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July 29, 2019

Dear Parent/Guardians:

Welcome back to M.L. King, Jr. Middle School. We are anticipating another exciting year of learning. To our new family members, we say, “Welcome.” M. L. King, Jr. Middle School strives to provide a peaceful, stable and productive learning environment that meets the academic, social and developmental needs of all students. At M.L. King Jr., we set high expectations and celebrate the achievement of every student. We are an IB candidate school embracing the mission of IB, which is to prepare our students for a globally competitive environment in which students’ graduate college and career ready while fostering the principles of responsibility, service, respect, compassion, and international-mindedness within academically challenging educational framework.

Middle school is a vital bridge between elementary and high school—it is also a period when students, begin actively seeking a sense of purpose and place. It is our job to provide them with opportunities, while also keeping them engaged, challenged and supported. Our students are gifts with limitless potential. Through the efforts of our entire school community, we help them to develop their own unique skills and talents and prepare them for continued success far beyond their early adolescent years.

A primary vehicle through which we accomplish this growth and development is our interdisciplinary teams. There are several pillars to effective teaming—among them are 1) students sharing a common set of interdisciplinary teachers for all core classes; 2) teachers working in close physical proximity to one another, enabling greater collaboration; 3) teachers and counselors having regularly scheduled team meetings during a common planning time (this daily face-to-face interaction facilitates early intervention; 4) and perhaps, most importantly, teachers sharing a philosophy about how a developmentally responsive middle-level curriculum is delivered. Our goal is to promote social, emotional, and academic growth for all students

**As we prepare for the first day of school, here are some important reminders:**

- Open House on Friday, August 9, 2019 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm
  - Homeroom Assignments: Students will receive homeroom assignments at Open House.
  - First Day: Monday, August 12, 2019. Students will receive their schedules during homeroom.
  - School hours: Homeroom starts at 8:55 am and dismissal starts at 4:05 pm.
  - Homeroom 8:55-9:10
  - First academic class of the school day starts at 9:10.
  - Students may enter the building at 8:45 am.
  - Attendance: Parents please notify the school office with written documentation when students are absent.
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- **Lunch:** Lunch is served on the first day of school. Healthy snacking is an important part of a healthy diet. When packing a breakfast, snack or lunch for your child, please do not send soft drinks, fruit drinks with processed sugar, candy, cookies, ice cream, cupcakes, cake, Hot Fries, Hot Cheetos, Takis, sunflower seeds, gum and/or sugary snacks to school.
- **King Middle is a cell phone free zone.**  
In an effort to support student safety before and after school, King Middle School students may possess cell phones on campus. The school is not responsible for lost, misplaced or stolen phones. Please talk to your child about securing their personal items. Students must adhere to the following rules regarding cell phone use if not; the phone will be confiscated for parent pick up:
  1. Cell phones must remain off and out of sight on campus during the school day.
  2. The campus includes loading and unloading areas for cars and buses, in the building, or on campus grounds.
  3. The school day includes, but is not limited to, before or after school, class time, passing periods, lunch periods, after school detention, tutorials, emergency drills, practices for extracurricular events and field trips.
  4. Placing a cell phone on vibrate or texting is not considered off and is prohibited.
  5. Using a cell phone to record or video tape is prohibited.
  6. Students are not to possess radios, MP3 players, video or audio recorders, I pods, cameras, games or other electronic devices at school unless they have prior permission from campus administration.
- **Mandatory School Uniforms:** Students are required to wear uniforms Monday through Thursday. Uniform colors are maroon/crimson, gold or black tops and khaki or black pants. Boys are required to wear belts.

We hope the above information is helpful to you as you prepare for the first day of school. If you have any questions about any of this information, please contact the school at 404-802-5400.

We look forward to a great school year!

Sincerely,

Paul W. Brown,  
Principal

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