

Moonachie Public Schools

ROBERT L. CRAIG SCHOOL
20 WEST PARK STREET
MOONACHIE, NEW JERSEY 07074

JAMES KNIPPER
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August 12, 2022

Community Update # 1

Moonachie Families & Friends –

As we head into the final weeks of summer, and thoughts of the new school year begin to enter our minds, we want to provide you with some important Summer updates. Our Secretarial, Custodial, and Administrative Staff are actively preparing for our new school year. As we still have about a month before school begins, this community update may answer some of your questions and not others. Rest assured there will be another update later in August with more information leading to the First Day of School.

Schedules, Teacher Assignments, & Supply Lists

Today, Friday August 12th, we mailed home your student's schedule, teacher assignment, and supply list. Additionally, this packet includes a welcome letter from Mrs. Genatt with other information, including Back-To-School Night, which is scheduled for Wednesday September 14, 2022 at 6:30pm. Please save the date!

Middle School families should access their supply lists via our website: [Online Backpack](#)

School Calendar and First Days of School

You can view the 2022-2023 school calendar by clicking [HERE](#). School begins on Tuesday September 6, 2022 and will be a 1:00pm dismissal. Our first full day will be Wednesday, September 7, 2022.

Student Registration

If you have a school aged child who will be attending school in the fall and you have not registered them, we encourage you to do so as soon as possible. All necessary information, as well as our electronic registration portal, can be found [HERE](#).

If you have already registered but missing information, please be sure to provide these documents to the school as soon as possible. If you have any questions about your registration status, please don't hesitate to contact Ms. Alyssa Spitaleri in the Main Office at (201) 641-5833 ext 123.

Technology in School

Last year we reached one of our goals as a district in completing our 1-to-1 Apple Device initiative! Every student in grades K-3 will have their own iPad (with keyboard) assigned to them and every student in grades 4-8 will have their own MacBook assigned to them. Classroom teachers will be utilizing the devices in class to enhance student learning. As we get closer to the start of school, we will be sharing information on the expectations of using these devices. All devices will remain in school.

We ask that student cell phones remain off and away during school hours. Students do not need them for their school work and otherwise would act as an unnecessary distraction. Should you need to contact your child during school hours, please call the main office at 201-641-5833 and our Office Staff will ensure you have access to your child to relay your message to him/her.

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Bussing

We are still working with a variety of bus companies to finalize routes and times. This is normal for this time in August. We will provide bussing information in the coming weeks.

COVID-19

We will not be utilizing MyMedBot this year. Parents are asked to monitor their student(s) for any illness before school. Please keep your student(s) home if he/she is ill.

We have not received an update from the NJ Department of Health on School Protocols since July 8th. We are expecting another update before school starts, at which point we will share with the community an update on any COVID related information.

State Testing: NJSLA & Start Strong – Grades 3-8

As of this writing, we have not received the results from the May administration of the New Jersey Student Learning Assessment (NJSLA) in ELA, Math, & Science. When the results are provided to the district, you will receive a copy of your student's score report.

The State of NJ is requiring all districts to administer the Fall State Assessment: Start Strong. This State assessment is required to be administered in September for ELA & Math (grades 4-8) and Science (grade 6). There are appeals to the DOE to reconsider this additional assessment requirement. If the mandate changes, we will let you know. If the mandate remains, we will provide families in these grade levels the schedule of assessment once school begins.

Summer Upgrades

We are excited to share that new outdoor basketball hoops were successfully installed this Summer, through a grant with the YMCA! Unfortunately, due to extenuating circumstances, we were unable to begin our planned Playground replacement. This project will happen in the near future!

Our custodial staff are working very hard to get the school ready to welcome everyone back!

Pre-K & Kindergarten Families

We are excited to offer a new event for our youngest learners! Please join us for our **Sneak Peek** event for our Pre-K & Kindergarten families on **Tuesday August 30th, from 1 – 2pm**. This is an opportunity for you and your child to meet his/her teacher, while becoming acquainted with their classroom and school. More information will be found in the letter sent home today.

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Middle School Students & Families (Grades 6-8)

The student schedule you are receiving in the mail contains very important information. First, each child has a unique schedule. As your child will be moving classes this year, this schedule contains his/her classroom and teacher for each content area. Second, it contains his/her Homeroom teacher and location. This is where he/she should report on the first day of school. Finally, it contains his/her locker number and combination. Middle School students will be given ample time during the first week of school to access their locker and practice entering the combination.

Please make sure your student comes to school on the first day with this schedule!

YMCA (Grades 3-8) & SAC Program (Grades K-2)

The YMCA After School Program remains free for students in grades 3-8. The program will begin on Wednesday September 7th, and run from 3:05-6:05pm, daily. To register for this After School Program please complete the application form [HERE](#).

The SAC After School Program, which is a tuition-based program for grades K-2, will be offered again this year! There is an application for free or reduced tuition, based on individual income levels. The application for this program will be shared at a later date.

Next Community Update – August 26th.

Please be on the lookout for the next scheduled Community Update on August 26th. This update will include entrance procedures, dismissal procedures & times, COVID information, Parent Portal Access, Breakfast & Lunch ordering information, PTO information & events, and bussing information.

We look forward to seeing our new and returning families on September 6th. Enjoy the remainder of the summer!

Best,



James Knipper
Superintendent/Principal



Dana Genatt
Director of Curriculum & Instruction/Assistant Principal