

MANASQUAN HIGH SCHOOL

167 Broad Street ♦ Manasquan, New Jersey 08736



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DR. MATT KUKODA
PRINCIPAL

August 19, 2024

Dear Manasquan High School Community,

As the summer season draws to a close and the excitement for the upcoming school year mounts, we are eagerly finalizing preparations to welcome your children on our beautiful Manasquan High School campus. Our goal is to warmly receive our students and staff as we embark on the exciting journey of the 2024-2025 academic year.

The tradition of Manasquan High School remains focused on providing each student with avenues for personal and academic development, inclusive of both classroom learning and active participation within our school community, as our commitment lies in fostering an educational environment that nurtures and motivates our students, empowering them to attain their goals and beyond.

This school year we will continue our emphasis on building strong relationships among students, parents, staff and community partners. As always, we will focus on fostering a safe environment, utilizing data to drive our instruction, and implementing the best instructional strategies to increase student achievement.

Please see the list of important upcoming dates below.

Laptop Pick-up:

Media Center

August 19 & 20, 10 AM - 2 PM

August 22, 5-7 PM

August 28, 8-11 AM

Genesis Portal Opening:

Student course list available

Monday, August 19

3:00 PM

New Student Orientation & First Day:

E Day – Early Dismissal

Wednesday, September 4

7:34-12:06

First Day of School:

E Day – Early Dismissal

Thursday, September 5

7:34-12:06

Back to School Night:

Thursday, September 19

6:30 PM

Freshmen Parent Info. Session:

Auditorium

Thursday, September 19

5:30 PM

Please see some notable updates and points of emphasis for the upcoming school year below.

Class Schedules and Community Lunch

Manasquan High School will continue to operate on the “Drop & Rotate” schedule, inclusive of Community Lunch. Students in Grade 12 will be authorized to leave campus for lunch, provided they adhere to the strict exit and return protocols. Any questions regarding student schedules can be directed to the student’s counselor. Please keep in mind the following regarding your student’s class schedule.

Schedule Changes

- High school course selection is an important process, which requires serious planning and decision-making for both students and parents. Students are given ample time during the preceding spring to choose their courses for the next school year. The school's master schedule is built upon the courses selected. Oftentimes, space constraints do not allow flexibility to grant requests to change courses.
- All schedule adjustments must be completed prior to the start of the school year. Schedule changes after the first semester begins will be limited to necessary academic circumstances. Failing a prerequisite course, needing a required course for high school graduation, or making a change in the level of instruction, are examples of necessary changes. Second semester schedule adjustments can be made before the end of the first semester.

Student Arrival Procedures

Our school day begins at 7:34 AM and concludes at 2:24 PM. Any student who is dropped off at school may not enter the building before 7:00 AM. Students may be dropped off at the front entrance to the building in the area commonly known as "The Horseshoe". Considering the congestion to the area in the morning, families should allow for enough time so that students can be in class for the 7:34 AM bell. Early arriving students will report to the cafeteria. Finally, in keeping student, staff, and community safety paramount, we ask that students are not dropped off on Broad Street or Atlantic Avenue. Thank you for your cooperation.

Student Safety and Code of Conduct

All students will have access to the handbook and school calendar on the website. We request that these items are reviewed carefully by parents and students, as all students are responsible for knowing the contents. These are also an excellent resource for parents to find information on the attendance policy, counseling services, and important dates throughout the school year. Similarly, parents and students should become familiar with the policies on attendance, the code of conduct, and the co-curricular policy on student participation in activities, which includes the threshold for attendance and loss of course credit. Administrators and teachers will be strictly enforcing the code of conduct related to electronic devices in the classroom. The administrative team and teaching staff reserve the right to confiscate cell phones, headphones or other non-school issued technology and require parents to meet with building administrators. Students must wear their school issued identification badge during the school day. Identification badges for staff and students are highly recommended by law enforcement as a critical safety measure for our school. Backpacks are not permitted to be used in between arrival and dismissal from school. Students may use their school-issued lockers before school, during passing time between classes and at dismissal. Students must always lock their school-issued lockers.

Construction Update

The district continues to remodel and reimagine several instructional, athletic and performance spaces at both Manasquan Elementary School and Manasquan High School, as part of our successful school referendum. Construction has been planned accordingly to not interfere with school operations and instruction as best possible, but we may have periods of inconvenience requiring flexibility to complete these projects. Construction will be ongoing throughout the school year and should any adjustment to our regularly scheduled programming be necessary, it will be communicated accordingly. As such, gymnasium lockers

and the band room will be completed in stages, and we have prioritized plans for students to be in an appropriate learning environment until the projects are completed.

Lastly, I want to express my gratitude to everyone in our school community who dedicated their summer to getting our campus ready for the new school year, whether it was preparing classrooms, planning and assisting with renovations, or teaching summer programs and extended school year sessions. I especially want to thank our secretaries, maintenance staff, and custodians for their hard work in ensuring everything is in place for a successful start. Without these pieces falling into place, a successful start to a new school year would not be possible

I am honored to serve as the principal of Manasquan High School. It is a privilege to be a part of a community where parents, teachers, and students care for one another and strive to build relationships that support academic, social, and emotional growth. I look forward to partnering with all our stakeholders to achieve these goals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MK' with a stylized flourish underneath.

Matt Kukoda, Ed.D.
Principal