



***Copeland Middle School is a collaborative community, where all stakeholders work in solidarity, thus creating an environment of mutual-respect, trust, and responsibility while empowering all individuals to be their authentic selves.***

Dear Copeland Families,

Welcome to the 2022-2023 school year! The Copeland Middle School staff is eager to welcome your children back to school for the first “normal” school year since the Pandemic began. As an educator there is nothing like the sights and sounds of kids engaging with their teachers and peers within a school setting. Our team is excited and committed to doing everything possible to ensure your child feels safe, welcomed, and valued. Your children will engage in a rigorous academic program, while being taught valuable social and emotional skills that will equip them to navigate the waters of middle school. Below you will find important information for the beginning of the school year.

**School Information:**

- In order to ensure that all communications are directed to the right person, please use the attached [CMS Communication Framework](#). Please use this framework with regard to all school related inquiries.
- Please navigate the [CMS website](#) for updates and pertinent information.
- Please see the [CMS Assessment Dates Calendar](#).
- Student schedules will be released via the [Genesis Parent Portal](#) on August 29th, 2022 at 8 am. Schedules will be released once you have signed off on all necessary paperwork.
- In order for students to be able to walk to and from CMS, they must have a walking pass. Walking passes can be selected in Genesis.
- The school day begins promptly at 7:50 am and ends at 2:20 pm. Please familiarize yourself with the [district attendance policy](#), as students are required to be in school for instruction.
- If a student is going to be absent, parents/guardians are expected to call the school at 973-627-2465 ext. 6142 in order to report absences. Messages can be left on the recorder 24 hours a day.
- Students can carry backpacks to and from the building; however, students will not be permitted to carry them during the school day. Backpacks should be kept in student lockers.
- Cell phones are not allowed in classrooms or hallways. Phones must be locked in lockers at the beginning of each school day. If you need to contact your child, please call the school at 973-627-2465.
- Teachers will communicate school supply information to students during the first week of school.
- Students will not need locks for PE class as the locker rooms will not be utilized. Your child’s PE teacher will review appropriate attire.



*We have H.E.A.R.T.  Honesty. Empathy. Acceptance. Respect. Trust.*



***Copeland Middle School is a collaborative community, where all stakeholders work in solidarity, thus creating an environment of mutual-respect, trust, and responsibility while empowering all individuals to be their authentic selves.***

- Parents/Guardians will not be permitted in the building unless they have an appointment. Items can be dropped off in the “drop-off” box located at the front door.
- Pick-up and drop-off will be in the main parking lot. Please follow the traffic pattern as you enter the lot. There will be a resource officer and administrator to direct you. No students should be dropped off along Lake Shore Drive as doing so presents a safety concern. Only school vehicles are permitted access to the front of the building.
- Please see the attached [link](#) regarding school lunch.
- For technical assistance regarding Chromebooks, please contact [homesupport@rocktwp.net](mailto:homesupport@rocktwp.net)
- Please see the following letter regarding the [Panorama Education](#) beginning of the year survey.
- After school clubs and sports will run as scheduled. Information regarding after school clubs will be shared at the end of September.

Lastly, I am asking that all families review the CMS Code of Conduct, [Dress and Grooming Guidelines](#), and [District Bus Procedures](#) with their children. As we enter a new school year, these routines and procedures will provide a structure for students to operate within. We are looking forward to a memorable school year!

Best,

*Alfonso A. Gonnella*

Alfonso A. Gonnella  
Principal  
Copeland Middle School



*We have H.E.A.R.T.  Honesty. Empathy. Acceptance. Respect. Trust.*