

JMS Families,

I hope you have all had time to relax and recharge this summer. It is hard to believe that it is August already. The start of school is just around the corner and I wanted to share some information to make the transition back to school as smooth as possible.

Registration

I want to first remind you to please complete your online registration if you haven't done so already. I have included several attachments to this email that I hope will be helpful and answer many questions you may have. I have included an [FAQ for JMS](#). This document answers many common questions we receive at the beginning of the school year.

Drop Off and Pick Up

I have also included a [morning student drop off traffic map](#). As many know, Washington school will be located on the east side of the JMS campus for much of this school year. Following traffic patterns for morning and afternoon will be imperative for student safety and smooth traffic flow. JMS parents and traffic will stay on the west side of the school and Washington parents and traffic will stay on the east side of the school. JMS drop off and pick up will remain the same as it has. As a reminder there is NO dropping off or picking up on the west side of Lincoln Ave. All students must cross the street at the crosswalk, and there is NO student drop off in the north parking lot. Washington parents will enter the east drive off of Hoagland Ave and exit east onto Park Street. See attached map for detailed traffic directions.

Student Schedules

Student Schedules will be available on Skyward on August 13th. Limited schedule changes will be made. Early Bird classes will begin Monday, August 22. Early bird class starts at 7:15. Students should enter through the main office doors.

Dress Code

As a reminder students are not allowed to wear pajama pants, short shorts or short shirts. See Dress Code in the [school handbook](#) for specific information.

Updated Procedures

Beginning this year, students will not be allowed to have their cell phones out at any time while they are at school. This includes before school, passing periods, and lunch. Students may have their phone on them, but it must be put away at all times. If students have their phones out, they will be taken and the cell phone policy protocol will be followed. This new policy was put in place to cut down on the unnecessary issues and conflicts created on social media during the school day. Cell phones have become a distraction to that mission. JMS is a place where students come to learn, feel safe, and feel like they belong. If a student needs to use a phone to call home, they can come to the main office with a pass and use the office phone, or use their phone in the main office with permission. We appreciate your support on this new policy to help continue to make JMS a place where students can focus on learning and becoming their best selves. [See policy here.](#)

First Day Procedures

The first day of school is Wednesday, August 17th. Doors will open at 7:45am. When students enter JMS on the first day, if they wish to eat breakfast they will report to the cafeteria, then to the gym when they are finished eating. If they are not eating breakfast, they will report directly to the gym. In the gym they will locate their grade level table (6th, 7th, 8th) and find their name tag with 1st hour room number. When they are dismissed they will report to their 1st hour class where they will be given their schedule to follow for the rest of the day. There will be many staff and student leaders around the school to help students make sure they know where they are going. Students should bring their school supplies on the first day of school. School will be dismissed at 2:52.

School Supply lists

School supply lists can be found on the school website or [at this link](#).

JMS Goals for the 22-23 school year

This year the staff at JMS will be continuing to work to meet the needs of all students, creating a rigorous standards aligned curriculum, and increasing community/parent involvement. As always, the staff at JMS is in partnership with the students and parents. Educating and growing students is not something we can do alone. We are all in this together and need to continue to work together to help our students be the most successful.

Meet the Teacher Night

Mark your calendars! We will have a Meet the Teacher Night on Tuesday, August 23rd from 6:00-7:30pm. We will begin promptly at 6:00 with a welcome meeting and then you follow your student's schedule. More information to come.

Boys and Girls Club of Central Illinois

We will again be offering our after school program with the Boys and Girls Club of Central Illinois. More information will be sent home when it becomes available.

Picture Day

School picture day is Friday, August 26th. A link to the order form is [here](#).

More information available on the [JMS webpage](#).