

Dear Manhattan 5-8 Parents:

August 19th, 2021



Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year! This school year is an exciting return to school with many connections being reestablished from either a summer away or even longer away. As we navigate our way through the school year, we thank you in advance for your patience and flexibility as things can always change quickly.

On Tuesday, Aug. 17th, the Manhattan School Board finalized the *Manhattan Safe Return to In-Person Instruction/Continuity of Services plan*. Mr. Ayers sent a letter on Wednesday, Aug. 18th with all of the details of that plan. That district letter also includes important details regarding changes to the parking lot and new bus zones at school.

We hope to see you at the Open House on Tuesday, Aug. 24th!

Below are some key items to be aware of as we approach the exciting start to the school year on Wednesday, August 25th!

- **In-Person Learning-** The Manhattan Schools are returning to 100% in-person learning for the 2020-2021 school year. There is not an option for remote learning this school year. The safety and health of everyone in our school community will continue to be of paramount importance.
- **Masks-** Face coverings will be optional for grades K-12, all staff, parents, and visitors. It is imperative that respect is given to the choice others make regarding masks - just as respect is always an emphasis with our students. Face coverings will be required on the bus, based on federal law.
- **Student Health** - As stated in our Return to School plan, in-person instruction is a priority in our schools. Student health and safety is also a priority. Families are encouraged to closely monitor the health of your students. Please keep students home if they are experiencing a severe cough, runny nose, sore throat, nausea, vomiting, other digestive issues, a fever of 100.4 or higher, loss of taste or smell, or severe respiratory issues. Please ensure symptoms have resolved before students return to school. Teachers and administration will continue to ensure students have the appropriate time for making up school work from missed school days.
- **Class Lists** - 5th & 6th grade class lists have been posted at the main entrance of the building.
- **Student Schedules** - 7th & 8th grade student schedules will be available to pick up Friday, Aug. 20th in the main office from 9:00 - 3:00. Feel free to come at any time to avoid coming as a large crowd.
- **Before & After School** - Students are expected to be in the playground area to the side and back of the school building before 8:20. Students must have teacher permission to be in any classroom by 8:20. 5th & 6th grade students enter/exit the building from the far west doors of the building. 7th & 8th grade students enter the building from the back area next to the playground at 8:20. Those students may exit the building from the main doors by the office.
- **Visitors-** To start the school year, we are excited to allow visitors and volunteers to the building again with some guidelines to follow. Visitors must arrange the visit in advance with either a teacher or the main office, check in at the main office, sign in, and receive a badge. We will not be allowing visitors to eat lunch with students due to space availability.

- **School Lunch**- School Lunch has 2 sections: a 5th & 6th grade section and a 7th & 8th grade section. The lunch schedule is slightly staggered for traffic flow and seating areas will be divided into those same 2 sections. Students can sit with any other students in their section.
- **Dropoff & Pickup** - As mentioned in the District Welcome Letter, the parking lot and bus zones have been adjusted. The main dropoff & pickup area for parents will be the area in front of the library. The Bus Zone is now at the west end of our building next to the staff parking lot.
- **Water Bottles** - All students are encouraged to bring a water bottle with their name on it. Bottle filling stations continue to be in operation.
- **Teacher Communication** - Within the first week of school, teachers will be communicating with families in regards to more specific classroom procedures for creating a learning environment that includes safety measures and best practice instruction.
- **Bell Schedule** - All 5-8 students will return to being on the same class schedule. There were advantages and disadvantages to our staggered schedule last year. The biggest challenge created by a staggered schedule was staff members that crossover across all of 5-8 or 5-12. For that reason, we are returning to a consistent schedule for all 5-8. Please note the Friday early release schedule - this year's Friday release time is at 2:44. A complete bell schedule is listed below.
- **Picture Day** - Picture Day happens quickly this year - the 3rd day of school, Friday, August 27th, is Picture Day. Information will be sent home prior to Picture Day.
- **JH Athletics** - A parent meeting will be on Monday, August 23rd at 6:00 for Fall Sports - Football, Volleyball, and Cross Country.

Additional updates will be sent out when necessary. Please contact myself or 5-8 Secretary Lisa Grevious with any questions. The main office phone number is 284-3341.

GO TIGERS!

Eric Fisher

Manhattan 5 - 8 Principal

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MANHATTAN 5-8 BELL SCHEDULE <i>Monday - Thursday</i>	
8:25 - 8:30	Pledge/ Announcements
8:30 - 9:17	1st
9:20 - 10:08	2nd
10:11 - 10:59	3rd
11:02 - 11:45	4th (Grades 5 & 6)
11:02 - 11:50	4th (Grades 7 & 8)
11:45 - 12:08	LUNCH
12:08 - 12:25	RECESS
12:30 - 1:20	5th
1:23 - 2:13	6th
2:16 - 3:06	7th
3:06 - 3:26	Advisory

MANHATTAN 5-8 BELL SCHEDULE <i>Friday</i>	
8:25 - 8:30	Pledge/ Announcements
8:30 - 9:15	1st
9:18 - 10:03	2nd
10:06 - 10:51	3rd
10:54 - 11:35	4th (Grades 5 & 6)
10:54 - 11:39	4th (Grades 7 & 8)
11:35 - 11:58	LUNCH
11:58 - 12:15	RECESS
12:20 - 1:06	5th
1:09 - 1:55	6th
1:58 - 2:44	7th