

# South Hackensack School District

Dyer Ave · South Hackensack, NJ 07606 · (201) 440-2782

Jason Chirichella, Superintendent/Principal  
JoAnne Zahn, Vice Principal  
Robert Brown, Interim Business Administrator  
Elizabeth Schaefer, Board Secretary



August 28, 2023

Dear Memorial School Families,

Welcome back for the 2023-2024 school year! I hope that you had a great summer break and had the opportunity to enjoy time with family and friends. We are excited for the return of our students and staff next week. Our Administrative Team and Main Office staff have worked hard to prepare for the opening of school and look forward to seeing all of you on our first day! The district's Genesis Parent Portal is now open to view your child's homeroom teacher and schedule for the 2023-2024 school year. They will also receive a copy of their schedule on the first day. As the opening of another exciting school year draws near, we wanted to remind you of some very important dates below:

### **IMPORTANT DATES:**

- **September 5th:** PreKindergarten Orientation 2pm; Kindergarten Orientation 2:30pm
  - **September 7th:** First Day of School for all students
    - **September 21st:** Back to School Night 7pm
      - **September 22nd:** 1pm Dismissal
- [2023-2024 District Calendar](#) (also found on our school website)

### **Please join me in welcoming our newest Memorial School faculty members:**

- Lynne Crawford - Interim Director of Special Services
- Elizabeth Jesus - Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultant (LDTC)
- Rachel Pekarsky - Speech Language Therapist (late October start date)
  - Lesley Carter - Library Media Specialist/Gifted & Talented
    - Roberta Carbah - Elementary Grade 4
    - Monia Dahdouh - School Nurse (late October start date)
- Ashley Velasquez *will continue as our Substitute Nurse til late October*
  - Jalyn Love - Teacher Aide

### **School Website**

Our school website template will be changing soon to a new look. Please take some time to review the information provided on our school website ([www.shmemorial.org](http://www.shmemorial.org)). The various tabs will take you to sites providing valuable information. Some of the tabs on our school website include the district and monthly school calendar, nurses office for health related information, National School Nutrition Program (Breakfast/Lunch) and the [School Newsletter](#).

### **School Forms**

This year, school forms can **only** be accessed through your Genesis Parent Portal. Please complete all forms by **Wednesday, September 6th**, prior to the start of school. See link here for assistance with [Genesis](#).

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## Chromebooks

All chromebooks (and Kindles for Pre-Kindergarten) will be distributed after we receive the Student Chromebook Agreement form at the beginning of the school year.

## SCHOOL REPORTING TIMES

Students may arrive at school between **8:15-8:30am**. It is important that your child does not arrive at school before 8:15 a.m. Please abide by this, since our teacher aides will not be on duty until 8:15am to begin receiving students into the building. Homeroom begins at 8:30am. Any child reporting after 8:30pm will be considered late. See chart below for arrival and dismissal locations:

<u>Grade:</u>	<u>Arrival Location</u>	<u>Dismissal Time and Location</u>	
<b>Pre-Kindergarten Kindergarten Grade 1</b>	Rear Doors next to Kindergarten Door (Exit A)	<b><u>Dismissal Locations</u></b> <b>PreK &amp; 1st:</b> Rear Door (Exit A) <b>Kindergarten:</b> Classroom Door (Exit G)	<b><u>Dismissal Times</u></b> <b>Pre-Kindergarten</b> - 3:00pm <b>Kindergarten</b> - 3:05pm <b>Grade 1</b> - 3:10pm
<u>Grade:</u>	<u>Arrival Location</u>	<u>Dismissal Time and Location</u>	
<b>Grade 2 &amp; Grade 3</b>	Great Hall (Exit F)	3:15pm @ Great Hall (Exit F)	
<b>Grade 4</b>	Back Field Doors (Exit E)	3:15pm @ Cafeteria Doors	
<b>Grade 5</b>	Back Field Doors (Exit E)	3:15pm @ Back Field Doors (Exit E)	
<b>Grade 6 Grade 8</b>	Back Field Doors (Exit E)	3:15pm <b>Grade 6 &amp; Grade 8:</b> @ Doors on Dyer Ave. next to the playground (Exit D)	
<b>Grade 7 Grade 8</b>	Back Field Doors (Exit E)	<b>Grade 7 &amp; Grade 8:</b> @ Back Field Doors (Exit E)	

In the interest of your child's welfare and safety, please remember to call our school's office (201-440-2782, extension 100) or e-mail [estefano@shmemorial.org](mailto:estefano@shmemorial.org) to let us know if your child is going to be absent. **This is a very important parent responsibility.**

## Aftercare

Memorial School will be offering our After Care School Program during the 2023-2024 school year. The program will operate between the hours of 3:15-5:30pm. The application packet is available on our school website under [Bulldog Clubhouse](#) .

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## **Memorial School Sports Program**

Our Fall Season Sports Program will include Boys and Girls Soccer for Grades 5-8 and our Coppa Italia Soccer Tournament. Tryout dates will be on **Wednesday, September 13th and Thursday, September 14th**. There will be an informational meeting with the coaches on **Thursday, September 7th** after school in the gym for students interested in trying out. Please visit our Athletic Forms Page on our website for [Sport Participation Forms](#). It is important to have an updated Sports Physical in order to tryout for soccer. For further information, please contact our Sports Coordinator, Mr. Nicholas Ramagli at [nramagli@shmemorial.org](mailto:nramagli@shmemorial.org).

## **Parent Notification: Blackboard and Genesis**

Our school uses Blackboard Connect as our parent notification system for emergency purposes; for school closing or delayed opening; or for general informational announcements. . This system is connected to our Genesis student information system. It is used to communicate with all parents when necessary. Please be sure that your Genesis Parent account has the correct contact information. If you need to update any contact information, please contact the school's main office.

As always, thank you for your cooperation, patience, and continued support. It makes working at Memorial School very rewarding! We also want you to know that as the opening of this school year draws near, we are committed to providing a supportive, safe, and positive learning environment for all of our students while promoting their social and emotional well-being. We are excited about continuing to develop the endless educational possibilities that our school facilities provide. A copy of this Welcome Back Letter will also be emailed in both English and Spanish.

On behalf of all at Memorial, we wish you a happy, safe and healthy rest of summer.

Best Regards,

***Jason Chirichella***

Jason Chirichella  
Superintendent/Principal