August 7, 2018

Dear Madison Community,

I welcome you to the start of the 2018-19 school year!  I am eagerly anticipating a successful and rewarding year and I look forward to working with our dedicated staff, parents and community to provide an exceptional educational experience for Madison’s students.  At Madison, our goal is to develop creative and resilient global citizens.

Getting the school off to a great beginning starts with our traditional **Fall Kickoff Festival** on **Friday, August 24th. Please note the following events and times on August 24th:**

* 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. – New Student Orientation in the library (10th, 11th and 12th graders new to Madison)
* 3:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. – Freshmen Welcome in the auditorium (all freshmen)
* 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. – Fall Kickoff Festival in the building for all students
* 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. – County Fair in back of building (food and activities for the whole family)
* 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. – First home football game versus Marshall High School

Every year, parents are asked to complete several forms or to update specific information.  To help with this task, we compiled the Back-to-School Information links found on Madison’s website at <https://madisonhs.fcps.edu/>. FCPS items include: emergency cards, opt-out forms for Family Life Education, photographs, and health information. JMHS items include: bell schedules, parking information, PSAT forms, information on the PTSA and Athletic Boosters, etc.  In addition, hard copies of these documents will be available in Warhawk Hall during the Fall Festival on August 24th.

We are excited for a new school year and look forward to the first day of school when more than 2,230 students enter our doors.  We ask that you continue to monitor our school’s website, as well as the FCPS website, for additional information. Please also follow us on Twitter @JamesMadisonHS and if you have questions, don’t hesitate to call or e-mail.

A list and brief description of other important dates and events is provided below.

We take great pride in our accomplishments, traditions, and community.  There is no better place than Madison High School.  Get ready for an outstanding school year!

Sincerely,

Gregory S. Hood, Principal

James Madison High School

**Madison Important Dates and Events for Opening of School**

Our **bell schedule** is the same as last year.  School begins at 8:10 a.m. and ends at 2:55 p.m.  Exterior doors are unlocked at 7:30 a.m. and then locked again at 8:15 a.m. The bell schedule can be found on our homepage at [https://madisonhs.fcps.edu](https://madisonhs.fcps.edu/). The daily bell schedule, three-hour early release schedule, and two-hour delay schedule are included.

**August 16th Freshman Flight School Orientation and Parent Program:**

* **9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. – Flight School** will take place in the auditorium and throughout the building. This is an opportunity for the entire freshmen class to receive information to help them get prepared for transition to high school. A variety of lessons and information will be shared by faculty and student leaders throughout the program. Limited transportation is provided from selected elementary schools. Please see our website for detailed information. <https://madisonhs.fcps.edu/announcements/flight-school-rising-freshmen>
* **7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. – Flight School Parent Program** – this program in the auditorium is conducted by our Student Services team and is designed to help guide parents of freshmen through the “nuts and bolts’ of what to expect from their child’s freshmen year.

**August 24th Activities and Events:**

* **3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. – New Student Orientation** in the library. Students new to Madison in grades 10, 11 and 12 will receive information on Madison and the upcoming year. The Welcoming Committee and student leaders will help provide tours.
* **3:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. – Freshmen Welcome** in the auditorium. There will be a brief overview of the upcoming year, schedules and lockers will be distributed. The building will be open for exploration.
* **4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. – Fall Kickoff Festival for** **all students in** grades 9-12. This will take place inside the building. Students and parents can pick up valuable information and items to include: class schedules, PE uniforms, lockers (9th & 10th only will receive lockers before school begins), and parking permit information (for seniors **only** at this time). Students can also walk the building to find classrooms, locate their locker, and search for other key locations. Many of Madison’s clubs will share information with new and returning students. PTSA memberships, yearbooks and PSAT testing will all be available for purchase. Additionally, our Clinic will be open to receive any medications that need to be dropped off.
* **Schedules – Avoid the lines.** Beginning August 23rd all students will have access to their schedule in StudentVUE.  This will allow students to access their attendance, class performance, demographic data and course materials.  StudentVUE can be accessed at:  <https://sisstudent.fcps.edu/SVUE/Login_Student_PXP_OVR.aspx>. Students can log in using their FCPS user name and password. Students who are new to FCPS will not have access to this until school begins.
* **4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. – County Fair for all students and their families located in the back parking lot. Please come out to celebrate the start of the new school year. Food, music, face painting and a variety of activities will be available.**
* **7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. – Opening Football Game against Marshall high School**

Parking is available in the front of the school and along Flint Hill Road adjacent to Madison’s back parking area.

**August 30th is Back-to School Night:**

* The night begins with our doors opening to the community at 5:30 p.m. Teachers will begin their presentations at 6:30 p.m. and the night will end by 8:30 pm. Booths will be set up for PSAT’s, senior dues, PTSA memberships, yearbook purchases, etc.  Please consider carpooling as parking will be tight this evening.

**September 28th is Homecoming Weekend:**

* The Homecoming parade and game will be Friday, September 28th against South County High School. This is an early release day for students and dismissal will be at 12:55 p.m. The parade will begin at 2:00 p.m. and the game will start at 7:00 p.m. Homecoming Dance will be Saturday, September 29th from 9:00 pm to 11:00 pm.

**Other Important Information**

**Parking information** and applications for juniors and seniors can be found on our website at <https://madisonhs.fcps.edu/resources/parking>.  Students should follow the directions provided. A parking permit is $200.00.  Seniors will be given priority over juniors; however, we will make every effort to provide on-campus parking for all eligible students.  Only seniors will be issued parking permits before school begins.  Students are not allowed to park in a space with a “T”.  These spaces are designated for faculty and staff only.  Students may park in any other space on a first come, first served basis, aka, “open” parking.

 The PTSA will provide an **electronic directory to all Madison PTSA members**. It will be password protected and mobile friendly.” Should your family wish to opt-out of the directory you may complete an opt-out form available on Madison’s webpage or you may pick one up in the Main Office.

The **SIS Parent Account** (otherwise known as “ParentVUE”), is a secure portal for Parents to view information about student schedules, demographics, attendance, current class performance, and grade reports. Student schedule information will be available on Thursday, August 23rd.  SIS Parent Accounts also provide access to **FCPS 24-7** (also known as “Blackboard”).  FCPS 24-7 contains specific course assignments posted by teachers as well as access to **weCare**—an online tool to keep emergency and health care information current**.  Before school begins parents should log in to weCare to review and update the emergency care information we have in our system for each of your children.** Login to FCPS 24-7 using the same credentials you use for your Parent Account and look for the link to weCare.

Login page for SIS Parent Account:  [**https://sisparent.fcps.edu**](https://sisparent.fcps.edu/)

Login page for FCPS 24-7:  [**https://fcps.blackboard.com/**](https://fcps.blackboard.com/)

Additional information about weCare:   [**https://www.fcps.edu/node/30943**](https://www.fcps.edu/node/30943)

**Student Lockers** will be assigned to all 9th and 10th graders prior to the start of the school year.  11th and 12th grade students will have the opportunity to request a locker beginning on the first day of school.  This will be done during lunch periods.