Greetings Yellow Jacket Families,

Welcome to a new school year! It has been more than a year since we've welcomed our yellow jackets into our building and I am so excited to see all of our students this year! This past year and a half has been filled with many ups and downs, but just as we have always done, we persevered and made it through. This year’s learning will be in-person learning for all students 6th-8th grade.

This year, students will return to school on Wednesday, September 8th, with new student orientation for **ALL NEW students being held on Friday, September 3rd from 7:30 AM-11 AM.** Grab and go breakfast and lunch will be provided for students. Transportation will be provided. Parents can access bus route information in the Parent Portal beginning **Monday, August 23.** Students will also be required to wear uniforms to school everyday including new student orientation.

Gwynn Park MS is a uniform school, students in the following grades will wear these designated colors:

6th Grade: Gold Polo/Khaki Bottoms  
7th Grade: White Polo/Khaki Bottoms  
8th Grade: Black Polo/Khaki Bottoms

In addition to uniforms, students will also be required to wear masks **ALL DAY, EVERYDAY!**
Technology distribution day for students who need chromebooks will be held on **Tuesday, August 31st and Wednesday, September 1st from 10 AM-12 PM, sharp**. No appointment is needed, please bring your ID and a pen.

We are eager to start the year for what promises to be filled with learning opportunities that extend, enrich, and excite our students. I am honored to serve as your principal, and delighted to work with our students and families this year. We are looking forward to sharing the learning experience with you and your child as we are committed to the promise of student achievement through culture, data, and performance. Our theme this year is, “Rebuilding & Reconnecting”. Together we will continue to ensure high levels of student engagement, maintain high expectations for learning, and promote a love of learning that will empower and elevate our students as they work towards academic excellence. In addition to our focus on academic excellence we will also be focusing on ensuring the health and safety of all students, both physically and emotionally.

During the upcoming school year, I encourage you to take an active role in your child’s learning. Parents play a critical role in the academic success of our students. Therefore, school and parent communication are crucial. Ways to support and increase your child’s academic success include:

- **Make attendance a PRIORITY including limiting tardiness and absences**
- **Check SchoolMax Parent Portal regularly to stay informed of student progress**
- **Communicate often with your child’s teacher**

As always, we look forward to partnering with you in order to ensure a successful school year. The educational needs of students can best be served through a collaborative approach between parents, teachers, and administrators. Therefore, we invite you to participate and support the many events and activities planned throughout the school year.

Information on student bus routes will be available through the online **Bus Stop Finder** on the Prince George’s County Public Schools website ([www.pgcps.org](http://www.pgcps.org)) or the SchoolMax Parent Portal beginning **Monday, August 23, 2021**. The postcards with students’ bus information for the 2021-2022 school year will be mailed out on **Monday, August 23, 2021**. They will be sent to the latest address you have provided to the school registrar in School Max. Parents and schools may locate designated, comprehensive bus stops using this site by entering the home address. Information for the 2021-2022 school year will be available beginning on **Monday, August 23, 2021**. Use this link to access Infofinder. [https://bit.ly/PGCPSSinfoFinder](https://bit.ly/PGCPSSinfoFinder).

For additional assistance, please contact our transportation team at 301-952-6570.

Student schedules will be distributed to students on the first day of school, but will also be available in schoolmax prior to the first day of school.
Lastly, please plan to attend our virtual **Back to School Night, Thursday, September 23rd** from 6:00- 8:00 PM and we will also host a virtual leadership meet & greet on **Tuesday, August 31st, from 6:30-7:30 PM** where we will introduce Gwynn Park Middle Schools leadership team. The link for this meeting will be made available on our schools website the morning of **Tuesday, August 31st** and will also be emailed via schoolmessenger. We appreciate and value your partnership and look forward to working with you this school year.

Please be sure to continue to check our schools website for updates and important information.

As always, if you have any questions please feel free to contact myself or my team as listed below:

Marie Newman- Registrar  
[Marie.Newman@pgcps.org](mailto:Marie.Newman@pgcps.org)

Brianna Meadows- Principals Secretary  
[Brianna.Meadows@pgcps.org](mailto:Brianna.Meadows@pgcps.org)

Jamille Giles- Assistant Principal 6th/8th Grade  
[Jamille.Giles@pgcps.org](mailto:Jamille.Giles@pgcps.org)

Gloria Daniels- Assistant Principal 6th/7th Grade  
[Gloria.Daniels@pgcps.org](mailto:Gloria.Daniels@pgcps.org)

Educationally Yours,

Dr. Courtney Forbes  
Principal