

# ST. MICHAEL - ALBERTVILLE SCHOOLS

# EXCELLENCE IS OUR TRADITION

August 1, 2024

Dear High School Student and Parents/Guardians:

On behalf of our teachers, administrators and support staff, we would like to welcome you back to STMA High School. We hope that you have had a great summer as our staff prepares for another exceptional year at STMA. We are committed to supporting our students as they transition back to the 2024/25 school year. In our ongoing quest to build a solid transition for incoming freshmen and new students, we have scheduled a few opportunities to help ease the transition to high school.

#### **Student Kick-Off Day**

We are excited to announce that our Student Kick-Off Day is **Tuesday, August 20th from 10:00AM to 6:00PM**. This is for all high school students. This is an opportunity for students and their parents to pick up class schedules, tour the building and have their picture taken for the yearbook / ID badge and pick up Chromebooks. Counselors will be available throughout the day to help with any scheduling needs.

#### **Chromebooks**

STMA HS requires all students to utilize district assigned Chromebooks. Devices will be distributed at the high school kickoff day on August 20th for students without a device. All information regarding the use of Chromebooks can be found on the district technology website.

## Important Schedule Information – Counseling Office Phone Number: (763) 497-6525

The school counselors highly recommend you attend the Student Kick-Off Day to receive your schedule. Counselors will be available on this day to address schedule concerns on a walk-in basis. Counselors will not be available after August 23rd for scheduling as they are involved with district workshops/meetings. Students who have not attempted to correct schedules by Friday, August 23rd will remain in their existing classes.

Schedule change requests can only be made when:	Schedule change requests will not be made:
<ul> <li>The student does not have the prerequisite(s)</li> <li>The student failed a class</li> <li>There is an obvious error (two classes at the same time)</li> <li>The student needs to add a class that is needed to graduate</li> <li>The schedule is unbalanced</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>To request a specific teacher / to switch sections for the same course to get a different teacher</li> <li>To request a specific trimester / to switch section for the same course to get a different trimester</li> <li>To change lunch periods</li> <li>To have a class with a friend</li> <li>To leave building to attend a non-school sanctioned occupational activity</li> </ul>

# First Day of School for Grade 9 ONLY - Tuesday, September 3rd

September 3rd will be exclusively for 9th-grade students. This approach aims to ensure a supported transition into the high school setting and to promote a culture of respect. By having only 9th graders in the building, students can acclimate to their new environment without the added pressure of upperclassmen. Students will benefit from the guidance of student mentors and participate in specialized programming designed to foster respect and a positive school culture.

### First Day of School for Grades 10-12 - Wednesday, September 4th

STMA High School opens its doors to all grade levels on September 4th. School hours are 8:30 a.m. to 3:20 p.m. When you arrive at school, please report to your assigned homeroom.



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### **Bus Information**

Transportation information will be available in ParentVUE the week of **August 5th**. All transportation changes for new and existing families must be submitted to Vision STMA by **Thursday**, **August 15<sup>th</sup>** to be in effect for the first day of school. All changes received after this date will start on **Monday**, **September 16<sup>th</sup>** and parents must drive their students to school. You will be notified by an automated message when the bus stop location and time information is available in the ParentVue parent portal system. A change form is available within ParentVue if the information is incorrect.\*\*Juniors and Seniors must opt-in for the bussing service. If you plan to ride the bus, please use the 2024-25 Opt-in Form. You must fill out the form to be placed on a bussing route. Form Link: <a href="https://forms.gle/Z1ajyhPcsQsVPjkE8">https://forms.gle/Z1ajyhPcsQsVPjkE8</a>

## ParentVue Online Parent Portal Information

Parents are responsible for keeping family and contact information up-to-date in ParentVue. Please review your personal data and edit your email, phone numbers and emergency contacts directly in ParentVue. If you have an address change, please contact the district office at (763) 497-3180 ext. 5152 along with the effective date of move and list all siblings attending district 885 schools. You may use the convenience of ParentVue to pay for class fees, parking fees and activity fees. See the STMA website for more information.

## **Communication**

STMA HS utilizes multiple platforms to communicate with our families. Please utilize our monthly newsletter for current information regarding school programming and student/family resources. We also utilize emails, texts, phone calls, Twitter and our school website. It is crucial that family information is current and updated in our system as needed to ensure you are receiving all necessary information.

## **Health Information Form**

The health information form linked <u>HERE</u> needs to be completed and returned to the health office prior to the start of the school year. If you have any medical concerns, please contact Teesha Kristine LSN, at: 763-497-6597.

## **Start and End Times**

STMA High School hours are 8:30a.m. to 3:20 p.m.

#### **School Pictures**

Students are encouraged to attend the Student Kick-Off Day on August 20<sup>th</sup> to take their school picture. Students must have their photo taken for their student ID and the school yearbook. For those students who cannot attend, school pictures will be taken on Thursday, September 5<sup>th</sup>. All students are required to have proper school identification and must have their picture taken for this purpose (**this includes 12th grade students**). Picture order registration is available on the STMA High School website and can be accessed HERE.

Seniors, please note: Senior pictures for the yearbook are due Friday, October 25th. To submit your senior photo, please go to the high school website for instructions (yearbook link). Yearbook portrait requirements: head and shoulder pose only. If you have any questions, please contact our yearbook advisor, Katie Sebens at: <a href="mailto:kaitlins@mystma.org">kaitlins@mystma.org</a>. For your convenience, there will be a "senior photo station" set up to take a formal headshot for the yearbook at no charge. The senior photo will be taking place on Thursday, September 19th at 10:45am in the stadium.

We look forward to our continued partnership in your student's education as we move forward.

Best wishes for an enjoyable and successful school year and Go Knights!

John Reeves | Principal | STMA High School