May 22, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians & Students of the MAMS Class of 2020,

As we conclude week 9 of our MAMS Virtual Learning Plan and head into the unofficial first weekend of summer, I wanted to take the time to thank all of you for your hard work and commitment during these challenging times. You have entered the homestretch of your 8th grade year, and it is essential that you finish strong to ensure successful completion of your middle school years.

Below you will find information pertaining to end of year activities for the MAMS Class of 2020. Please note, the following plans have been developed under current guidelines/executive orders from our state and local officials. As these guidelines and restrictions are altered or lifted, our end of year plans may change. Please continue to monitor our website and social media platforms for up-to-date information.

“Locker Cleanout”

Due to state and local regulations, students are not permitted to enter the building at this time. The administrative team has worked closely with our front office secretarial staff and custodians to place the contents of each locker into a bag labeled with each student’s name.

The Locker Cleanout/Pickup is scheduled to commence on Monday June 8th and will conclude on Thursday June 18th. Please review the MAMS Locker Cleanout Schedule for detailed instructions regarding this process. In order to provide a safe and orderly operation, we ask that you adhere to your designated time frame and follow all guidelines outlined in this plan.

Please Note: We will be working with limited staff in order to comply with social distancing guidelines. Please take caution when entering and exiting the parking lot. We ask that you remain patient during this process as we are looking to operate in a safe and orderly fashion.

8th Grade Dance

In order to provide students with a fun end of year experience indicative of our current times, we are planning on hosting an 8th Grade “Virtual” Dance Party on Wednesday June 17th from 7:00-8:00pm.
An interest survey will be sent out to all 8th Graders on Tuesday June 2nd during their English class. Students wishing to participate in this event will receive a Google Meet Code and Password that will be sent out on Tuesday June 16th at 12:00pm. Students will need this code in order to enter into the Virtual Dance Party.

**Yearbook Distribution**

We have been notified by Jostens that there has been a delay in the shipment of our yearbooks. We will provide an update and distribution schedule in the coming days.

In an effort to continue with tradition, the Class of 2020 will participate in a “Virtual” yearbook signing on Wednesday June 17th. Period ½ teachers will be sharing a template with each student through their Google Classroom accounts. Students will be able to share their individual templates with their friends and leave each other a yearbook message. Once completed, students can print their labels and attach them into their yearbooks.

**Promotion Ceremony**

The MAMS Administrative Team has been working with district and community stakeholders to finalize a plan to celebrate our 8th grade students as they prepare to embark on the next chapter of their educational journey. As we await further guidance from the New Jersey Department of Education regarding end of year celebrations, the MAMS Team has been planning a “Virtual Promotion Ceremony” that follows the format of our traditional graduation program with the hopes that we will be permitted to also hold an in-person recognition event. As additional information regarding restrictions surrounding in-person events becomes available, we will provide an update to our plan.

The Matawan Aberdeen Middle School Class of 2020 Promotion Gowns and Tassels have arrived. The cost of the gown and tassel is $16. Checks should be made out to MAMS Student Funds and will be collected during yearbook/gown distribution. Please complete the [MAMS Class of 2020 Promotion Gown/Tassel Order Form](mailto:mamsinfo@marsd.org) by Monday June 1st to secure your gown.

Lastly, in an effort to make the virtual promotion video extra special, we are asking for parents to send in a picture of themselves holding a sign with a message to the MAMS Class of 2020. We plan to incorporate these photos at the end of the Virtual Promotion video. All pictures should be sent to mamsinfo@marsd.org by Friday June 5th.

While we continue to navigate through uncharted waters and these uncertain times, I would like to thank the entire MAMS Family for their support. I am confident that we will come out of this stronger and more resilient. As I have stated in all of my weekly updates, *We Will Get Through This Together. We Got This!!!*

**Michael C. Wells**  
Principal