

July 2017

Dear Marsh Students and Parents,

As principal of Marsh Junior High School, it is my pleasure to extend my warmest welcome as you start the 2017 – 2018 school year. I would like to extend a special welcome to our newest members of the Marsh Gator community, our sixth grade families. Our school is committed to ensuring a wonderful transition for our sixth graders and we will work tirelessly to ensure that happens. To all of our returning families, we thank you for your continued belief in our school. It is your continued belief and support in us that allows our school to more effectively meet the needs of our students year after year. This promises to be a year filled with golden opportunities for all of our students as we strive to find ways that we can become even better than we have been before!

At Marsh Junior High School, we focus every day on providing every member of our community a safe and positive learning environment where continued growth for student learners is our key focus. We are a school committed to educating for excellence by empowering our students to become compassionate, confident, creative and resourceful members of society. Our outstanding and committed staff works to ensure learning is fun, relevant and dynamic. As part of the junior high experience, we strive to provide our students with special events, a plethora of extracurricular clubs and activities, as well as athletic teams certain to encourage our Gators to be involved and stay connected. An important part of this work involves the key relationships with our parents and community. We value and rely upon these partnerships as they are paramount to the success of all of our students. Please consider joining our PTSO and becoming more involved in our school community. Your presence makes a difference. In addition, if there is ever any question or concern, please feel free to contact me directly at jkamph@chicousd.org.

Our enrollment has continued to grow over the summer, and we are now at enrollment capacity. We are currently working on our student schedules and finalizing our staff for the upcoming school year. All packet distribution will take place in our gym, (**please see the schedule on the back of this page to see your designated date and time**). The enclosed flyer provides you with information about the items we recommend you purchase, but of course, these items are optional. These include P.E. uniforms, student planners, and yearbooks, among other things.

We have been working hard to streamline the process of collecting forms for the 2017-2018 school year. To save paper, all forms (ie. Emergency cards, dance contract, etc.) requiring parent/student approval will be available online. **Please follow the attached Directions for Online Review and Approval.** Accommodations can be made if you do not have internet access at home. Doing this process ahead of time online will save you valuable time at packet-pickup.

We are excited to announce that the second annual **WEB (Where Everyone Belongs) sixth grade orientation**. WEB is a proven program that is designed to create a feeling of belonging for students on campus. A team of WEB Coordinators and eighth grade WEB Leaders have worked hard preparing an orientation rally to welcome the incoming sixth graders. **All sixth graders are invited** to this event taking place on **Wednesday, August 16th from 8:00 – 12:00 PM in the Marsh Gym**. Keep checking your mail, as formal invitations to the orientation will be mailed out soon.

The first day of classes for all students will be **Monday, August 21st**. This will be a minimum day, 8:00 a.m. – 12:06 p.m. Orientation activities will be our focus with a rally at 11:35 if parents would like to join us. Starting at 7:45 a.m., **sixth graders are to arrive to the gym to pick up their schedules**. They will also have a chance to check in with their WEB leaders before their first class. In case your sixth grader is unable to attend WEB, our counselors will be in the gym to meet with sixth graders and make sure they are feeling connected and prepared for their first day. All **seventh and eighth graders will pick up their schedules in front of the library**. All students will then report to their first period class at 8:05, and will meet with each of their teachers for 30 minute classes. Our goal is that, by the end of the day, students will feel comfortable in their new surroundings and will be excited to be back at school.

Again this year, will be having our “**late start Wednesdays**” beginning Wednesday, August 23rd, and for the remainder of the school year. **Students will start each Wednesday at 9:00 a.m.** They will be dismissed at the regular time, 2:45 p.m. Staff will be utilizing 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. for grade level/content level collaboration.

We are looking forward to another excellent school year. We personally look forward to meeting with you and working with your children. Please mark your calendar for **Back-To-School Night**, which will be **Thursday, September 7th, at 6:30 p.m. in the MJHS Gym**. More information regarding this event will be in your back to school packet. Enjoy the remainder of your summer and we look forward to seeing you soon. Our office is now open from 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. daily if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Jessica Kamph
Principal



J. Howell
Assistant Principal

Packet Pick-Up Schedule on back

Packet Pick-Up Schedule

Monday, August 14th

9:00 – 10:00 A – C
10:00 – 11:00 D – F
11:30 – 1:00 LUNCH
1:15 – 2:15 G - I
2:15 – 3:00 J - K

Tuesday, August 15th

9:00 – 10:00 L - M
10:00 – 11:00 N - P
11:30 - 1:00 LUNCH
1: 15 – 2:15 Q - S
2: 15 – 3:00 T - Z

Please make every effort to come at your designated time to alleviate waiting in long lines to make it through the process.

Thanks in advance for your cooperation!

(If you receive a bill in your packet, please return the book(s) on Packet Pick Up Day or pay the bill in order to get your student's class schedule. Thank you.)

Would you like to help at Packet Pick-Up Day? We'd love to have you volunteer! Please email Alana Meline at ameline@chicousd.org, or call 895-4109 and we'll schedule you to work! Thank you!!