



Crossroads North Middle School

A Nationally Recognized Blue Ribbon School

635 Georges Road

Monmouth Junction, NJ 08852



Phone: (732) 329-4191

Kimberly Bynoe, Assistant Principal

Mark Daniels, Principal

Fax: (732) 329-1905

Allison Dubois, Assistant Principal

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Dear Crossroads North Parents & Guardians,

I am excited to warmly welcome you to the 2017-2018 school year! Hopefully, the summer has provided you with many memorable and enjoyable moments with family and friends. As I begin my eighth year as principal of Crossroads North Middle School, it continues to be a tremendous honor and privilege to serve the students, staff, and parents, of such a caring and collaborative learning community. As we prepare to transition into a new year of learning, I am reminded that the first few days of school are truly a special time, and I am eagerly looking forward to the much needed continuation of our valued home-school partnership. I am also pleased to share that our school continues to be comprised of an exceptionally competent and committed staff, which is supported by a thoughtful and strategic Central Office Administration and Board of Education.

This year's district theme is entitled, ***"My approach creates the climate; My mood makes the weather. ~Make it a sunny day!"*** As our students continue their educational journey this year, they will inevitably encounter numerous challenges, but I am confident that with our ongoing support and guidance, they will use their perseverance, determination, and optimism to successfully overcome any obstacles and bring their "sunshine" to any situation. The start of the school year is also an excellent time for students to develop a set of personal goals for the months ahead. This will help them to take ownership of their learning, and begin a new grade level with a positive and "can do" mindset.

This summer, our dedicated custodial team has been working diligently to thoroughly update the hallways and classrooms of the school facility in preparation for another school year. Crossroads teachers and administrators were also working throughout the summer to development student schedules, participate in ongoing professional learning opportunities, realign curriculum, and to plan instruction for the upcoming school year.

In a relentless effort to ensure that our students are receiving a developmentally appropriate, challenging, and outcome driven middle school experience, we will continue the practice of placing our students into grade level specific units (6th, 7th, and 8th grade). We believe that assigning students to grade level specific units will enable us to more effectively tailor the delivery of grade level curriculum. The grade level unit configurations are as follows:

- 6th Grade Units: Comets Neptune Polaris
- 7th Grade Units: Rho Tau Theta
- 8th Grade Units: Kappa Sigma Zeta

Our mission, at Crossroads Middle School, is to form a partnership between our school and community that nurtures and inspires life-long learners through a balanced program of academic excellence and social, emotional, cultural, and physical development within a safe and caring environment during this "crossroads" in our students' lives.

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17-18 UNIT TEAMS

Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
<p><u>Comets</u> ELA: Ms. Flahive/Mrs. Fultz Math: Mrs. Gibbard Science: Mr. Saldino Social Studies: Mrs. VanderValk</p>	<p><u>Rho</u> ELA: Mrs. Barton/Ms. Fasanella Math: Mrs. Mierta Science: Mr. Niemis Social Studies: Mrs. O’Keefe</p>	<p><u>Kappa</u> ELA: Mrs. Boscaino/Ms. Johnson Math: Mrs. Saragnese Science: Mrs. Magliato Social Studies: Mr. Medina</p>
<p><u>Neptune</u> ELA: Mrs. Cohen/Ms. Feliciano Math: Mrs. Phelan-Colaner Science: Mrs. Murphy Social Studies: Mrs. Laskowitz</p>	<p><u>Tau</u> ELA: Mrs. Berkey/Mr. Marusky Math: Mrs. Kornett Science: Ms. Neirotti Social Studies: Mrs. Kmiec</p>	<p><u>Sigma</u> ELA: Mrs. Cabel/Ms. Fava Math: Mr. Masterton Science: Mrs. Schwartz Social Studies: Mrs. Metzger</p>
<p><u>Polaris</u> ELA: Ms. Nunez/Mrs. Pelehach Math: Mrs. Powell Science: Mr. Celio Social Studies: Mrs. Ambrose</p>	<p><u>Theta</u> ELA: Mr. Nalven/Mrs. Unger Math: Mrs. Fraser Science: Mrs. Liptak Social Studies: Mrs. Hartman</p>	<p><u>Zeta</u> ELA: Ms. Pedersen/Mrs. Stone-Ingalls/ Math: Mr. Quilter Science: Ms. Wiener Social Studies: Mr. McManus</p>

Unit placement information for students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade will be accessible via Genesis, our new Student Information System. To access this website, please go to: <https://parents.sbschools.org/genesis/parents?gohome=true>. The GENESIS PARENT PORTAL support page with FAQ’s can be found here: http://www.sbschools.org/parents_students/family_connect_nl.php

Crossroads North Middle School will open its doors for students on **Thursday, September 7th**, which will be a full day beginning at 8:10AM, and concluding at 3:05 PM. Upon arrival to Crossroads North, students should report directly to one of the following unit locations:

Unit Meeting Locations

- 6th: Comets – Cafeteria A
- 6th: Neptune – Library
- 6th: Polaris – Cafeteria B
- 7th: Rho – Main Gym, Cafeteria Side
- 7th: Tau – Main Gym, Bleacher Side
- 7th: Theta – Aux Gym
- 8th: Kappa – Band Room
- 8th: Sigma – Chorus Room
- 8th: Zeta – Auditorium

New students who have not yet received their unit assignments should report to the staff members located in the hallway outside of the library. There will also be plenty of staff members in the hallways to assist students with the location of unit meeting locations.

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Schedule Update: This year, Crossroads will have an additional period (“9th Period”) added to each school day. This is slightly different from the former “common time” which only took place twice each week. The purpose of this regularly scheduled period is to provide time for our students to gain access to teachers, work on homework or any missed work, or to receive targeted support for organization and academic subjects. Students will track their use of this time with their assigned teacher. Similar to last school year, two of these days will be designated for students participating in choir rehearsals. In addition, on selected Fridays, our entire school will engage in a weekly “ADVISORY” period. “Advisory” is a research-based approach to character education, decision-making, and moral/ethical citizenship. Our teachers will engage students through a series of group discussions and activities designed to reinforce our core values of CARES (Cooperation, Assertion, Respect/Responsibility, Empathy, and Self-Control).

Lunch will also be served on the first day of school. Student lunch prices will range from **\$2.60 – \$3.95**. Breakfast is a standard price of **\$2.15** and is served everyday except for Delayed Opening Days. The debit card/ID system will be used again this year. I strongly encourage all students to utilize their debit/ID card throughout the school year when purchasing lunch items. To that end, we will provide all students with a “Crossroads” lanyard to secure their ID cards.

Each student will also receive an agenda book on the first day of school. This book will serve as a valuable tool to assist students with the organization and management of tests, quizzes, projects, and homework assignments. The agenda includes the ***Student/Parent Handbook, which contains the Code of Student Conduct.*** Please take a moment during the first few days/weeks of school to review the contents of the handbook with your child.

Parents choosing to drive their child to and/or from school must use the “**parent drop-off, and pick-up area**”, which is located in the rear of the building. Parents can access the drop-off/pick-up area by using the driveway entrance located across from Rasoi restaurant on Georges Road. Parents are reminded to refrain from using Regal Drive, in the Regal Point housing development, as a drop-off/pick area. Although Regal Point is located in close proximity to Crossroads North, it is not on our school’s property and should not be used as a drop-off/pick-up area. In addition, to ensure the safety of our students during arrival and dismissal times (7:55-8:10 and 2:55-3:15), we will only permit school buses and cars needing to park in the front lot to use the driveway entrance closest to the auditorium.

Please mark your calendars for our **Back to School Night** event that will take place on **Thursday, October 5th, at 7:00 PM.**

Please enjoy the remaining days of the summer. I look forward to our continued home and school partnership, as we strive to nurture the social-emotional growth, and academic excellence of our very talented students! Feel free to contact me with any questions. You can also access additional school information via our website at <http://www.sbschools.org/schools/xrds/index.php>.

Sincerely,

Mark Daniels
Principal

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