



August, 2019



## Grice Middle School Parent Newsletter

**Grice Middle School....Pride + Spirit = Excellence**

**Follow us on Twitter@grice\_htsd**

Dear Students/Parents/Guardians:

I am extremely excited to welcome you all to Grice Middle School for another great year filled with learning, fun and opportunities. My motto is "work hard, play hard."

Students, work hard by continuing to strive for academic success, school spirit, proper behavior and good attendance. Play hard by being rewarded for your efforts with pep rallies, prizes and events sponsored by our school's Renaissance Program.

Parents, I strongly recommend you monitor your child's progress through our district's PowerSchool Program. Encourage your children to perform to the best of their ability. You may visit the PowerSchool program now to begin entering emergency contacts. Just click back Back-to-School information.

The State of New Jersey describes chronic absenteeism as any student who is absent for 18 days or more. School attendance is a requirement by law; more importantly, regular attendance is critical for our young students to learn. Please discuss the importance of attendance with your child, refrain from planning vacation during the school year, and try to schedule doctors' appointments for weekends or evenings. If you need to schedule a doctor's appointment during the school day, please minimize the time out of school by having your child start the day with us and returning to school as soon as the appointment is over.

Please encourage your child to make use of the Student Handbook which will be distributed the first week of school. We also recommend that you purchase the following calculators: 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students – TI-108, or any four function calculator; 8<sup>th</sup> grade students TI-34. These calculators will be used in math class and on state testing.

Our school year begins with a one-session day on Wednesday, September 4<sup>th</sup> with dismissal at 12:45 p.m. Our first full day of school will be Thursday, September 5<sup>th</sup>. Your child's homeroom and bus pass can be found on PowerSchool on August 30, 2019, after 3:00pm.

I look forward to an exciting school year with you and your children. Please remember to join the Grice PTA to assist in providing our students with events, activities, and support throughout the school year. In the meantime, enjoy the remainder of your summer vacation.

Sincerely yours,



## Homeroom Assignment 2019-2020

**Find your child's homeroom in PowerSchool on August 30th. PowerSchool Parent Portal is currently open for parents to start completing student information.**



Our school day begins at 8:25 a.m. and ends at 3:00 p.m. Students are expected to promptly leave the building at dismissal to board their bus or walk home. Students are not permitted to remain after school unless they are involved in an activity supervised by a staff member.

### Reminder to Students

- Always have your bus pass readily available.
- Only use the locker which has been assigned to you.

### Reminder to Parents

1. Visit our website at: <http://www.hamilton.k12.nj.us>
2. To ensure your child's safety, the bus loop will be closed from 8:00 – 8:30 a.m. and 2:45 – 3:15 p.m. daily. Please pick-up/drop off using the main street in front of the building.
3. To avoid being issued a ticket by the Police, please do not park in the bus loop at any time.

## Safety in Our Schools

The safety of our children and staff remains the number one priority at Grice Middle School. Students excel in a safe, nurturing environment and consistently perform better in school when there is a feeling of safety surrounding them.

Grice Middle School will practice two safety drills per month. One will be a fire drill in which all students and staff will evacuate the building upon the sounding of the fire alarm. The second drill will be one of the following:

- 1 - Active shooter
- 2 - Evacuation (non-fire)
- 3 - Bomb threat
- 4 - Lockdown
- 5 - Shelter-in-place
- 6 - Reverse evacuation
- 7 - Evacuation to relocation site (Hamilton Township Public Library)
- 8 - Testing of school's notification and communication systems
- 9 - Tabletop exercise
- 10 - Full scale exercise

Information regarding school security drills may



**Share your child's accomplishments  
and they will be recognized by  
Principal Innocenzi**

Student's Name:

Parent's Name:

Good News:

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\*Information can be submitted to the Main Office.

## Counselor's Corner

Middle School is a time of growth and change. Our Guidance Counselors are here to offer support to students in areas such as friendships, communication, social skills, divorced and/or separated parents, loss/grief, etc. If you would like more information, please contact the Guidance Office at 631-4100 x3504.

**2019-2020  
District Meal Pricing**  
Lunch - \$3.05  
Breakfast - \$1.40



## School Pictures

Your child's picture will be taken on September 12<sup>th</sup> or 13<sup>th</sup> by Lifetouch Photography (make-ups: November 12<sup>th</sup>)  
Your child can bring their completed picture form and payment directly to the photographer or submit online at [mylifetouch.com](http://mylifetouch.com) ID: WM119243Y0



It is important that you instruct your child not to use their cell phone during the day. If a student uses a cell phone, it will be confiscated. It is in your child's best interest that only school personnel contact you with any issues that may arise. This includes our school nurse, guidance counselors, teachers and administrators. We appreciate your cooperation.

### 9 PERIOD FULL DAY

Period	Minutes	
HR	8:25 - 8:32	7
1	8:35 - 9:15	40
2	9:18 - 9:58	40
3	10:01 - 10:41	40
4	10:44 - 11:24	40 A Lunch
5	11:27 - 12:07	40 B Lunch
6	12:10 - 12:50	40 C Lunch
7	12:53 - 1:33	40
8	1:36 - 2:16	40
9	2:19 - 3:00	41

\*ELA and Math will be a double period every day. Social Studies and Science will be a double period every day Semester I or Semester II.



In order to enhance our school's security, all exterior doors will be locked at the beginning of each school day. If you need to visit the school, please ring the front doorbell and state the reason for your visit. Upon entering, report to the main office with a picture ID for assistance. Parents and non-personnel are not permitted to wander our halls. There are two uniformed Security Officers and a Hamilton Township Police Officer to enforce this rule.

## Upcoming Events

**Sept. 4<sup>th</sup> - First Day of School - One Session Day**

**Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> Lifetouch Pictures**

**Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> - Back-to-School Night**

**Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> - Back-to-School Dance**

**Oct. 9<sup>th</sup> - School Closed (Fall Recess)**

**Oct. 14<sup>th</sup> - School Closed (Students Only)**

**Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> - Halloween Dance**

### PTA News

The Grice Middle School PTA is looking forward to welcoming you to our school! Please join us at our first meeting on Thursday, September 12th at 6:00 p.m. in the Grice Media Center. Keep an eye out for your welcome folder, which students will bring home on the first day of school. Lots of important information can be found in this folder, including PTA Membership information (our dues are just \$7.00 per person) and ways for you to get involved in our school. Be sure to follow "Grice Middle School - PTA" on Facebook. Enjoy the rest of your summer; see you in September.

### Nurse's Nook

This is a reminder to incoming 6<sup>th</sup> grade parents, that state law requires all students entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade to receive a Tdap booster shot and the meningococcal vaccine. If you did not provide a copy of your child's current immunization record to their elementary school, you must submit a copy with proof that these immunizations were received to the Grice Middle School nurse by the first day of school.

If your child has not yet turned age 11, you must provide a note from their doctor including an appointment date in which these immunizations will be given. If the nurse does not receive this information by the first week of school, your child will not be able to attend school until it has been received. These records can be dropped off to the main office over the summer.

If your child needs medication to be administered during the school year, a current Medication Authorization Form must be filled out by the doctor and signed by the parent. Students with asthma and food allergies must provide a Food Allergy Action Plan or Asthma Action Plan. If you would like your child to carry their own inhaler or EpiPen, a Self-Carry Form must be filled out and signed by the parent. No medications should be in school without this documentation. Blank forms can be found on the Grice website under the My Resources section of the Nurse's webpage. If you have any questions or special health concerns that you would like to discuss, please contact the school nurse, Mrs. Savoy, at (609) 631-4100 ext. 3524 during the school year.

## Save the Date Grice Middle School's



College and  
Career Readiness  
Fair

**November 14, 2019**

**Family Fun, Dinner  
& Prizes**

Hispanic  
Heritage Month  
September 15-October 15



Coming Soon...  
Hispanic Heritage Night  
Information

Food, Performances &  
Presentations

**ALL Grice Middle School families are  
invited!!**



# DREAM, BELIEVE, ACHIEVE!

The Renaissance program at Grice is a school-wide motivational and building culture initiative that is available to all students. This year's theme of "DREAM, BELIEVE, ACHIEVE" will feature motivational quotes and images to inspire our students to do their best in all aspects of their educational growth.

Each marking period, students will receive small incentive cards based on their overall marking period performance, attendance and behavior. The incentive card breakdown is as follows from highest to lowest:

**PINK CARD - GRADES: A's ABSENCES: 0-2 DISCIPLINE INFRACTIONS: 0**

**GREEN CARD - GRADES: A's and B's ABSENCES: 3 DISCIPLINE INFRACTIONS: 0-1**

**YELLOW CARD - GRADES: A's, B's, and C's ABSENCES: 4 DISCIPLINE INFRACTIONS: 2**

**ORANGE CARD - GRADES: A's, B's, C's and D's ABSENCES: 5 or more DISCIPLINE INFRACTIONS: 3 or more**

**BLUE CARD - Starter card for all new 6<sup>th</sup> grade students and newly enrolling students to our school**

During each school year we will hold several special events for all students to participate in like our school-wide rallies. We look forward to an exciting new school year!



# GRICE MIDDLE SCHOOL PTA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

School is in session...don't forget to get your 2019-2020 Grice PTA Membership card

What are the benefits of joining the Grice PTA?

- Help your child's school and community
- Admittance to monthly PTA meetings (where you can take part in decisions that make a difference in the lives of the children & hear from the teachers & administration about what's going on in our school.)
- An increase in PTA membership means having to do less fundraisers
- Meet LOTS of great people and have fun!!

Joining the PTA only costs \$7 per member (\$4 goes to the State & National dues)

It only takes a moment to join. It is not the amount of time you can contribute that's most important, but rather your commitment to help the PTA make a difference in the lives of our children!

Please fill out the bottom section of this form, enclose payment (checks payable to Grice PTA), place in a sealed envelope marked "PTA Membership" and send it to school with your child to give to their homeroom teacher. We will get you signed up ASAP!

Be sure to like us on FaceBook, Instagram & Twitter!

Suggestions?? Questions?? Contact us via email at [gricepta@gmail.com](mailto:gricepta@gmail.com)

Please print legibly:

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Homeroom: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Info (It is \$7 per member & you will need an email address for each individual membership.):

<u>Name</u>	<u>Email</u>	<u>Phone</u>

Please check here if you DO NOT wish to receive emails from [gricepta@gmail.com](mailto:gricepta@gmail.com).