

August 2019

Dear Eighth Grader and Parents/Guardians,

Welcome back to the 2019-2020 school year. Hopefully, you had a restful and enjoyable summer and are ready to return for an exciting year at Newtown Middle School. I am looking forward to seeing you, as well as working and learning together. I am confident that this will be a great school year!

The first day of school will be **Monday, August 26, 2019**. Students should arrive to school no earlier than 7:30 AM, as homeroom begins at 7:50 AM and lasts until 8:04 AM. Parents, if you are dropping your child off, please use the horseshoe in the front of the building. You can also drop your child off at the cafeteria by using the driveway on the West Side of the building (as you face the building the driveway all the way to the left).

If you take a bus to school please refer to the Newtown Bee school supplement for bus routes and times, or contact the All Star Transportation Office at 203-304-9779.

Please note that for the first 3 days of school, we will be dismissed at 11:32 AM. We will resume our 2:32 PM dismissal time on August 29th.

**Outlined below is our Newtown Middle School walking/pickup policy:**

Parents/guardians wishing to give permission for their student(s) to walk must submit a note specifying the date(s) or days of the week, or for the entire year the student is permitted to walk.

**(NOTE: If you have indicated that your child has permission to walk when you updated the online student registration verification, you are all set.)**

Additionally, if you are picking up your student, a note is required as well. **For your convenience, both forms can be found on our website under “Things You Need To Know!”**

Walking/Pickup forms should be submitted to the B-Wing Office only. Students planning to walk or are being picked up on a given day must submit their note to the B-wing Office first thing in the morning. All students that have permission to walk will be dismissed from the building using the exit by the A-Gym. Students that will be picked up will be dismissed through the cafeteria door on the northside of our building. Students will be required to give their name to the school personnel on duty who will check to see if the student has permission to walk or is to be picked up. Students leaving the building by any other exit or without written permission may be subject to consequences. We regret any potential inconvenience, but we must keep student safety a priority.

Students, your new schedules will be posted on the PowerSchool Parent Portal beginning Monday August 12, 2019 (<https://newtownps.powerschool.com>). You can access the Parent/Student Portal by using the same password you were assigned last school year. If you need assistance, please call Mrs. Lisa Petrovich in our school counseling office at 203-426-7644.

Students, please note your homeroom teacher and classroom number which are printed on your

schedule so you will know where to go when you arrive on the 26<sup>th</sup>. There will be plenty of staff members in the hallways to help you find your homeroom.

If you have an opportunity, please visit our school and district websites, [www.newtown.k12.ct.us](http://www.newtown.k12.ct.us) as they contain a lot of helpful information such as our Parent Student Handbook. In the handbook you will find pertinent information about the school as well as school rules and policies. Please pay particular attention to the section on Dress Code as this may be helpful when selecting your school attire.

Also, please be aware that any personal property, particularly those of a technical nature, are brought to school at the student's/family's own risk. Newtown Public Schools is not responsible for any damage, theft or loss. While we allow students to bring cell phones to school, they are only to be used at the discretion of a staff member.

Additionally, completing homework on a nightly basis is one of the keys to student academic success. The expectation is for students to complete their work on time in order to receive credit and the maximum benefit from completing the assignment.

This school year we have adopted a new Unified Arts Schedule. We will be following a 6 Day Cycle Schedule. Students will have an additional period of Art each cycle week along with a period during their rotation class that will be dedicated to Jr. Advisory/Enrichment/Support.

We are looking forward to developing a positive working relationship between home and school in order to provide your child with the best opportunity to be a successful student at Newtown Middle School.

Sincerely,

Thomas R. Einhorn, Principal

P.S. Parents, please see the enclosed invitation to our Grade 8 Open House, which is scheduled for Thursday, August 29th, from 6PM to 8PM. ALSO, please mark your calendar for an **informational meeting regarding our 8<sup>th</sup> grade trip to Washington, D.C.** (April 29-May 1) on Wednesday, September 11<sup>th</sup> from 6-7 PM in the NMS Auditorium.

Students, as most of you know, every Thursday during our morning announcements we read a Newtown Middle School related Trivia Question. During lunch students have an opportunity to guess the answer. A prize is awarded to a student whose correct response is chosen at random. To start off the year, we would like to offer an opportunity for students to answer three trivia questions. Correct responses chosen at random will have students winning from a number of prizes. Below please find the questions and a space for you to write your responses. Please drop off your slips in the Main Lobby when you arrive to school on Monday August 26th. Good Luck !!

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Students Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

1. What is Newtown Middle School's Mascot? \_\_\_\_\_

2. What are our school colors? \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_

3. What year was Newtown Middle School built? \_\_\_\_\_