
Colonel Zadok Magruder High School

Office of the Principal

August 2019

Dear Parents and Students:

Welcome to the 2019–2020 school year! We are looking forward to the return of everyone as well as the opportunity to provide a rewarding educational experience for all of the students attending Magruder High School.

We expect to match the projected enrollment for the upcoming school year. If there is a need to make an adjustment in staffing based on changes in enrollment, I will do everything possible to minimize the impact of any necessary adjustments. I will keep you informed and alert you of any changes that may occur at our school.

In preparation for the new school year, our staff has worked diligently to make sure that the building is in excellent condition. Many thanks go out to our building services staff. In addition, there were a number of repairs to areas inside and outside of our building that have been completed. I am pleased to write that the security doors and the Access Control System (ACS) are fully operational.

This spring, we continued the practice of mailing home course confirmations in addition to distributing copies to students. Counselors met with families in early May regarding student schedules. ***Friday, June 14th was the last date to make changes to students' schedules.*** These procedures were implemented, with parent and staff input, in order to effectively schedule students far in advance of the opening of school. We are pleased with the results of this early planning. Therefore, when students receive their schedules on the first day of school, it should not be necessary to make schedule changes, with the exception of cases such as a student's completion of a summer school course. During the first week of school, counselors will be working with new enrollees and students with incomplete schedules due to **unusual circumstances**. If a schedule change is necessary, the Schedule Request Form should be submitted to counselors by the second week of school.

As part of efforts to create a positive climate, it is important to respect and comply with established school policies. **Please review these policies with your student prior to the start of school.** Your support is a vital component in our efforts to establish and maintain a climate that is conducive to teaching and learning.

- **Identification (ID) policy** - Students are **required** to carry their IDs with them (either in their wallets or in the plastic holder in their student handbook) and to present their ID when requested by staff. With this practice, we will ensure that everyone in our building is a person who is permitted to be on our campus.
- **Cell phones and other electronic devices** – Cell phones are to be turned off and put in backpacks **before** entering the classroom for first period. These items should remain in

backpacks or lockers throughout the school day except during a student's lunch period. **We ask that parents not call or send text messages to students during the school day.** Please call the main office if you need to contact your child. Use of cell phones and text messaging during the school day is not permitted with the exception of use in the cafeteria during the student's lunch period.

- **Pictures and Videos** - No cameras are allowed in school except when related to a class assignment or project. We are prohibiting students from taking pictures or making videos without administrative approval.
- **Dress policy** - We will continue to enforce our dress policy, which supports a positive school climate. Students are expected to dress in a manner which is conducive to a positive learning environment. Examples of inappropriate attire include but are not limited to:
 - Shirts that communicate a message related to drugs, alcohol, inappropriate language, gangs, violence, weapons, etc.
 - Bare midriff or revealing shirts or blouses including tank tops with large armholes, tube tops, strapless tops, and/or tops that are transparent or reveal undergarments.
 - Shorts or skirts less than 4in. above the knee.
 - No head gear including hats, bandanas, hoods, etc. The only exception are items associated with religious practices.

Members of our staff are actively preparing for the start of another productive school year. Their preparations will allow us to provide a quality educational experience for all Magruder High School students. We are excited about the continued growth of our academic programs as well as other learning opportunities for our students. We will discuss these instructional programs at PTSA meetings and other parent meetings. Your participation is encouraged and all are invited.

Magruder HS Lunch Policies and Procedures:

- We will continue to have only one lunch period. We believe that the one lunch schedule gives staff a greater opportunity to provide students with additional academic support as well as providing clubs and other organizations increased time to meet as a group. Every effort will be made to maintain an environment that is safe, positive, and respectful. We ask that you encourage your child to take advantage of the many academic support opportunities available during their lunch period.
- The campus will remain a **closed campus** in an effort to ensure the safety and security of our students. This means that students will **not be permitted** to leave the building to purchase lunch. In addition, students are **prohibited** from ordering food and having it delivered to them during the school day. This is in direct conflict with MCPS Food Services policies and procedures.

Below are the MCPS meal prices for the upcoming school year. Students eligible for free or reduced-price meals will continue to receive breakfast at no cost. This is being done in recognition of the importance that breakfast has on a student's ability to learn.

Breakfast:	\$1.30
	No charge for the reduced-price eligible student
Lunch:	\$2.80
	\$.40 cents for the reduced-price eligible student

Our staff is looking forward to a successful year and we are eager to greet returning students and those students new to our school. The Magruder staff would like to make the transition for incoming ninth graders and other new students as smooth as possible. To that end, we have planned a special **orientation for Thursday, August 29, 2019**. This program, which will be held in the main gym, will run from 7:45 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. School buses will be provided and will follow their normal routes and times according to the enclosed schedule. Buses will leave school at approximately 12:05 p.m. to take students home. This orientation program is provided so that students new to our school will have the opportunity to meet their teachers and other school staff, as well as to follow their class schedules prior to the first day of school. It is also an excellent time for students to acquaint themselves with the layout of the building and to bring their **\$5.00 refundable deposit** for hall lockers.

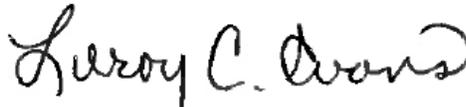
On the evening of **Thursday, August 29, 2019, at 7:30 p.m.**, we will host a **special orientation session for parents of ninth graders and other new students**. There will also be a social beginning at 7:30 p.m. for ninth grade students. We hope that you will join us.

Please mark your calendars with the date for this year's **Back-to-School Night: Tuesday, September 17, 2019, at 7:00 p.m.** It is important that you meet your student's teachers and hear about their curriculum objectives and expectations first-hand. Research shows that students whose parents are involved in school tend to do well academically. Since we are a large school and parking is limited, we will be running buses from several **satellite parking lots** beginning at 6:00 p.m. Satellite locations are **Sequoyah and Flower Hill elementary schools, and Redland and Shady Grove middle schools**. The buses will leave at 6:00 p.m., and will return to the satellite lots to make a second trip and third trip to Magruder at approximately 6:25 p.m. and 6:50 p.m. A bus for individuals with disabilities will be provided at Sequoyah Elementary School.

As we complete our summer work, we are anticipating an exciting and productive year of achievement and continued growth. We encourage parents to contact counselors or grade-level administrators if you have questions or concerns.

Magruder High School is a wonderful community of caring people committed to our core values of treating every individual with fairness, respect, and dignity. By continuing to work together and communicate with each other on a regular basis, we will help our students grow and gain the knowledge necessary to be successful in a challenging world. We greatly appreciate your support, involvement, and the respect you give us as your partner in education.

Sincerely,



Leroy C. Evans, Ed.D.
Principal

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