

# WELCOME LETTER

2020-2021

Dear Franklin Rockets Students and Families,

I hope this letter finds you and your family safe and well during these unsettling times. I want to welcome you to the 2020-2021 school year as a Franklin Rocket.

The COVID-19 pandemic has created uncertainty for all of us. I am writing to you to share our plans for fall semester in Minneapolis Public Schools and at Franklin Middle School. As you know we started teaching remotely (Distance Learning) in March 2020. At the end of last school year, we asked for feedback from students, parents and teachers to improve student engagement and achievement during this new way of providing instruction. We incorporated this feedback to plan the start of the new school year with the expectation to continue Distance Learning.

You should've received communication from the Superintendent which outlines the 5 phases for reopening school. We are starting this school year in Phase 2 (Distance Learning with Student Supports).

All students will be learning five days a week and teachers will continue to deliver high quality instruction that is culturally responsive, rigorous and developmentally appropriate for all students. The first day of school for students in grades 1 – 12 is Tuesday, September 8, 2020.

Students are expected to interact live with their teachers and to independently complete assignments and projects through the school day and week. Students will be graded based on their engagement in class and turned in assignments with an A, B, C, D or No Credit. Please make sure that we have your updated contact information so we can continue to keep you informed and updated.

What you can expect from us:

1. Teachers will provide daily live and/or pre-recorded instruction in length of 10-20 minutes and the remaining class time students are expected to work independently.
2. Advisory class is offered daily and is a graded class
3. Schedules will be posted on the Franklin website
4. Teachers will be available for student's questions during their assigned class period
5. Teachers and staff will be responsive to emails
6. Students will have an online planner to better track assignments in one location
7. Support staff will follow up with students and parents if a student has not shown up for their virtual class; tutoring can also be provided
8. Open House will be conducted virtually to ensure safety for all and allow students/parents and teachers to see faces without the obstruction of a mask
9. Food distribution will continue to be available for Minneapolis students at several schools (a comprehensive list is attached, on the MPS website, FMS website and Franklin Facebook page)
10. We will communicate any changes and updates as they occur

We would like to host a Back to School opportunity for your family to connect with your child's teachers on September 3, 2020 from 4:30 PM to 6:30 PM. We will also have our family liaisons reaching out to families prior to September 3 to ensure we have proper contact information and communicate with you about access to devices for distance learning. If you have not heard from a family liaison prior to September 3 in regards to device access or updating contact information, please call the school at 612-668-2600.

# FRANKLIN MIDDLE SCHOOL

The opportunity to check in and meet your child's teachers and other staff at the Back to School event will be virtual and in the form of a Google Meet room. The access sites are listed below with which teachers will be in each of the Google Meet rooms. If you need to complete registration, or obtain or exchange your electronic device, you are welcome to do so at Franklin Middle School in a "drive through" fashion between the hours of 10:00 AM and 4:30 PM on September 3, 2020.

Please refer to Franklin's website for information regarding schools supplies and details about the "drive through" opportunity to register and obtain or exchange electronic devices for distance learning.

**6th Grade Team** - Meeting ID: [meet.google.com/xfq-xhio-jac](https://meet.google.com/xfq-xhio-jac) Phone Numbers: (US)+1 361-384-6776

PIN: [663 981 513#](tel:663981513)

Ms. Hickman (Math), Ms. Lade (Math), Ms. Garrington (ELA), Ms. Robinson (ELA), Ms. WilliamsClark (Science), Mr. Williams (Social Studies)

**7th Grade Team** - Meeting ID: [meet.google.com/moo-ikuq-nja](https://meet.google.com/moo-ikuq-nja) Phone Numbers: (US)+1 314-666-1970

PIN: [183 957 810#](tel:183957810)

Mr. Velasquez-Eberhart (Math), Ms. Buethe (Math), Ms. Rowe (ELA), Mr. Luter (ELA), Mr. Lee (Science), Mr. Daubitz (Social Studies), Mr. Milon (Social Studies)

**8th Grade Team** - Meeting ID: [meet.google.com/mhy-bczy-jae](https://meet.google.com/mhy-bczy-jae) Phone Numbers: (US)+1 402-736-0117

PIN: [245 229 098#](tel:245229098)

Ms. Harman (Math), Ms. Day (Math), Ms. Clement (ELA), Mr. Hayes (ELA), Ms. Gartzke (Science), Ms. Kestler (Science), Mr. Meyer (Social Studies)

**Specialist Team** – Meeting ID: [meet.google.com/fdt-ukpn-cjo](https://meet.google.com/fdt-ukpn-cjo) Phone Numbers: (US)+1 216-525-9642

PIN: [709 233 542#](tel:709233542)

Ms. Collins (Band), Ms. Sommers (Spanish), Ms. Strong (Visual Arts), Mr. Smith (AVID), Mr. Bratsch (Media Arts), Mr. Anderson (Media Arts Support), Mr. Contreras (Phy Ed), Ms. Singer (Reading), Ms. Krause (ELL)

**Admin & Support Staff** – Meeting ID: [meet.google.com/myu-huqi-iwa](https://meet.google.com/myu-huqi-iwa) Phone Numbers: (US)+1 336-546-5436

PIN: [639 417 345#](tel:639417345)

Ms. Roumo (TOSA), Mr. Tuttle (Literacy TOSA), Ms. Austing (Counselor), Ms. Allen (Social Work), Ms. Ericksen (Social Worker), Ms. Sorenson (Speech), Dr. Jones (Psychologist), Ms. Tauer (Nurse), Ms. Cunningham (Principal), Ms. Frye (Assistant Principal)

Please do not hesitate to share your feedback on how we can improve as this is a new experience for us all.

We will get through this together!

Sincerely,



**Karon Cunningham**  
Principal



**Heather Frye**  
Assistant Principal