

Sachem Central School District

51 School Street, Lake Ronkonkoma, NY 11779

Samoset Middle School

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Dear Students, Parents and Guardians:

I hope that you have had a restful and enjoyable summer.

I am sure that you are aware that school begins on **Wednesday, September 9th**. Student schedules will be available on the parent portal for all students by Tuesday, September 8th. Your child should bring a copy of their schedule to school on their first scheduled day of school. Students who are A/C day students will report for their first day on Wednesday, September 9th and students who are B/D students will report on Thursday, September 10th. You can find your child's cohort at the top of their schedule. All students will report to their homeroom classroom listed on the schedule. Homeroom begins at 8:10 and 8th period ends at 2:30. Time will be allowed for students to find lockers and read schedules. There will be staff members available to help interpret schedules and help students find their way to class for the first few days of school. Sixth grade students will be spending most of the first day becoming acquainted with their teachers, classmates, and new school as they participate in ice breaking and orientation activities.

Please ensure that you log on to the Parent Portal and update your emergency contacts prior to the start of school. Please be aware that we **cannot and will not** release our students to anyone who is not listed on the emergency contact list and/or who does not have photo identification. *Anyone signing a student out of Samoset Middle School will be asked to show photo identification at the Security Vestibule. Parents/Guardians will not be allowed to enter the building.* Please remember to bring your ID with you every time you come into the building!

Please go to www.sachem.edu/schools/samoset and view our Student Handbook, including Samoset's Dress Code. **Parent/Student Signature Sheet, and Student Information Sheet** will be available on the Samoset webpage. If you do not want your child's picture used on the school website or in publications, please complete **the Web Page Picture Form**. **Please make sure that these forms are signed and returned no later than Friday, September 18th.**

RETURNING TO SAMOSET THIS YEAR: Backpacks will be permitted during the school day. Students will only be permitted to go to their locker before homeroom and after 7th period. Students should use their backpack during the day to carry their belongings.

You can view your child's regular bus stop on the parent portal. Please keep the number handy as well as recording it in your child's agenda. Buses will be in numerical order in front of the school at dismissal, so look for your bus number in the window near the door of the bus. **Please be aware that there will be no after school activities or after school buses. We do not allow students to take any bus other than the one assigned.** This is for health and safety reasons.

As a reminder, **cell phones are not permitted during school hours**. Any student who has a cell phone in school must have it turned completely off and locked in his or her locker. We provide a telephone in the Main Office exclusively for student use. As an exception, any student who does not feel comfortable using the phone in the Main Office may use their cell phone to call home from the Main Office. Additionally, we remind students that in order to use the phone, you must have a pass from your teacher. **(Please see Code of Conduct)**

Good attendance is very important on the middle school level. A great deal of material is covered each day and students need to be in school to reap the full benefit of class instruction. We expect all students to be in school, on time! In the event that your child is absent, please remember to call our **Attendance office** at **471-1700, option 1** on the day of the absence. Our teachers will be utilizing Google Classroom and any missed assignments can be found online.

I would encourage all students and parents to join the **PTSA**. Our PTSA is very active and works very hard to provide our students with many enriching activities that they help to coordinate throughout the year. Parents, students and staff are invited and welcome to join the PTSA by visiting the link below: <https://samosetms.wordpress.com/>

The supply list is available on the Samoset web page at www.sachem.edu/schools/samoset. We will be distributing Samoset **agendas** on the first day of school, courtesy of our PTSA. Please have your child *write their name and bus routes in the agenda*. We expect that students will use the agenda on a daily basis to record homework assignments. In the event that an agenda needs to be replaced, a limited supply will be available in the Main Office for \$5.00.

I hope you and your family enjoy the rest of your summer. I look forward to seeing you all at the start of school!

Sincerely,

James Horan
Principal