



Maynard H. Jackson High School
 Dr. Adam J. Danser, Principal
 801 Glenwood Ave, S.E.
 Atlanta, GA 30316
 404-802-5200

Greetings MJJ Family!

We are about to embark on a school year unlike any we have ever experienced. Like you, I was hopeful that we would be back on our beautiful campus pursuing excellence together in-person. However, this is not our current reality. While the district has determined that face-to-face instruction is not possible at this time, our focus is singular - creating the best virtual learning experience for our students and families. With that in mind, I want to provide you with the latest information to ensure that your scholar is ready for Day One on August 24. This is a long letter, but full of important information. Be advised that there are LINKS embedded throughout to help you navigate to key online resources. Most of this information has previously been shared during our Zoom Community Town Halls, which we will continue to hold regularly throughout the virtual learning period.

Also, please note that we have planned a very robust Virtual Open House Week from Monday, August 17 through Friday, August 21. The schedule can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/y6p43efd>



QR Code for Virtual
 Open House
 Schedule

STUDENT SCHEDULES

- Student Schedules are slated to go live on the Infinite Campus Portal on Saturday, August 15, 2020.
- In the vast majority of cases, schedules cannot be changed. If you feel you have an unusual or extenuating circumstance, please contact your scholar’s counselor.
- **On that note, who is my counselor?** See the table below.....

Who Is My Counselor?		
Ms. Keely Harris	keely.harris@atlanta.k12.ga.us	Counselor: 9 th Grade (Class of 2024) / A-Z
Mr. Anthony Decosta	Anthony.Decosta1@atlanta.k12.ga.us	Counselor: 10 th -12 th Grade Students A-F
Dr. Howard Hope	howard.hope@atlanta.k12.ga.us	Counselor: 10 th -12 th Grade Students G-O
Dr. Lola Azuana	lazuana@atlanta.k12.ga.us	Counselor: 10 th -12 th Grade Students P-Z

OUR YEARLY AND DAILY SCHEDULE

- **This year, we will be operating on a 4 x 4 Block Schedule**, which is a change from our typical 4x8 schedule.
 - **What does this mean?**
 - Students take the SAME 4 classes every day;
 - Students will only be taking 4 classes at a time, versus 8 (as they do on a 4x8);
 - Allows for greater focus on less content at one time;
 - Please be aware that 4x4 schedules are common in the high schools;
 - This will remain in place for SY 20-21 year, regardless if we are in-person or virtual;
 - Final Grades that post to transcript come out 4 times per year, not 2. Please review the table below for when you can expect progress reports and report cards.

	FALL SEMESTER		SPRING SEMESTER	
	1 st Quarter Ends 10/23/2020	2 nd Quarter Ends 1/15/2021	3 rd Quarter Ends 3/19/2021	4 th Quarter Ends 5/26/2021
Progress/Deficiency Notices	September 2020	November 2020	February 2021	April 2021
Quarter Report Card *These are FINAL GRADES that post to transcript*	October 2020	January 2021	March 2021	May 2021

- Our **Daily Bell Schedule**. See below. This schedule is in effect every Monday through Friday during the virtual learning period

MAYNARD H. JACKSON HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT DAILY BELL SCHEDULE MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY			TOTAL TIME
IG Announcements/SEL Activities/ZOOM Class Meetings	8:30	8:50	20 min
1st Period	8:50	10:05	75 min
<i>BREAK</i>	<i>10:05</i>	<i>10:15</i>	<i>10 min</i>
2nd Period	10:15	11:30	75 min
<i>LUNCH</i>	<i>11:30</i>	<i>12:10</i>	<i>40 min</i>
3rd Period	12:10	1:25	75 min
<i>BREAK</i>	<i>1:25</i>	<i>1:35</i>	<i>10 min</i>
4th Period	1:35	2:50	75 min
For Students: Independent Practice/Pre-Arranged Tutorial	2:50	4:00*	70 min
Beyond the Day Tutorial		See Table Below	
TUTORIAL DAYS			
Content	Day	Time	
Math	Monday	3:45 to 4:45	
ELA	Tuesday		
World Languages	Tuesday		
Science	Wednesday		
Social Studies	Thursday		
Arts/CTAE/JROTC/Health/PE	Thursday		

*For students-- It should be noted that students should be prepared to complete all learning tasks with the understanding that the time required to do so may exceed the minutes noted in the bell schedule, such as with homework. This is no different from learning that happens in a traditional setting.

ACCESSING INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMS—MYBACKPACK, IC, ZOOM

- Your scholar must utilize his/her district Username and Password to access key district accounts that are essential to virtual education. (Note: most students from APS know this already)
 - **Username** = 1st initial of **FIRST NAME** + **LAST NAME** (up to 7 letters) + **last 4 of Student ID #**.
 - **Password** = Lunch ID # (NOT student ID, which may be different if coming from a charter)
- **MyBackPack is THE key portal for the valuable instructional technology resources needed for virtual learning.** This requires your scholar to log-in with their district information, as described above. The link to MyBackPack is <https://launchpad.classlink.com/atlanta>
 - Once logged-in with district credentials, most programs are Single Sign On (SSO), so they typically will not need to keep entering UN/PW each work session.
 - A note about Zoom: Students should access ZOOM through MyBackPack

Related to access, what if my child is having problems with his/her student account access?

- For student access issues (i.e. Username/Password), please contact our Media Specialist, Mrs. Ellison, at lgaither@atlanta.k12.ga.us

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OK. SO I HAVE MY SCHEDULE, BUT HOW DO I KNOW WHERE TO GO ON DAY ONE?

- Ultimately you will “GO TO CLASS” on Day One through each teacher’s **Google Classroom Page**. Of course, that means the students need the Google Classroom Code to access each class.
- To begin the year, we will share the Google Classroom Codes in two ways:
 1. **The Google Classroom Code will be printed on the schedule with each class.** See the image to the right for a sample
 2. **We are also developing an easy-to-navigate Portal for you to find the Google Classroom Code for each teacher.** *This Portal will be made available during the Week of August 17. We will share the link once it is ready and published.*
 3. **By the way the link to Google Classroom is <https://classroom.google.com/>**

Term 1 (08/24/20- 10/23/20)	
01	60.0710005-4 Spanish I SEMEXANT, MOISE GC HIJKLMN Rm: 2229
02	27.1990005-6 GSE Algebra I WHITTAKER-BROWN, ALLISON GC abcdefg Rm: 2192

TEXTBOOKS

- Most of our textbooks offer digital versions, which is the preference during virtual and in-person school. The teachers will share this information on their syllabus.
- In general, even during in-person school, we do not issue a textbook to every student, instead we utilize classroom sets. Textbooks serve as resources, they don’t drive instruction.
- During virtual learning, our teachers should not assign work that is dependent on a textbook, especially if there is no digital version available. However, that being stated, we understand that some students prefer a hard copy for various reasons.
- **If you would like a copy of a particular textbook, please contact the appropriate subject-area Instructional Coach** (their information is in the Contact table towards the end of this letter).
- Also, should you desire to wait and see if a textbook is needed, we will be available through the entirety of virtual learning to distribute a textbook via drive-thru pick-up.

ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS

- ATTENDANCE WILL BE TAKEN EVERY DAY, EVERY CLASS
 - Teachers have 3 options—**Present, Absent, Tardy**
- To be considered PRESENT, a student must attend the synchronous online session for the class based on our Virtual Bell Schedule (shared above).
- Students will be marked Tardy if they are late to the online session. While we want every student to be on time each class, we highly prefer them being tardy over not showing up at all.
- Our Attendance Office will have access to TWO additional attendance codes. We will need parents/students to inform the teacher and attendance office when one of these situations occurs:
 - **Absent Due to Lack of Technology**
 - Meaning the student could not attend class due to an issue with or lack of technology
 - **Participated in Asynchronous Learning**
 - Meaning the student viewed the class and finished the work outside of school hours.
- Additionally, for excused absences/tardies (such as for doctor’s visits or illness), please submit the necessary documentation to our attendance office at Marlon.Pickett@atlanta.k12.ga.us

GRADING: What can I expect on a 4x4 schedule?

- Infinite Campus remains our official gradebook.
 - Parents/Guardians, ensure you have Infinite Campus Parent Portal Access (details below)
- You can expect at least 16 grades per quarter (or 8 every 4.5 weeks). These should be evenly distributed over time (about 2 per week) and fairly distributed across grading categories.
- **IMPORTANT** (we can’t say this enough): On a 4x4 schedule, students earn FINAL Grades that post to official transcripts EVERY QUARTER (10/23/2020; 1/15/2021; 3/19/2021; 5/26/2020).

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TECHNOLOGY

- For the past several weeks, I have been communicating about the district's Technology Survey in order to get clear numbers of how many people require a Chromebook and/or hotspot for internet access. If you have not already done so, please complete the District Tech Survey at <http://tinyaps.com/?techsurvey>. It will remain open through Day One.
- **Our MJHS on-site drive-thru technology distribution days are as follows:**
 - **Tuesday, August 18 from 9am—1pm**
 - **Wednesday, August 19 from 9am—11am & 1:30pm—3:30pm**
 - **Thursday, August 20 from 9am—12pm**
- After those dates, Maynard Jackson High School is slated to be a Cluster Technology Hub for those still needing the technology required for successful virtual learning. Once I get details about how the hub will work, I will share them with the MJHS Community.
- Please know that I am committed to ensuring that EVERY scholar at MJHS has what they need to be successful during this time. Do not hesitate to reach out to us if you are having issues.



QR Code for Tech Survey

Related to technology, what if I'm having problems with my Chromebook or Hotspot? Who can I call?

- **If you have technical problems during virtual learning, contact the Service Desk at 404-802-1000.**

NUTRITION

- This year, we are no longer a part of the CEP program that provided free breakfast and lunch to all students. Instead we are an FEA school. This means that that students at FEA schools must apply to qualify for free or reduced meals by completing the [online FEA form](#). Free meals will continue for all students enrolled in an APS school last year for the first 30 days of school. However, after the first 30 days of school, students at FEA schools will pay full price for meals until their FEA application is approved, and their eligibility status is sent to the school. Students new to APS cannot receive free or reduced meals until the FEA application is completed and eligibility is determined. Please note that FEA status also plays a role in eligibility for certain fee waivers, such as for the SAT. **We need every family to complete the FEA form.**
- On Monday, August 17 from 3:00 to 6:00pm, there will be another food distribution at Maynard Jackson High School.
- Starting August 24 – the first day of school – APS meals will only be distributed to APS students. All APS families must pre-order meals for each week through the [MySchoolBucks online pre-order system](#). **Those orders must be placed no later than one week before distribution.** For example, for the first meal distribution on **Monday, Aug. 24, families should order no later than 11:59 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 17.** Once in the pre-order system, you can select whether you will pick up the meals at one of the school sites or if your meals should be delivered via a school bus route. Families paying for meals will need to submit payment through the MySchoolBucks online payment system. Schools will not be collecting money for school meals.
- For more information, please visit the APS Nutrition page at <https://www.atlantapublicschools.us/Page/63224>



QR Code to Access FEA Application



QR Code to Access My SchoolBucks
for online ordering

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REGISTRATION

Due to COVID-19, we are utilizing online registration via our district's online registration portal

<https://www.atlantapublicschools.us/enrollment>
or use the QR Code Below



We will offer limited **On-Site Registration by Appointment Only** on the following dates:

Tuesday, 8/11

Thursday, 8/13

Tuesday, 8/18

Thursday, 8/20

Tuesday—Thursday 8/25-27/2020

To Schedule an Appointment Contact
Mr. Pickett, Clerk

marlon.pickett@atlanta.k12.ga.us or
404-802-5206

STAY CONNECTED! HOW DO I STAY INFORMED?

• Our two PRIMARY COMMUNICATION AVENUES =

1. Infinite Campus Robocalls / Robotexts/ Messages:

- **ENSURE your contact information is accurate in Infinite Campus.** It is critical that MJHS is able to contact your family directly to ensure you receive the information. All contact information (phone numbers and email addresses) can be updated from the Parent Portal account. Visit our Infinite Campus Parent Portal Help Page for instructions on how to set up a Parent Portal Account <https://www.atlantapublicschools.us/Page/48412>.
- Need help updating your contact information? Contact our parent liaison, Mrs. Dalton (micdalton@atlanta.k12.ga.us) for assistance.

2. Join REMIND

- Make sure you are signed up to receive your Cohort Year's REMIND messages.
 - Simply text to **81010** with one of the following messages. Please note: the number refers to your scholar's year of graduation:
 - @mjhs21
 - @mjhs22
 - @mjhs23
 - @mjhs24

• Additional Avenues for Communication

- Make sure to utilize the wide variety of online resources and social media sites to stay informed about school and district news and events.
 - Follow us on TWITTER: @APSMHJHSJaguars
 - Dr. Danser's Instagram @principaldanser
 - Various school-related Twitter and IG accounts (too many to list 😊)
 - Our school website: <http://www.atlanta.k12.ga.us/Domain/3508>
 - APS website: www.atlanta.k12.ga.us
 - Download the **Maynard Jackson High School App** and the **Atlanta Public Schools App**.
 - Parent Facebook Pages: While these are not official MJHS school accounts, they were set-up by parents and serve as another important communication tool to stay informed, get answers to questions, provide support, and develop camaraderie. See below for links to those pages:
 - Class of 2021 - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1860282870873401>
 - Class of 2022 - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/533054713705654>
 - Class of 2023 - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/358221718268795>
 - Class of 2024 - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1178463925692871>

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- Join our **PTSA**; the **MJHS Athletic Booster Club**; the **MJHS Arts Booster Club**
 - Attend Virtual Community Meetings throughout the year, including Town Halls, GO Team, Academic Nights.
 - *APS 2020-21 Calendar*
 - *APS 2020-21 Student Handbook*
- Virtual Office Hours with the Principal on Wednesdays. (Please note that this is designed to address individual questions/concerns, so it is not a group meeting. The Waiting Room will be enabled so there may be a slight wait if multiple people log-on.
 - **Dr. Danser's Office Hours for MJHS Parents/Students**
 - Dates/Time: The Following Wednesdays
 - Aug 12, 2020 4:00 PM
 - Aug 19, 2020 4:00 PM
 - Aug 26, 2020 4:00 PM
 - Sep 2, 2020 4:00 PM
 - Join Zoom Meeting <https://atlantapublicschools-us.zoom.us/j/81746559011?pwd=b0h4NVg2ZytFYzAvWXRREs3UFhVQT09>
 - Meeting ID: **817 4655 9011**
 - Passcode: **jaguars**
- *Get connected to district resources and information such as academics, nutrition, technology and much more on the special website.*
 - Learn more at www.atlantapublicschools.us/backtoschool

SUPPLY LIST

- Please note that the list includes general recommendations. All items on the list are not necessarily required, especially considering virtual learning, where the needs may be different. Teachers may have different requirements/suggestions for their classes, which will be included on each syllabus. When the time comes for us to return to in-person school, we will communicate any additional supply needs in a timely fashion.
- A suggested supply list can be found here: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1zxbbcmcytXTxySZmKtQ6K-dsagXmFeAZ/view?usp=sharing>

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AND ATHLETICS

- At MJHS, **Our ultimate goal is for 100% of our students to participate in at least one extracurricular activity.** Obviously, this will look different during virtual learning, however we do plan on continuing (remotely) many of our clubs and activities. There are many opportunities to participate in rewarding and enjoyable activities outside of the instructional program. Research shows that participation in after-school activities has a positive effect on overall achievement and attitude toward school, as well as connecting students with adults and encouraging new friendships.
- **After our school year gets rolling, we will share more information about our virtual extracurricular activity offerings. Stay Tuned!**
- If you have questions about **Athletics**, please contact our Athletic Director, Reginald Curry. Coach Curry can be reached at rcurry@atlanta.k12.ga.us

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I HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT..... WHO DO I CONTACT?

See the table below for some Frequently Contacted Staff Members. If we can't answer it, we will find someone who can ☺

<u>KEY CONTACT INFORMATION</u>		
Dr. Adam J. Danser	adanser@atlanta.k12.ga.us	Principal
Dr. Dante Edwards	deewards@atlanta.k12.ga.us	AP--9 th Grade/ ELA/ Arts
Ms. Juanice Woodall	jwoodall@atlanta.k12.ga.us	AP--10 th Grade/ Science/ CTAE
Mr. Donavin Murdock	dmurdock@atlanta.k12.ga.us	AP--11 th Grade/ Soc. St./ Student Services
Dr. Kimberley Latchman	kxlatchman@atlanta.k12.ga.us	AP--12 th Grade/ Math/ World Languages/ <i>Early College</i>
Mr. Roy Foster	rfoster@atlanta.k12.ga.us	AP--PE/JROTC/Athletics/Discipline
Ms. Melissa Gautreaux	mgautreaux@atlanta.k12.ga.us	School Business Manager
Dr. Yusef King	ygking@atlanta.k12.ga.us	IB DP/CP Specialist/AP Coordinator
Ms. Debra Ross	dross@atlanta.k12.ga.us	IB MYP Specialist/Gifted Contact
Ms. Keisha Pooler	kepooler@atlanta.k12.ga.us	Instructional Coach: ELA / World Languages
Dr. Andrea Deas	Andrea.Deas@atlanta.k12.ga.us	Instructional Coach: Social Studies / CTAE
Dr. Ishan Malik	imalik@atlanta.k12.ga.us	Instructional Coach: Math / Arts
Mr. John McCall	jjmccall@atlanta.k12.ga.us	Instructional Coach: Science / JROTC / PE
Ms. Doris Elliott	dcelllott@atlanta.k12.ga.us	Special Education Lead
Ms. Takana Petty	Takana.Petty@atlanta.k12.ga.us	Social Worker
Ms. Arlena Edmonds	ajedmonds@atlanta.k12.ga.us	Graduation Coach
Ms. Michelle Dalton	micdalton@atlanta.k12.ga.us	Parent Liaison (contact for IC Parent Portal Help)
Dr. Natasha Hughes	nxhughes@atlanta.k12.ga.us	SST/505 Coordinator
Coach Reginald Curry	rcurry@atlanta.k12.ga.us	Athletic Director
Ms. Lisa Ellison	lgaither@atlanta.k12.ga.us	Media Specialist
Ms. Teya Phillips	phillipste@atlanta.k12.ga.us	Registrar
Ms. Rhonda Anderson	rbanderson@atlanta.k12.ga.us	Records and Registrar's Office Clerk
Ms. Briana Duncan	Briana.Duncan@atlanta.k12.ga.us	College Advisor
Mr. Marlon Pickett	Marlon.Pickett@atlanta.k12.ga.us	ATTENDANCE, including Certificate of Attendance
Ms. Kristina Guerra	Kristina.Guerra@atlanta.k12.ga.us 404-802-5200	Main Office

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Important Upcoming Dates

Week of August 17, 2020	Virtual Open House Week: Zoom Events Every Day See schedule @ https://tinyurl.com/y6p43efd
<p style="text-align: center;">August 18, 2020—9am to 1pm</p> <p>August 19, 2020—9am to 11am; 1:30pm to 3:30pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">August 20, 2020—9am to 12pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Drive-Thru Pick-up Dates at MJHS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technology • Supplies (if submitted request to Empty Stocking) • Books, as needed. Most textbooks have digital access
Monday, August 24, 2020	DAY ONE....Be There! Return and Learn...remotely!
Thursday, September 3, 2020 @ 5:30 pm	9th Grade Town Hall via Zoom
Wednesday, September 16, 2020 5:30 to 7:30 pm	Back-to-School Academic Night (virtual)

MAKE 2020-2021 YOUR MOST SUCCESSFUL SCHOOL YEAR TO DATE

Key Things EVERY MJHS Scholar Should Know

1. The school year will begin on August 24, 2020. Be there! We will be successful together!
2. The school day begins at 8:30 a.m. with announcements, class meetings, and/or SEL activities. The regular school day concludes at 4:00 p.m. after time for independent practice. Of course, you may have homework after that. Your synchronous class periods will begin promptly at 8:50 am and end at 2:50 pm.
3. You will take the same 4 classes every day, each quarter. Each of your classes meets daily (Mon thru Fri)
4. Your teachers will be available for weekly tutorial/makeup. You can also schedule an appointment to meet with staff before or after school. They'll post office hours and contact information on the syllabus/websites.
5. Each course will have a Google Classroom. Use this virtual space to manage your assignments and communicate with your teacher. You can find your Google Classroom codes on your schedule.
6. Daily attendance will be mandatory. To be considered present, you must log-in and attend each scheduled virtual session. Poor or irregular attendance is a major reason for failure.
7. Real-time instruction will take place primarily through Zoom. Make sure to stay focused; remain muted unless speaking or in a collaborative activity, chat appropriately, and avoid distractions.
8. Each class session will require your active engagement. Prepare yourself for the virtual classroom experience: find a quiet place, sit in a chair at a table, have school supplies available, be appropriately dressed and camera-ready. Stay organized and manage your time carefully. You can easily become overwhelmed without effective organization and time-management.
9. Grade level REMIND messages will help keep you informed. You can receive text messages to your phone so that you can stay aware of upcoming events and important notifications.
10. The MJHS faculty and staff are excited about your return! Make sure to contact your teachers, counselor, and/or administrator sooner rather than later when you have a concern. Even though we will be virtual for at least nine weeks, we are confident that we will provide you with a strong and supportive school experience.

We remain fully committed to providing an instructionally-focused, safe, nurturing, and fun learning environment for all students, albeit virtually to start. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions, concerns, and/or comments. We look forward to a successful 2020-2021 school year at Maynard H. Jackson High School. I remain optimistic that we will be able to connect in-person, safely and in good health, down the line.

MJJ ALL DAY!

Dr. Adam J. Danser, Principal
404-802-5240 adanser@atlanta.k12.ga.us

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