

MONDAY MESSAGE: AUGUST 17, 2020

Dear Malibu Middle School Families,

Again, welcome to the 2020-2021 school year! If you have not already done so, please submit all Registration/Back to School forms by email as soon as possible.

It was great to see so many of you at our item pick-up days. It was efficient, personable, and more importantly, it was great to see some excitement on our kids faces as they received their schedule and found out who their teachers would be. A bit of normal during a very non-traditional "Back to School" time. Thanks again to our librarian, Mrs. Ryan, and her assistant, Andrew Crilley, for all the hours they spent preparing and thanks to our staff who showed up on their last week of summer to help!

You will be receiving additional information from SMMUSD regarding starting the year in distance learning and hopefully you received our site messaging that went out on Friday as well. We know there is a lot of information, but our hope is that it is helpful as you work with your child at home to set up some routines to help them be successful. As an overview, we have preserved a student's full schedule including core classes and electives. We will be doing a block schedule of 3 periods per day, with scheduled 80-minute periods in length. There will be live interaction within every period, every day. Students are expected to attend class each day according to the bell schedule. We have also built in a schoolwide support on Monday and Thursday.

On a personal note, one of my favorite things to do as a student was to go shopping with my mom for "Back to School" items. To this day, as a principal and teacher for many years, my mom still sends me a "Back to School" care package with school supplies, etc. Although our needs may be a little different this year, I'd encourage you to continue any "Back to School" traditions with your family or start new traditions. It's an exciting time as we embark on a new year!

Enjoy the last week of summer and we will "see" you soon!

Melisa Andino

Principal, Malibu Middle School

SCHOOL NEWS AND INFORMATION:

REGISTRATION: Welcome to the registration process at Malibu Middle School. Thank you in advance for carefully reading the information and completing the forms linked below. Please click on the link for more information and to access the forms: [Registration](#)

IMPORTANT FORMS: COMPLETE ONLINE TODAY! Return these forms by email to malibuforms@smmusd.org today! These forms are interactive. You can type directly in the form fields. If you want to keep a copy of the form, it is important that you SAVE it to your desktop FIRST before filling it out. **RETURN THE FOLLOWING FORMS BY EMAIL TO MALIBUFORMS@SMMUSD.ORG** [Student Emergency and Information Form](#) [District and School Policy Signature Pages](#)

UNABLE TO ATTEND ITEM DISTRIBUTION?: If you were unable to attend the item distribution, please email Sally Anderson (sanderson@smmusd.org) for a draft schedule to be sent via email. Students unable to attend the textbook pickup, please email Sarah Ryan (s.ryan@smmusd.org) starting August 17th to schedule textbook pick up.

SCHEDULE CHANGES: Any requested schedule change must be submitted to the counselors by email as soon as possible. Please note, that counselors may or may not be able to respond to each individual schedule change request. Any schedule change that is able to occur, will be made prior to the first day of school and students will be notified by email. Textbooks will be provided based on their initial/draft schedule.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL/CHANGE TO SCHOOL CALENDAR: Our school board approved the MOU at the August 13, 2020 meeting. One component of the MOU is professional learning and the appropriate number of days to fully train and empower our teachers with the necessary skills and tools to successfully teach remotely this fall. In addition to the previously planned three days of professional development, it was decided to add two days, moving the **school start date to Monday, August 24, 2020**. This will add two days to the end of the school year in June. The revised district calendar can be found at: <https://www.smmusd.org/domain/148>

SMMUSD DISTANCE LEARNING INFORMATION: The district is in the process of creating a Distance Learning Guide for students and parents. This information will be shared this week and available on the school websites.

DISTANCE LEARNING SCHEDULE: The distance learning schedule for MMS students is now on the website. Click on the link for more info: [Distance Learning Bell Schedule](#)

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT PLANS: We will have an administrator led Zoom event on **Wednesday, August 19 at 9:00am**. Classroom focused meetings will be asynchronous, with teacher created videos available between **Wednesday, September 2nd and Friday, September 11th**. Parents may also contact the teachers by email with individual questions.

PICTURE DAY: Picture Day will be rescheduled for a date after in person learning resumes, or during distance learning if safety measures are in place and allowed. **Date TBD.** We appreciate your understanding.

STUDENT STORE PURCHASES: Students in grades 6-8 will be provided with a middle school planner (free of charge) with textbooks/schedules at the item pick-up. All other items (PE Clothes) are available for purchase in the student store online ONLY and picked up by appointment starting August 24th. Click on the link to visit our online store: [Student Store](#)
Questions? Email Mary Slawter at msslawter@smmusd.org

NUTRITION SERVICES: **Apply by September 18, 2020 for the 2020/21 School Year** for Free/Reduced Lunch Program. Please submit your 2020/21 application by September 18, 2020. For more information, visit the [Nutrition Services website](#).

MEAL PICK-UP: SMMUSD will continue to provide grab-and-go breakfast and lunch when school resumes on August 24, Monday - Friday, excluding holidays. Service is from 7:30 - 9:30 a.m. at four schools: Santa Monica High School, McKinley Elementary, Will Rogers Learning Community in Santa Monica and Webster Elementary in Malibu. Free, reduced and Paid meal recipients need to provide a student identification number to pick up meals. Other families may pick up breakfast for \$2.75 per person or lunch for \$4.75.

ISSUES WITH CHROMEBOOK?: If you are having issues with your district provided chromebook, please email: mmssupport@smmusd.org. If the issue is that the device does not powering on or charge, please follow the troubleshooting directions at this link: bit.ly/SMMDLP. District Staff will be in contact with you by email/over the phone for troubleshooting. Additional in-person support will be available as-needed.

NEED A HOTSPOT?: If your family is need of a district provided hotspot for connectivity issues, please email: mmssupport@smmusd.org. Please enter your request as soon as possible.

CHANGE IN STUDENT GMAIL PASSWORDS: In order to maintain a safe and secure digital learning environment for our students, particularly during this period of distance learning, we will be changing all student SMMK12 Gmail account passwords on Friday, August 14th. This change will affect your students' Gmail, Google Classroom and Clever account access. The primary contacts listed in Illuminate will receive a separate email from security@smmk12.org, immediately following the change. The email will include the new password information. **Please check your email on August 14th for this notification.**

CAMPUS CLOSED: While the school campus is closed to students and visitors, please know that the best way to get your questions answered is by email and not by phone or in person. Here is a quick reference list of email addresses. We are working on plans to offer limited in-person office hours. This information will be shared soon!

Questions about:

- Student Store: mslawter@smmusd.org
- Textbooks: s.ryan@smmusd.org and acrilley@smmusd.org
- Schedule Changes: enickerson@smmusd.org
- Copy of Schedule: sanderson@smmusd.org
- Registration Packet: sanderson@smmusd.org
- Enrollment: bsoloway@smmusd.org
- General Questions: taniajolly@smmusd.org
- Technical Support: mmssupport@smmusd.org

INFORMATION: For the most up-to-date information, please visit our school website at [Malibu Middle / Homepage](#) and follow us on Twitter [@MalibuMiddle](#)

THIS WEEK AT MALIBU MIDDLE:

VIRTUAL GYSD/PARENT INFO MEETINGS: Due to the current safety measures in place, we are unable to hold our annual in-person Get Your Stuff Day. We have planned a virtual informational Zoom meeting for parents to hear all about the great programs and partnerships we have at Malibu Middle School on **Wednesday, August 19th at 9:00am**. This meeting will be recorded and uploaded to the website if you are unable to attend. Please click on the link for more information: [Virtual Get Your Stuff Day](#)

GRADE 6/NEW PARENT ORIENTATION: After virtual GYSD on **Wednesday, August 19th at 10:00-10:30**, we invite parents of 6th graders to remain on and hear about what to expect as a 6th Grader at MMS, meet the 6th grade teachers and counselor, how to stay involved at MMS, and an academic preview of courses for 6th grade. This meeting will be recorded and uploaded to the website if you are unable to attend.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL PROCEDURES: The first day of school is **Monday, August 24th**. Students should follow the schedule as provided on the item distribution day unless they have received an email from their counselor with any changes. Students should log into their student gmail account for instructions from their individual teachers.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL ZOOM HELP-LINE: School administrators and counselors will be available from 8:00 am-9:00 am to assist any student or parent requiring help on the first day of school. Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/91744619791>

FIRST PTSA MEETING: Grab your coffee and join us virtually, **Thursday August 27th at 9:00am**, to discuss the new school year and how we as the PTSA can work together to successfully navigate through uncharted waters. We will commence our meeting with a quick introduction of the PTSA board followed by the principal's update on the school year. Our speaker for the morning is Darlynn Childress who will discuss "Parenting in a Pandemic". She will provide us with strategies for staying calm, managing stress & creating a peaceful home-even in the midst of distance learning and pandemic parenting. A former middle and high school teacher and a mother of two sons, a trained parent educator, and life coach, she is also a gifted storyteller who gives presentations & parenting workshops throughout Southern California and offers private coaching nationwide. You can learn more about her at <http://www.darylchildress.com>. Where: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2289050295?pwd=N1ZkZVJlVXRtaS9tN1ZlY0ZYQUtmdz09> Meeting ID: 228 905 0295, Passcode: PTSA.

COMMUNITY RESOURCES:

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE: This year, we are looking forward to the opening of the super structure that will house offices, 3 science labs for middle school, 4 classrooms, the library, College and Career Center, and Multimedia spaces.. Unfortunately, due to some delays this building is now scheduled to open in January for the spring semester. We also continue with planning and construction as we now shift to the design of a new high school building that will be built on the Cabrillo campus in the near future. Click on the link for more information:

[Construction Update](#)

WELLNESS CENTER: As we know, the combined challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic, social unrest due to racial injustice, social distancing measures and returning to distance learning can cause added stress for students and families. Teachers will be providing opportunities for social and emotional learning through distance learning class time as a way to build community and strengthen social and emotional wellness, and virtual support/counseling groups will be offered through school sites on various wellness topics. Individual mental health counseling support continues to be available for SMMUSD students through partnerships with community agencies as well as school social work interns at many of our sites. If you feel your child is in need of additional emotional support, contact counselor to get more information about how to get referred and connected to the Wellness Center.