



4000 Gallant Lane
Charlotte, NC 28273

July 31, 2024

Dear Kennedy Middle School Family:

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the 2024-2025 school year. For many of you, it is a welcome back and a continuation of all the exciting experiences Kennedy has to offer. For others, it is a brand-new journey filled with excitement and new opportunities. To all of you, welcome. We are committed to meeting your child's academic and social needs through a positive, safe and orderly environment. Parents often ask me how they can best support their Middle School child. Here are my top two recommendations for parents. One, monitor your child's cell phone messages, social media platforms, and screen time. Two, take 5-10 minutes every night to sit with your child and review their PowerSchool information for missing assignments and assessments.

Kennedy MS has high expectations for all students, parents and school staff. We are committed to providing a rigorous academic program along with the appropriate social support to assist your child in excelling during the middle school years. It will take all of us working together to accomplish great things at Kennedy. I am committed to open lines of communication with all members of the school community.

Your child should report to first block A-day on his/her first day, August 26.

If you are unable to login to Powerschool, schedules will be available at our open house. Student Bus assignments are available through AlphaRoute (<https://www.cmsk12.org/Page/10665>). Bus labels are no longer printed by CMS.

Open house is scheduled for Wednesday, August 21. 6th grade student open house will be from 4:30-6:00 and 7th/8th grade open house will be from 6:00-7:30. Open house is a drop in event where students can walk the building, visit classrooms, and meet teachers.

This will allow us to account for student movement and enrollment changes.

Kennedy Middle School's hours of operation are 9:15 am to 4:15 pm. Please do not drop your child off at school before 8:45 am and pick up is by 4:30 pm each day. We are a uniform school (see policy below); therefore, all students need to be in uniform on the 1st day of school. On the following pages, you will find important information about the opening of school. In addition, the 2024-2025



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Bus information is available through the CMS AlphaRoute web site (<https://www.cmsk12.org/Page/10665>). You will need to create a AlphaSystem Account. IF YOU DO NOT SEE A BUS ASSIGNMENT, YOU DID NOT COMPLETE THE CMS "INTENT TO RIDE" FORM and you must contact CMS transportation. Please have your child at the bus stop at least 15 minutes prior to pick-up time. Make sure your child knows his/her morning and afternoon bus numbers for the first day of school. It is important that our school partners with you as we work through any details related to transportation. Please be flexible with the bus schedule during the first three weeks of school while the CMS Transportation Department evaluates the bus runs. In addition, if you have moved during the summer, please make sure that you are still eligible for transportation to your assigned school. Transportation Service Request Forms, safety concerns and all other general transportation questions should be directed to CMS transportation, as Kennedy Middle School does not control transportation.

The first day of school for students is . Please anticipate heavy traffic during the first week of school. The elementary carpool line backs up to Kennedy and causes traffic



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In order for our school to maintain a safe and orderly environment, extreme and/or disruptive behavior is not acceptable at Kennedy Middle School.

_____ is available to view on the CMS website and contains rules that all students in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School System will abide by. I strongly encourage each family to review these rules together. During the first few days of school, students will receive an orientation on the Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook.

Recent studies have shown that middle school age students receive on average 80-90 notifications a day. These come from Instagram, SnapChat, Text, Email, News Alerts, ESPN and phone calls. These notifications cause a disruption in the learning environment. As a result, student cell phones must be put away during class times or turned into the teacher to be locked up. Students will have the ability to check their phones during class changes. Teachers will confiscate any cell phone that is being used during class. Repeated violations will result in parent pick-up and loss of cell privilege.



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Students cannot order food through vendor services such as DoorDash or UberEats as this creates a competition with the cafeteria and is in violation of North Carolina State Policy.

We are currently looking for parents that would be interested in serving a leadership role within PTO. Please let Ms. Goodrum know if you are interested. Be on the lookout for more information during the first few weeks of school.

Good communication between the home and the school is an important part of the educational process. The Kennedy MS web site is a great source of information. Parent Square and the Connect Ed system is the continued method of parent communication. More information will be available at open house. Please make sure we have your most up-to-date contact information (phone numbers and email address). In addition, you can follow us on Instagram @kennedy_middle.