Dear Parents:

October is here and students have completed their first month of school. We have some exciting things going on at Newport Mill.

- **Annual Parent Visitation (Open House).** Annual Visitation Day will also be Monday, October 9, 2017 from 8:15 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. Come visit your child’s classroom. You are welcome to visit one classroom or stay the entire day.

- **Fitness Awarded:** Newport Mill Middle School is the recipient of the National Foundation for Governors’ Fitness Councils DON’T QUIT! Fitness Center Award. Our school will receive brand new fitness equipment for our students. Please join us for a ribbon cutting ceremony on Tuesday, October 10, 2017 at 11:30 a.m.

- **Outdoor Education.** Outdoor Education for 6th graders is scheduled for October 16-20, 2017. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Baldassano.

- **myMCPS Portal for Parents and Students.** The new myMCPS Classroom portal is a 21st century digital learning environment designed to meet the needs of staff, students, and parents of MCPS! The myMCPS Parent Portal is replacing Edline as the primary home-to-school communication vehicle for schools to share information regarding grades, attendance, scheduling and more. Letters with information on how to create a myMCPS Parent Portal account have been mailed home to parents. The Parent Portal is live for secondary students and families. The Portal for elementary families will be implemented on a staggered schedule. For more information, visit [www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/mymcps-classroom/index.aspx](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/mymcps-classroom/index.aspx).

- **Registration Open for New Parent Academy Workshops.** The MCPS Parent Academy offers parents and community members the opportunity to attend free workshops that provide information, resources, tools, and tips to support their children’s success in school. Don’t miss the fall season of workshops, which will be offered on a range of topics, including college and career planning, active parenting, and cybersafety and social media. Parent Academy workshops are free. Childcare and interpretation services are provided at all sessions. A full list of courses is available online at [www.mcpsparentacademy.org](http://www.mcpsparentacademy.org).

- **Come to the World of Montgomery Festival!** The World of Montgomery Festival celebrates and displays the rich cultural heritages of Montgomery County and the Washington, D.C., area. The festival will be held Sunday, October 15, at Montgomery College’s Rockville Campus, 51 Mannakee Street in Rockville, from 12 noon to 4:00 p.m. MCPS is proud to be a partner in this year’s festival. The free event includes an international village, a global kitchen with chef demonstrations of traditional ethnic food, a craft market, a Parade of Cultures, two performance stages of traditional dance and music, connections through service, traditional arts, and fun interactive activities for the whole family. For more information, visit [www.worldofmontgomery.com](http://www.worldofmontgomery.com).

- **Walk and Bike to School on October 4!** Looking for a healthy way to start the day? Jump start it by walking or biking with your child to school! Join hundreds of students and parents in Montgomery County in celebrating International Walk to School Day on Wednesday, October 4. International Walk to School Day was founded in 1997 as a way to bring community leaders and children together to build awareness for communities to be more walkable. It is celebrated by thousands of schools across the nation and in more than 40 countries worldwide. Walking and biking to school are great ways to promote health, identify safe routes for walking and biking, and improve air quality. International Walk to School Day is a great opportunity for you to help your child learn and practice safe walking or biking skills. If you live too far from your child’s school to walk, drive part of the distance, then park and walk the rest of the way! For more information, visit [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/saferoutestoschool](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/saferoutestoschool).

- **REMINDER—Early Release on October 6, 2017.** Students dismissed at 12:30 p.m.

I look forward to seeing everyone during the Annual Visitation Day and the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.

Panagioti Tsonis
Principal
Estimados padres y guardianes:

Llegó el mes de octubre y los estudiantes han terminado el primer mes de escuela. Tenemos muchos eventos emocionantes!

♦ Jornada Anual de Puertas Abiertas para los Padres y Guardianes (Open House). Sera el día lunes, 9 de octubre de 2017, desde las 8:15 a.m. hasta las 3:00 p.m. Venga y visite las clases de su hijo. Puede visitar una clase a quedarse todo el día.

♦ Premio del Estado Físico (Fitness Award): Nuestra escuela ha recibido el premio de la Fundación Nacional del Consejo del Gobernador del Estado Físico (Fitness) NO SE RINDE! (DON'T QUIT!) La escuela recibirá equipo de fitness totalmente nuevo para nuestros estudiantes. Por favor venga y celebre con nosotros mientras cortan la cinta el día martes, 10 de octubre a la 11:30 a.m.


♦ Portal myMCPS para Padres y Estudiantes— El nuevo portal myMCPS Classroom es una plataforma de aprendizaje digital diseñada para responder a las necesidades del personal, los estudiantes y los padres de MCPS! El Portal myMCPS para los Padres reemplaza a Edline como el principal instrumento de comunicación entre el hogar y la escuela, para que las escuelas puedan compartir información relacionada con calificaciones, asistencia escolar, programación y más. Se han enviado cartas por correo a los padres con instrucciones sobre cómo crear una cuenta para acceder al Portal myMCPS para los Padres. El Portal para los Padres es en vivo para los estudiantes de las escuelas secundarias y sus familias. El Portal para familias de las escuelas elementales se implementará en un calendario escalonado. Para más información, visite www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/mymcps-classroom/index.aspx

♦ Ya Están Abiertas las Inscripciones para los Nuevos Talleres de la Academia para Padres—La Academia para Padres de MCPS ofrece a los padres y a los miembros de la comunidad la oportunidad de asistir a talleres gratuitos que proveen información, recursos, herramientas y consejos, con el fin de apoyar a sus hijos para que sean exitosos en la escuela. No se pierda los talleres de la temporada de otoño, que ofrecerán una gama de temas, incluyendo planificación para la universidad y para carreras, crianza infantil activa, y ciberseguridad en los medios sociales. Los talleres de la Academia para Padres son gratuitos. En todas las sesiones se proveen servicios de cuidado infantil e interpretación de idiomas. Se puede encontrar una lista con los talleres disponibles en www.mcpsparentacademy.org.

♦ ¡Venga al Festival del Mundo de Montgomery! El Festival del Mundo de Montgomery celebra y exhibe las ricas herencias culturales del Condado de Montgomery y del área de Washington, DC. El festival tendrá lugar el domingo, 15 de octubre, en el campus de Montgomery College en Rockville, 51 Mannakee Street, de 12 del mediodía a 4:00 p.m. MCPS se enorgullece en ser colaborador en el festival de este año. El evento es gratuito e incluye una viña internacional, una cocina global con demostraciones de comidas étnicas tradicionales preparadas por chefs, un Desfile de Culturas, dos escenarios que presentarán música y danzas tradicionales, conexiones a través de servicio, artes tradicionales y actividades interactivas y divertidas para toda la familia. Para más información, visite www.worldofformontgomery.com.

♦ ¡El día para ir a la escuela caminando y en bicicleta es el 4 de octubre! ¡Está buscando una forma sana de empezar el día? Empiece el camino e a la escuela caminando o en bicicleta con su hijo/a. Unice a cientos de estudiantes y padres de familia en el Condado de Montgomery que estarán celebrando el Día Internacional de Ir Caminando a la Escuela, el miércoles, 4 de octubre. El Día Internacional de Ir Caminando a la Escuela se fundó en 1997 como una manera de unir a los líderes de la comunidad y los niños para levantar la concienciación para que las comunidades sean lugares más seguros para caminar. Es una celebración compartida por miles de escuelas de toda la nación y en más de 40 países en todo el mundo. Ir a la escuela caminando o en bicicleta es una excelente manera de promover buena salud, identificar rutas seguras para caminar y para ir en bicicleta y mejorar la calidad del aire. El Día Internacional de Ir Caminando a la Escuela es una excelente oportunidad para que usted ayude a su hijo/a a aprender las destrezas de caminar y montar en bicicleta de manera segura. Si usted vive a una distancia que está demasiado lejos de la escuela como para ir caminando, ¡conduzca su vehículo parte del camino y luego estacione y camine el resto del camino! Para más información, visite www.montgomerycountymd.gov/saferoutestoschool.

♦ Por favor recuerde que el viernes, 6 de octubre, los estudiantes salen de la escuela a las 12:30 p.m.

Espero verlos a todos durante la Jornada de Puertas Abiertas y en la ceremonia del corte de cinta.

Panagiota Tsonis
Directora
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<td>Open House</td>
<td>National Foundation for Governors' Fitness Councils DON'T QUIT! Fitness Center Award Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, 11:30 a.m., Gym PTSA Meeting - 7:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>NMMS Softball vs. Takoma Park MS, Boys AWAY, Girls HOME, 3:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>NMMS Softball vs. Eastern MS, Boys HOME, Girls AWAY, 3:30 p.m. NMMS Cross Country vs. Eastern MS, 3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Activity Bus</td>
<td>NMMS Softball vs. Lee MS, Boys AWAY, Girls HOME, 3:30 p.m. DCC Open House, Northwood HS, 7 p.m.</td>
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## Octubre de 2017

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<td>Partido de Softball vs. Sligo MS, chicas en casa, chicas afuera, 3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Bus de Actividades</td>
<td>Salida temprana de los estudiantes – 12:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Equipo de carreras vs. Sligo MS, 3:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Ceremonia de la Fundación Nacional del Concejo Gubernamental – NO SE RINDA (DON'T QUIT) – Se cortará la cinta para la apertura del nuevo centro de gimnasia, 1:30 p.m. en el gimnasio</td>
<td>Bus de Actividades</td>
<td>Partido de Softball vs. Takoma Park MS, chicas afuera, chicas en casa, 3:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Reunión del PTSA – 7:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Equipo de carreras vs. Takoma Park MS, 3:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Partido de Softball vs. Eastern MS, chicas en casa, chicas afuera, 3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Bus de Actividades</td>
<td>Partido de softball vs. Lee MS, chicas afuera, chicas en casa, 3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Día profesional para profesores – no hay clases para los estudiantes</td>
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<td>Equipo de carreras vs. Eastern MS, 3:30 p.m.</td>
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**Nota:** Los horarios y detalles específicos pueden variar.
### NOVEMBER 2017

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<td>PTSA Meeting, 7:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Junior Achievement Parent Meeting 8:20 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Early Release - students dismissed at 12:30 p.m.</td>
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Annual Parent Visitation Day (Open House)

Newport Mill Middle School

Monday, October 9, 2017
8:15 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

- Come and visit your child’s classes
- School is open with a regular schedule
- Check in and reception will be in Room 100.
- Student schedules will be available in Room 100.

*Join Newport Mill Middle School for the National Foundation for Governors’ Fitness Council “Don’t QUIT” Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on October 10 from 11:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m. in the Gymnasium*

NEWPORT MILL MIDDLE SCHOOL VISION AND MISSION

The vision of NMMS, an International Baccalaureate World School, is to inspire and nurture socially active, compassionate, respectful and intercultural life-long learners.

The mission of NMMS is to provide an educational experience that uses STEM-centric teaching and learning to produce highly successful communicators (readers, writers, listeners, and speakers) and problem-solvers who gain intercultural understanding and respect by addressing real world problems through authentic assessment.

INSTRUCTIONAL FOCUS

100 percent of our students need all staff to build positive and nurturing relationships with students and provide consistent opportunities for critical thinking through lessons that engage students in argumentative reasoning and academic communication.

ACADEMIC FOCUS

Newport Mill Middle School develops Interdisciplinary Writing Assessments to ensure that the Middle Years Programme (MYP) and the STEM-centric approach to teaching and learning are implemented in classrooms. Teachers utilize the Middle Years Programme Template—Goal, Role, Audience, Situation, Product/Performance, and Standards and Success (GRASPS)—to develop and implement these writing assessments. Interdisciplinary Writing Assessments make connections between two or more content areas (STEM-centric). Students are asked to use various texts across disciplines to support arguments, points of view, or provide explanations in the development of a written product (Disciplinary Literacy). Assessments are developed to challenge students’ thinking by asking questions such as “How, Describe, Why, and Explain,” and to provide students with the opportunity to engage in rigorous communication through small-group discussion, student reflection, and self-assessment. Students also have the opportunity to synthesize or evaluate various texts and points of view.
Jornada Anual de Puertas Abiertas

Escuela Intermedia Newport Mill

Lunes, 9 de octubre de 2017
8:15 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

- Venga y visite las clases de su hijo
- El horario de la escuela es el horario regular
- Pase por la oficina y registrese. Tendremos una recepción en el salón de conferencia número 100
- Podrá obtener una copia del horario de su hijo en el salón de conferencia número 100.

*Comparta con nosotros en la Ceremonia de la Fundación Nacional del Concejo Gubernamental – NO SE RINDA (DON’T QUIT) – Se cortará la cinta para la apertura del nuevo centro de gimnasia el 10 de octubre, desde las 11:30 hasta las 12:30 p.m. en el gimnasio.

Visión y Misión de Newport Mill

La visión de NMMS, un colegio internacional del mundo (IB), es el de inspirar y nutrir socialmente a nuestros aprendices a que sean activos, compasivos, respetuosos e interculturales.

La misión de NMMS es la de proveer una experiencia educacional que use el sistema STEM (Ciencias, Tecnología, e Ingeniería) para la enseñanza y aprendizaje y así producir comunicadores (lectores, escritores, escuchadores y oradores) altamente exitosos, así como solucionadores de problemas que obtengan un entendimiento y respeto intercultural al enfrentar problemas reales del mundo a través de evaluaciones auténticas.

Enfoque de Instrucción

Cien por ciento de nuestros estudiantes necesitan que todo el personal de la escuela construya una relación positiva con los estudiantes y proveen oportunidades de pensamiento crítico a través de lecciones que involucren a los estudiantes a tener un razonamiento argumentativo y una comunicación académica.

Enfoque Académico

NMMS desarrolla Evaluaciones de Escritura Interdisciplinarias para asegurarse que el Programa de los Años Intermedio (MYP) y el sistema STEM sean implementados en las clases.
Parent Conferences

Thursday, November 9
3:30 p.m.—8:30 p.m.

NO CONFERENCES FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Please stop by for a parent–teacher conference. No appointment will be necessary. Teachers will be in the gymnasium and will be available on a first come basis. This is a great opportunity for you to review your child’s progress at Newport Mill Middle School. You can see a specific teacher or all of your child’s teachers. If you are unable to attend parent-teacher conferences, you may contact the individual teacher or counselor to set up a conference.

Your Newport Mill Middle School child is encouraged to attend with you.

PLEASE NOTE:
- No Parent Conferences on Friday, November 10
- Students will receive report cards Wednesday, November 22
- Students will be dismissed at 12:30 pm:
  Thursday, November 9 and Friday, November 10
Conferencias de Padres con los Maestros

Jueves, 9 de noviembre
3:30 p.m.—8:30 p.m.

No hay conferencias el viernes, 10 de noviembre

Por favor venga para que se reúna con el maestro de su hijo/a. No es necesario tener una cita. Todos los profesores estarán en el gimnasio y estarán disponibles a medida que los padres vayan llegando. Esta es una gran oportunidad para que usted hable con los maestros sobre el progreso de su hijo/a. Puede hablar específicamente con un maestro o con todos. Si usted no puede asistir a estas conferencias, puede comunicarse directamente con el profesor o consejero para hacer una cita.

Le recomendamos que venga con su hijo que estudia en la escuela

POR FAVOR TOME NOTA:
- No habrán conferencias el día viernes, 10 de noviembre
- Los estudiantes recibirán su libreta de calificaciones el miércoles, 22 de noviembre
- Los estudiantes saldrán de la escuela a las 12:30 los días jueves 9 de noviembre y viernes 10 de noviembre
Most Likely to Succeed Screening

Date: October 10: 7pm
Location: Hallie Wells Middle School: 11701 Little Seneca Parkway, Clarksburg MD 20871

$5 Admission

From Director Greg Whiteley (Last Chance U, Mitt.) and Executive Producer Ted Dintersmith—a thought-provoking documentary feature film that explores compelling new approaches that aim to revolutionize education as we know it, inspiring school communities to re-imagine what students and teachers are capable of doing. Watch Trailer

Audience: As this film is a documentary, it is not recommended for young children.

Reserve a seat at will call by clicking here.

Most Likely To Succeed

Most Likely to Succeed (MLTS) offers an inspiring look at what students and teachers are capable of — creating the vision and courage to transform our schools. Directed by acclaimed documentarian Greg Whiteley, the film has been an official selection of two dozen of the world’s top film festivals, including Sundance, Tribeca, AFI, Cleveland, Dallas, Milwaukee, Sarasota, Seattle, Virginia, and Bergen. It has been featured at leading conferences on education, including ASU/GSV, SXSWedu, Harvard/Goldman Sachs, and NewSchools Venture Fund. Audience members call it the most compelling film ever done on the topic of school.
Hints for homework

Amy has her evening planned. She'll do her math homework before dinner, then follow up dessert with English and science. Afterward, she can unwind from a busy day. Sound impossible? It's not. Help your middle grader make homework go like clockwork with these strategies.

Think it through

Before your youngster begins, have her make a to-do list. Example: Write a poem, read a history chapter, solve 10 math problems. Then, suggest that she number the tasks, from toughest to easiest, and start with the hard stuff. This “save the easiest for last” strategy will help her finish on a high note, perhaps inspiring her to get in some extra studying.

Think about time

Ask your child to consider different time slots she can use to get work done. For instance, maybe she could set aside a weekend morning or Sunday night.

Also, some middle graders have time during study period or after lunch to tackle homework. Encourage your child to complete one assignment at school each day. The more she does then, the more time she'll have for fun later.

Think positive

Help your middle grader see homework as a chance to prove her independence by getting her work done on time and doing it by herself. Boost her confidence by telling her, “Homework gives you a chance to show all that you know.” And give her a thumbs-up when she does just that.

Be there!

Being in school all day, every day, helps your child get the most out of middle school. Encourage good attendance with these ideas:

- Point out that there is no substitute for being in class. Your youngster needs to be present to hear teachers explain concepts, to participate in group projects and class discussions, and to ask questions.
- Schedule doctor, dentist, and orthodontist appointments for before or after school hours whenever possible. If you can't, try to arrange them for lunchtime.
- It will be easier for your child to get up on time for school if he has had at least nine hours of sleep. Set a reasonable bedtime, and make sure he puts away electronic devices so he isn't tempted to stay awake to read messages or play games.
Emotions in the middle

Moody, private, self-conscious... if this sounds like your tween, you're not alone. At this age, his body and emotions are changing rapidly. Here are ways to help him cope.

Managing moods. Physical growth and worries about friends, sports, and schoolwork can cause moodiness. Let your child know you're available to talk. A quiet statement, such as "I remember what it feels like not to be asked to join a team," can invite him to open up about what's bothering him.

Finding privacy. It's natural for your middle grader to want some time to himself. He might close his bedroom door or walk outside to take a phone call, for example. Show him that you respect his growing need for privacy by giving him space.

Fitting in. Many middle graders feel self-conscious. Being part of a group of people who share his interests can help your youngster focus on his strengths and feel more confident. Encourage him to participate in at least one activity, perhaps basketball, student government, or math club.

Prepared for standardized tests

Does your middle schooler have state tests coming up? Review these tips before testing begins:

1. Knowing how to approach different kinds of questions will help her score higher. For instance, on multiple-choice sections, she could cover up the answers while she reads the question. If the answer she thought of is listed and the other options don't make more sense, she can be pretty confident she's right.

2. Have your child find out whether she'll lose points for wrong answers. If not, it's best to guess. Also, if scrap paper is allowed, she can use it to work out problems and to keep her place on the answer sheet.

Parent to Parent

More nonfiction reading

My son, Kevin, reads mostly fiction, but his language arts teacher said the class will read lots of nonfiction this year. The reason, she said, is to prepare students for high school, college, and careers, where informational text is important.

The teacher suggested a few ways to help at home. First, she said, we could leave the newspaper out and mention articles about topics that affect him. For instance, I pointed out stories on road construction where he rides his bike and on festivals we might attend.

Also, the teacher said to encourage our son to read nonfiction books about things he's interested in. The next time I went to the library, I brought home books about car racing and a biography of one of Kevin's favorite drivers. I was happy to see him reading one rather than watching TV the other night! He even asked to go to the library to get a book about another driver. And when we were there, he picked up a few books on speed records and breaking the sound barrier.

Bully-proof your child

Q I've heard bullying peaks in middle school. How can I make sure my daughter isn't a target?

A There is no way to guarantee a child will never be bullied. But there are things you can do to help.

Since bullies are less likely to pick on someone who has friends, encourage her to get to know other students. Suggest that she join a club, and have her invite classmates over. Not only is there safety in numbers, but having friends will build her self-esteem, which in turn can discourage bullies from targeting her.

Also, talk to your daughter about bullying. Tell her that if she is bullied or sees someone else being bullied, she should seek help immediately from an adult, whether it's you, a teacher, an administrator, or a coach. Let her know that she's not expected to handle this problem alone.
What do I do if my child is sick, late or needs to leave school early?

- If your child is sick, you can send an email to Elizabeth.A.Lamac@mcpsmd.org our attendance secretary. Your email must include the following information: parent/guardian email address and phone number, child’s full name, date of absence and reason for absence.
  - Note: if you would like to get school work for your child while they are out sick, on the third day of absence contact the Counseling Office (301-929-2272) and they will coordinate with your child’s teachers.

- Late: Give your child a signed note saying why they are late, and tell them to bring it to the Main Office so they can sign into school. The office will give them a pass to class.

- Early Departure: To avoid disruption of instruction, give your child a signed note with the time they need to be dismissed and tell them to bring it to the Main Office before school. When picking up your child, please go to the Main Office to show your Identification and sign them out.

- In order to maximize instructional time, please refrain from pick your child up after 2:30 pm, as it disrupts dismissal. If you must pick up your child, please send a signed note and tell your student to bring to main office.
¿Qué tengo que hacer si mi hijo está enfermo, llega tarde o necesita salir temprano?

- Si su hijo está enfermo, usted puede enviar un correo electrónico a la secretaria de asistencia, Elizabeth.A.Lamac@mcpsmd.org. Este correo electrónico debe incluir la siguiente información: correo electrónico y número de teléfono del padre o guardián, el nombre completo del estudiante, la fecha en que va a estar ausente y la razón.
  
  - Nota: si su hijo está enfermo por más de tres días, usted puede obtener las tareas de su hijo llamando a la oficina de consejería (301-929-2272); los consejeros coordinarán con los profesores de su hijo.

- Si su hijo llega tarde: por favor envíe una nota con su hijo indicando la razón por la cual está llegando tarde. Esta nota la debe entregar a la secretaria de asistencia en la oficina principal y el estudiante recibirá un pase para ir a clase.

- Si su hijo necesita salir temprano: para evitar la interrupción al programa académico, por favor envíe una nota con su hijo indicando la hora en la que necesita salir. Esta nota la debe entregar a la secretaria de asistencia en la oficina principal antes de ir a las clases; la secretaria de asistencia le dará un pase a su hijo para que pueda salir temprano. Cuando usted recoja a su hijo, por favor entre a la oficina para mostrar su identificación e indicar que su hijo está saliendo temprano.

- Para maximizar el horario de instrucción académica, por favor evite el recoger a su hijo después de las 2:30 de la tarde ya que esto interrumpe la salida de los estudiantes. Si usted debe hacerlo, por favor envíe una nota para que su hijo la entregue a la secretaria de asistencia.