

HUNTINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
J. Taylor Finley Middle School

August 11, 2017
Back to School Letter

Greetings Parents and Students:

We are nearly finished with all the details needed to begin the new school year. The student schedules will not be mailed home. They will be posted to the parent and student portals on or about August 21st. Student schedules contain the student's locker number and code as well as the student's academic team and school counselor assignment.

To access schedules, students and parents must log-in to the portal from the district website- www.hufsd.edu. **Click on "Quick links" at the top, right corner and click on "parent portal" and log in using your existing username and password. To create an account, click on "parent portal registration" at the bottom of the log-in box to create a new account.** If you have forgotten your password, click on "forgot password," enter your user ID or email address, click "request password" and you will receive a message to create a new password. Do not create a new account if you already have one. Your account will be locked after 5 attempts with the wrong password.

Remember, there will be a student and parent orientation day on **Thursday, August 31st**- 7th graders from 9-11 and 8th graders from 12-2. I hope to see you there. Below you will find some very important and helpful information to begin the year. Schedule changes are not made after the schedules are posted unless an error has been made or to balance class size.

Create a portal account: Go to District website; Click on "Links" and find "parents" "parent portal" and then click "registration" at the bottom of the log-in box. Students can log-in by using their first initial, last name and using the password they created already. For students who are new to the portal, the password is "guidance".

The first day of school is Wednesday, September 6th. Bus and transportation information should have been mailed to all homes and is available on the website. Students will arrive at the building by 7:50 to begin the homeroom/period 1 promptly at 8:00AM. We do expect that all students are seated in their homerooms to begin the day with the morning announcements. Lateness will be addressed by the Assistant Principal. Students should be at their bus stops early during the first week of school to avoid missing the bus. Parents who drive their children to school should follow the direction of our safety staff in the parking lot. The entire school calendar is posted on the district website.

School Supplies: Students will need a separate notebook for each subject, including foreign language- 5 subjects. They may use a 5-subject binder with designated sections. They will also need pens, pencils a highlighter marker. Many teachers have posted other supplies on their E-boards which can be found on the district website. Go to E-Boards and find the teachers from your schedule.

Chromebook Devices: All students will receive a Chromebook device to use on loan for the school year. They are to be brought to school every day fully charged for use. It is the student's responsibility to use it properly in accordance with the district rules. Students will also receive cases in which to carry the devices.

Dress code: The first weeks of school are typically very warm. Parents and students are reminded that students should dress appropriately for school. Length of shorts and skirts should be appropriate for middle school. Blouses and shirts should cover the stomach completely. Parents will be notified by phone if a student is dressed inappropriately. There are clean water fountains in the school building for student use. Students may keep water bottles in their lockers during the first weeks of school when the temperature exceeds 80 degrees.

Communication: Parents will receive school-related information from Mr. Amato in several ways. The parent portal contains all student records, progress and grade reports, daily attendance and individual teacher gradebook views for tests, quizzes and homework assignments. Many teachers have E-Boards on which they post lesson topics, homework assignments and post relevant information and dates. Teacher email addresses can be found on the district website. Mr. Amato will also send messages and letters electronically via email and text message and telephone voice messages. Parents should ensure that we have current email addresses, cell phone and home phone numbers in our system. The Finley PTA hosts a Facebook page and Mr. Amato uses twitter, @JTFinleyMS, to highlight school activities.

Finley PTA

PTA Co-Presidents: Michelle Sabatino, Tina Evans

Dana Forte

Denise Murtagh

Laura Bufumo

Renee Babich-Dumas

Bruce Segal

Kara Pitti

Amy Girimonti

SEPTA

Presidents: Tonya Guandique and Elizabeth Lopez

Lisa Hanna, Julie Porzio

Laura Ubriac

Miho Verfenstein

Jen LaVertu

Denise Murtagh

Alice Marie Rorke

Sincerely,
John Amato
Principal