



Jordan-Matthews High School

Tripp Crayton, Principal
910 East Cardinal St
Siler City, NC 27344
919-742-2916

August 6, 2018

Dear Students/Parents:

Welcome to the start of the 2018-2019 school year at Jordan-Matthews High School! I know our parents of freshmen are looking forward to four amazing years. I encourage you to become a part of our school/culture, as our school has numerous, positive attributes, which will simply endear you. We have a truly caring culture, working with all aspects of the school community to meet our school's mission--to graduate globally competitive, well rounded students by providing a rigorous and relevant curriculum in an effective, safe and nurturing environment. The faculty and staff are proud to continue the tradition of excellence in all areas. If you are a first-time Jet, we look forward to you joining us in this process. We are committed to ensuring that all students learn by creating an atmosphere of collaboration and support while making the overall high school experience feel individualized for each person. You are strongly encouraged to follow us on Twitter @JMHSJets. You will receive enormous amount of announcements and breaking news updates through this feed. You can also find us on Facebook. All of the information can be found on our school website, along with a master calendar showcasing the numerous events found on our campus. We'd love to see everyone come out and cheer on our Fall sports teams that include Football, Men's Varsity and JV Soccer, Women's Varsity and JV Volleyball, Women's Tennis, Women's Golf, and Men and Women's Cross Country.

This letter includes essential information for the upcoming year including a draft copy of your schedule, specific JM policies and procedures, and a copy of the instructional calendar established by Chatham County Schools.

Any student who has a valid schedule concern and wishes to request a schedule change will need to meet with a member of our Student Services' team. Seniors may make schedule change requests on August 17th, from 9:00am - 12:00pm. Juniors on August 20th, from 9:00am-12:00pm and Sophomores/Freshmen can come in on the 20th, from 1:00pm-4:00pm. Those unable to attend those dates can come in on August 23rd from 1:00pm-4:00pm to request a change. No schedule change requests will be considered after August 31st.

We want all students to be happy with their schedules, so sometimes schedule changes are necessary. Therefore, a specific period of time is set aside during the summer for students to request schedule changes. In fairness to all students a request for a schedule change can be for the following reasons ONLY:

- 1) Student already passed a scheduled course
- 2) Student does not have the prerequisite for a scheduled course
- 3) Student wishes to move to a higher level course, i.e., Honors to AP
- 4) Student needs another course in order to graduate this year

THE SCHOOL RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CHANGE SCHEDULES IN ORDER TO BALANCE CLASS SIZE.

Freshman Orientation itself will take place on Thursday, August 16th from 8 am to 12 pm. It is open to all first time 9th grade students **ONLY**. We will be conducting a required parent night for ninth graders and new parents on Tuesday, August 28th, 2018 at 6:00pm in the auditorium. It should end by 7:30 p.m. This will include laptop orientation; attendance is required to complete paperwork and issue laptops to students. New incoming students and their parents can walk throughout the campus to get a lay of the land. If you are unable to attend, the make up meeting will be held Tuesday, September 4th at 6:00pm. Please remember no laptop can be issued without attending the required session and complete the appropriate paperwork.

We will have the building open on Thursday, August 23rd, 2018, from 4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m., if you wish to walk your child's schedule. You will have the opportunity to meet teachers, administration, and child nutrition services. Transportation specialists (bus drivers) will be available in the media center to assist with any questions you may have, including bus registration and route information.

The school day starts at 8:00 am and ends at 3:10 pm. It is imperative that all students arrive on time and are present every day in order to maximize their success. Please limit any appointments or trips that could result in your student missing out on instructional time. Attendance is taken in each class and **students who have more than nine unexcused absences will not be able to receive credit for the course.** Students must be present at least 45 minutes in each class in order to be counted present. If you need to check your student out early from school you will need to come into the front office and sign them out. If your child is a car driver, you will need to send them with a note indicating the time of their early dismissal so that they can turn the note in before school starts and the note can be verified by the school. No phone calls will be accepted to dismiss students from school. **We do not allow student checkouts between 2:45-3:10. If a student has an appointment at the end of the school day please check them out prior to 2:45 pm.**

Our bell schedule is shown below for your information:

Bell Schedule

1st Period (A): 8:00-8:45

1st Period (B): 8:50-9:35

2 nd Period (A): 9:40-10:28 (Announcements)

2nd Period (B): 10:33-11:18

3rd Period: 11:23-1:30

1st Lunch: 11:18-11:51

2nd Lunch: 12:07-12:40

3rd Lunch: 12:57-1:30

4th Period (A): 1:35-2:20

4th Period (B): 2:25-3:10

All students are responsible for complying and being familiar with the Chatham County Schools Code of Student Conduct and policies. All policies are outlined in the Chatham County School Student/Parent

Handbook, which can be found on the district website. Specific expectations and consequences will be outlined during the first ten days of school and are available on our school website.

In order to ensure the safety of our students Jordan-Matthews has a closed campus for lunch. This means that students are not able to leave campus for lunch and that **we do not allow outside food deliveries. Students are not permitted to bring outside food onto campus and all beverages must be stored in a school approved container.** School meal prices will remain the same for the 2018-2019 school year. Breakfast, \$1.25, Lunch, \$2.85 and Milk, .50. Lunches made/brought from home are acceptable. In addition, all students must be off-campus by 3:30 p.m. unless they are in a supervised activity. Please assist us in ensuring this does not become an issue to avoid disciplinary consequences.

Bi-weekly messages will be sent via Phone Messenger on Sunday afternoons. Copies of the message, in Spanish and English, will be posted on our school website. Please ensure we have your most up-to-date information in order to receive event information, as well as give us the opportunity to contact you throughout the year.

Bus riders are dismissed at the end of the day and board the busses on the cafeteria side of the building. All car riders should be picked up on the tennis court side of the campus. The car rider pick up lane is accessed off East Cardinal Street on the far side of the tennis courts. It snakes down by the baseball field and then between the upper and lower tennis courts before exiting back out to East Cardinal Street. There is limited parking spaces along East Cardinal Street in front of the school available for car rider pick up. **Do not stop on the road and allow your students to enter or exit your vehicle as this causes a safety hazard. Note that the Chatham County Sheriff's Department and Siler City Police Department may ticket if you drop off in the middle of the street.**

Please note that all JM students with a valid driver's license are eligible for an on campus parking pass. Seniors receive priority parking in the Senior Lot on a first come-first served basis. Juniors/Sophomores are in the student lot, again on a first-come-first served basis. Please see Ms. Tobar in the front office beginning August 6th to pay and receive your pass. Come prepared with color, make and model of your car, along with your tag and driver's license number. No parking permit will be issued if the student has outstanding fees, including cafeteria, laptop, athletic, and media fees. All parking passes cost \$25.00 at the start of the school year.

Thank you in advance for reviewing this information and procedures. We look forward to a successful year together! As always, at Jordan-Matthews, it's a great day to be a Jet!

Sincerely,
J-M's Administrative Team

Tripp Crayton, Principal
Donna Barger, Assistant Principal
Melody Dark, Assistant Principal/Athletic Director