



Azalea Gardens Middle School



Principal Message

Blast into Reading and Writing!

Principal Message Rocket Reader Update

September 21, 2020

Azalea Gardens Middle School Instructional Focus

The instructional focus of Azalea Gardens Middle School is for all students to show measurable growth in *reading, writing, and learning for excellence* through the implementation of a school wide focus on *reading and writing across the content areas* as measured by SOL scores, a common writing rubric, and STAR reading.

Coffee with the Principal: This school year has brought lot of change and challenge for us all. However, AGMS has always risen to challenges with excellence. We are in this together! Still, we know there are many questions. Some we may have answers to, some we may need to find answers, and still others we may need to work out together. Parents are welcome to join the principal and other members of our leadership team for *Coffee with the Principal*, a Q and A presentation, via Zoom, on Thursday, September 24th at 6pm or on Friday, September 25th at 10am.

Instrument Distribution: Attention Band and Orchestra Families: 7th and 8th grade students will pick up their instruments this week. Please make sure you have filled out the online Lease & Loan Agreement Form that has been sent to both students and parents/guardians. No instrument will be issued without it. There will also be hard copies available in-person during the designated times. At the instrument distribution, you will receive instruments, instrument accessories, and a method book.

You will enter through the front doors and exit through the doors located by the band room. We will be following COVID-19 guidelines such as wearing masks and staying 6-feet apart. Here is the schedule:

- **8th Grade:** Monday, September 21, 2020 @ 3:00pm-5:00pm - AGMS
- **7th Grade:** Tuesday, September 22, 2020 @ 3:00pm-5:00pm - AGMS
- **7/8 Grade Make-Up Day:** Wednesday, September 23, 2020 @ 3:00pm-4:15pm
- **7/8 Grade Make-Up Day:** Thursday, September 24, 2020 @ 3:00pm-4:15pm

School Counseling Notification: All parents and families are asked to please visit our School Counseling page on the AGMS website for a letter that details all of the excellent work done by our School Counseling Team. You can also find your school counselor's name and email address on our staff directory. Because we respect and treasure the vast diversity that our community brings to us at AGMS, we know that not everything is right for everybody. As such, after you review the letter, if you do not wish for your child to participate in School Counseling services, please email me and Ms. Spence, Counseling Chairperson, to let us know in writing. You will see that the letter is directly from our Superintendent, Dr. Sharon Byrdsong.

Open House Recap: We would like to thank all of the students, parents, and teachers for making our first Virtual Open House a success! All told, we had over 500 visitations to our Zoom sessions. Parents had the opportunity to meet teachers and see exactly what a Zoom class is like. The evening was testament to our community and that we will not stop at anything to make sure our students are safe and learning. Way to go AGMS Community!

Office Hours: The office is now open from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Walk-ins are accepted and appointments are no longer required. You may also call 531-3000 during these hours as well. Or you can email myself or the assistant principal, Mrs. Frank.

Dr Kirk, Principal: jmkirk@nps.k12.va.us

Mrs. Frank, Assistant Principal: lfrank@nps.k12.va.us

Face Coverings: Face coverings are required to enter the building and are to cover the nose and mouth at all times while in the building. Parents, please help us out with this mandatory requirement.

This information and more can be found on the AGMS website. You can also follow us on Instagram and Twitter #AGMSRockets. Stay connected, stay informed, and please stay safe, healthy, and remember as always ...

Go.....Rockets!