



Newport Mill Middle School PTSA
11311 Newport Mill Road
Kensington, MD 20895

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<https://nmms.new.memberhub.store/>

NMMS PTSA General Membership Meeting

March 9, 2021

Welcome

Meeting called to order at 7:04pm

No formal PTSA business tonight. The PTSA is supporting staff as they return to the building.

Ms Tsonis Updates

Thank you to the PTSA for the balloons and positive messages. Gets the staff motivated. Hopefully those coming in on Monday can see it

March 15: LFI students (12) coming in. The team is ready, and now it's about getting the kids in on Monday.

Preservice week took place this week. Working hard to be ready and finalizing virtual work. Technical issues and rooms set up. We are in good shape. Building services had to move a lot of furniture. Locker rooms and stage full of extra furniture. Asynchronous learning tomorrow.

Staffing updates: Reopening for students and we have received levels staffing for next year. We have a decrease in enrollments for 2020-21, so there has had to be involuntary separations in Special Ed, Electives and PE. Scheduling in progress, may be released next week.

Orientation information for 6th students going in will be send out next week.

MYP Update - Mr Lagarreta

MYP aims to develop the 10 IB Learner Profile attributes

MYP Assignments - English with Social Studies, Math with Science. The IWA assignments require students to play a role in a real life scenario to practice applying the skills and knowledge that they learned in a written product.

Service as Action - 6th and 7th - 6th grade PE write letters to advocate for PE time

8th Grade Community Project - students take action in the community and reflect on their experience. Will be awarded 10 SSL Hours. Students matched with a supervisor to get feedback. Completed in late May. This year service provided virtually.

Parent volunteers - Needed to participate in an interview session with representatives from the International Baccalaureate. Interviews conducted April 22nd and 23rd. Email Benjamin_Lagarreta@mcpsmd.net if interested.

Return to School Updates - Ms Tsonis, Mr Glasbie, Ms Butler

March 15 - LFI. Most staff return April 6th. 6th April 6th, 8th April 19, 8th April 26th Wednesday all virtual except April 7, 14, May 12, June 2

About 30% of students are returning to the building. Approx. 75 6th, 60 7th, 60 8th graders.

In person vs virtual reviews completed. Letters and phone calls going out this week.

Classroom locations: 6th grade - Top floor, 7 Gr - 400 Hallway, 8th Gr - 200 Hallway, Mixed grades - 300 Hallway

PE in the same rooms & gym, cafe, dance studio; Music - music rooms

Grades have separate entrances: 6th into cafeteria, 7th into main entrance, 8th at the end of the 200 hallway

Classrooms: Media center and gym also will have desks.

Instruction: Students remain in virtual classes, co-teaching support provided in person, 93% of teachers are returning to in person instruction. Students will have supervision and support with accessing the virtual instruction

Set up: Everyone on a Chromebook,; Music will play instruments using special PPE provided by the county; Students will travel with their belongings. There will be no storage.

All scheduled classes will be offered in the building

Lunch: 11:15 - 12:30. In person lunch sites will rotate: Classrooms, Media Center, Media Center Courtyard, Cafeteria, Cafeteria Courtyard. 13 - 15 students each. Students will not be able to choose where they go. The goal is to spread students out. Hoping to have more choice as we get used to the teaching model, so this model is preliminary.

Student Attestation: No temp checks at school; thermometers mailed home by MCPS. Only for in person students. Google form collected centrally each week. Questions will regard Covid contact, symptoms, etc. Students will stay 7 to 10 days on average if they cannot come to school.

Travel: CDC discourages travel. Quarantine and travel restrictions have been lifted, but tested is encouraged, but not required.

No Lockers

No Water Fountains or refill stations. Encouraged to bring water bottles

Guidelines:

Charge Chromebooks every night

Still using Chromebooks for instructions in class

Wear mask for the entire school day

Weekly Health Attestations

Limited movement during the school day

Cellphone rules still apply

Social Distancing

Extra Chromebooks will be available if kids leave one at home

Walkers should arrive as close to 9am as possible

Crossing guards will be working but the school will check what time they will start working

Presentation was held by the counseling team.

Stick with the facts when talking to your child. Learning content will be the same.

Acknowledge concerns and questions

Ask them how virtual learning can be better

Ask about any worries

Make time for socialization, connections with friends. There are clubs and spring sports soon.

Overwhelmed with technology? Take 5 - 10 minute breaks

Plan for outside time with friends

System for bookmarking site and saving websites

Different methods for different students

Organization helps deal with stress and feeling overwhelmed

Cheer small victories

Its OK to have bad days

Ask what the best part of their day was

Positive care is extremely important right now

Contact the counseling team with questions

Scottvic@mcpsmd.org, katherine_cole@mcpsmd.org and ellen_p_turverey@mcpsmd.org

Link to counseling team presentation:

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1qKDLr3oI3MjCGBTVMJAOI8Nd7NYPddQXy1CuEQmyM8c/edit?usp=sharing>

Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm