## Hello Bulldogs,

The first day of school is Wednesday, August 9th! The MNHS teachers and staff are so excited to have our Bulldogs back on campus with us. We had a great Dawg Camp and Freshman Parent Meeting this past Saturday. If any parents of our 9th graders were not able to attend you can view the 2023 DAWG CAMP- Principal's Address.

Below are important reminders for all students and parents about our return to school:

- 1. Students should be able to view schedules in HAC at this time.
- 2. School begins at 7:30am and ends at 2:37pm. The first few days of school always come with strained traffic patterns. The construction in the surrounding area could make morning traffic a little more difficult so please plan accordingly. It will be important to leave home early to ensure students will arrive at school on time. Parents may use the main entrance or the back parking lot for student drop off in the morning. It is important for parents and students to understand that there is no student drop off or pick up in the staff parking lot off of Wilmeth. There is also no student pick up in the PM through the main entrance. In the afternoon, student pick up is allowed only in the student parking lot on the north side of the building. Please use this link to view both AM and PM instructions:
  - a. MNHS Student Drop Off-Pick Up.pdf
- 3. All students will be expected to be in the Dress Code. If parents or students have questions about the MISD student dress code please use the link below for details:
  - a. MISD 2023-24 Student Dress Code (All Grade Levels)
- 4. We will be expecting all students to wear their ID Badges to enter the building. We know that some students do not yet have an ID Badge, please do not stress, we will get them one made as quickly as possible. Our IDs and our Dress Code are two parts of our safety plan to help prevent unapproved visitors in the building. Please talk with your child about the importance of helping us keep our school safe and following these two important expectations.
- 5. Students may bring a water bottle or reusable cup with a secure lid. Students are not allowed to have "to go" drinks in disposable cups in the building. If you bring lunch to your child you may leave it on the metal rack in the vestibule at the main entrance. However, please do not leave the "to go" drink. Students will not be able to take that with them into the building.
- 6. We do not accept food deliveries from delivery services. This includes pizza deliveries, sandwich deliveries, DoorDash, GrubHub, or UberEats. We can only accept food delivered to school by a parent.

- 7. While students are permitted to have cell phones, smart watches and earbuds at school, students are not permitted to use any of these devices in the classroom. Teachers will be expecting students to put phones away in their backpacks and the backpacks will be placed at the front of the room. This is to ensure their focus and attention are on the learning in the classroom. Students may use their phones during lunch. Students are also expected to remove earbuds and put them away during instructional time.
- We have a new nurse at MNHS this year. Her name is Jessica Green. Nurse Green comes to us from Cockrill Middle School. Please review her
  Beginning of Year Nurse News
- 9. Students and parents should be aware that our campus will have a service dog assisting students this year. Please review this important letter regarding the student service dog.
- 10. The best way for students and parents to stay updated on campus news is through our MNHS website. The first button on the Homepage is our MNHS HUB. This is a great one page resource of active links to many pieces of information that students or parents may need throughout the year. For our Seniors, it will be important to access the Senior Events page by clicking on the "Seniors" button on our website homepage. Please use this link to access our website: McKinney North High School I Home of the Bulldogs
- 11. Please mark your calendar for Monday, September 11th this will be our Meet the Teacher/Curriculum Night. More information will be sent later regarding start time.
- 12. Due to unforeseen circumstances, our student breakdown for House assignments will be changing this year. Please refer to this update regarding House Offices placement for our students

Finally, with the start of every new school year comes a lot of excitement and even some anxious feelings for all of us. Please remember that all of our MNHS staff will be arriving early and we will all be dressed in a navy blue campus shirt that says "We are Bulldogs" on the back. All staff should be easily identifiable to any student that may need assistance throughout the day. Our teachers will be spending the first three days getting to know their students, building relationships within the classroom, helping students learn more about our school and each of their classes. We will hold class meetings on Thursday and Friday to review expectations and share important traditions with all of our students. We will also conduct two of our required drills for the month of August. One of the drills is a fire drill and the other is a medical emergency drill.

I know this has been a long letter with lots of information. In the future I will try to keep the letters shorter and with less detail, but the start of the year is important for all of us and I hope the level of specificity helps everyone to understand what students will need to do on our first day as well as what will be expected throughout the year. Please stay connected with us through our website and social media. You can follow us on Twitter and Facebook:

Twitter - @McKinneyNorthHS Facebook - McKinney North High School

It's going to be a great year for our Bulldogs. See you on Wednesday, August 9th!

Sincerely,

Jae Gaskill Principal