



August 19, 2024

Dear Students and Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to the 2024-25 school year. We are excited to see all of you again. Our first day of school is next week on Thursday, August 29. Staff have been busy getting ready for all of us to have another great year here at FHMS, home of the Tigers.....

We have a new face and voice in our front office this year. Kathryn (Katie) Leed will be our new office manager this year taking over for Binney Haenel who retired at the end of last year. Katie is very excited to meet everyone and has been working hard to get acquainted to the new position.

Here are some school related items for the start of the year:

- School Supply lists and other school information are available at: <https://www.sjisd.wednet.edu/Domain/283>
- Returning 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students can access their schedules in Skyward by the end of this week. **On the first day of school 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will pick up their lock** from last year and select their locker. Returning 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students do not need to purchase a new lock this year unless they did not turn one in at the end of last year. New locks cost \$8 if a student does need one.
- **6<sup>th</sup> grade students** will be able to pick up their schedules and new chrome book computer at our **6<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation on Wednesday, August 28 from 1:00p to 2:00p**. We will have more information about picking up new computers coming. Sixth grade students will also be able to purchase **locks for \$8** (students must use a school lock for safety reasons) and select their lockers at this time. Teachers will be available during Orientation, and you will be able to view the classrooms you will be attending. If you are not able to make the Orientation, you can buy your lock and pick your locker on your first day of school. Schedules will also be available from your Skyward account for 6<sup>th</sup> grade students by the end of the week.
- Information about the **Skyward Platform** can be found here: <https://www.sjisd.wednet.edu/domain/527>
- **COVID Protocols** will be similar to the ones we used last year. Please check our District Website at: <https://www.sjisd.wednet.edu/domain/347> for the most up to date information.
- First practice for girls MS Volleyball will be on 9/3. Mr. McKinnon will hold informational meetings at lunch on 8/29 & 30. You will need a sports physical to participate.
- There are key dates for the start of the year listed at the end of this letter.

We will be in our second year of offering a homeroom class for our students. We have adjusted this a little as we look to support student learning in the best way possible. Homeroom will be 30 minutes this year and will be taught by grade level teachers instead of advisory teachers as we did last year. (A teacher that teaches 8<sup>th</sup> grade Core classes, will have 8<sup>th</sup> grade students in their homeroom). Again, we hope these changes will continue to improve upon our efforts to support student learning.

Returning again this year will be our early release Wednesday's and the first one will occur on 9/4. As a reminder, school will be dismissed at 1:40 on these days. A complete list of these days are displayed in yellow on the school academic calendar which can be accessed here: <https://www.sjisd.wednet.edu/domain/85>

Again, welcome to the new school year. We are excited to get going. We will see you here on August 29, at 8:10am. **GO TIGERS!!**

Sincerely,

Rod Turnbull  
Principal

#### **Key Dates for September and October**

- **8/28 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation 1:00p – 2:00p**
- **8/29 First Day of School**
- **9/2 Labor Day Holiday (No School)**
- **9/3 MS Volleyball Begins**
- **9/4 First Early Dismissal Wednesday (School Dismissed at 1:40)**
- **9/10 Picture Day**
- **9/10 MS Back to School Night 5:30**
- **10/16 MS Picture Re-Takes**
- **10/18,19 & 20 Half Days Early Release at 11:20 for Student Conferences**