and staff in all school offices during business hours.*

*Sincerely, Barbara Markowitz, Business Administrator*

The Maple Point family will work to instill a work ethic and values that will follow your student through graduation. We will deliver educational opportunities that will prepare our students for the next stage of their lives. Expectations are that our students will take advantage of these opportunities, work to the best of their ability, and give their best effort. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us. Together we will put forth great effort to ensure your student will have a fantastic year.

*Mr. Andy Sokol,*  
*Principal*