

August 2022

Dear Mercy Families,

As interim principal at Mercy it is an honor to welcome you to the 2022-2023 school year! I am excited to have your daughters back in our classrooms and hallways, filling them with energy and enthusiasm for learning and life. I look forward to partnering with you this year on your daughter's educational journey!

The information below and the [Back to School Packet](#) on Mercy's Student-Parent Portal will be a guide for you and your daughters as you navigate the 2022-2023 school year together.

- Visit the [Back to School Packet](#) page to gather information from our nurse, Counseling staff, Parents Association, lunch program, supply lists, and more.
- **The first days of school** are as follow:
 - Grades 6-8 first report Wednesday, September 7 at 7:45 a.m.
 - No school for Grades 9-12
 - Grade 9 first reports Thursday, September 8 at 7:45 a.m.
 - Grades 6-9 in school; no school for Grades 10-12
 - Grades 10-12 first report Friday, September 9 at 7:45 a.m.
 - All grades in school
 - Students report directly to homeroom; homeroom lists will be posted in the halls in addition to being included on their schedule.
 - Students in AP courses will attend in-person AP classes on an altered schedule on September 7 and/or 8:
 - September 7:
 - Period 2: 8:00-9:25 a.m.
 - Period 4: 9:30-10:55 a.m.
 - Period 6/6L: 11:00-12:25 p.m.
 - Period 8/8L: 12:30-1:55 p.m.
 - September 8:
 - Period 3: 8:00-9:25 a.m.
 - Period 5: 9:30-10:55 a.m.
 - Period 7/7L: 11:00-12:25 p.m.
 - Period 9/9L: 12:30-1:55 p.m.
 - Students must be in uniform.
- **New Student Orientations:**
 - Grade 9 *New to Mercy Student Orientation* is Wednesday, August 31 from 8 to 10 a.m. District bus transportation will NOT be provided.
 - Grades 10-12 *New to Mercy Student Orientation* is Wednesday, August 31 from 8 to 10 a.m. District bus transportation will NOT be provided.
 - Grades 6-8 *New Student Orientation* is folded into the first day of school.
 - Report to the Gallery upon arrival.
 - Wear comfortable clothes! Uniforms are not required.
- ***New to Mercy Parent Orientation for all grades 6-12*** - Wednesday, August 31 from 8 to 10:00 a.m.

- **Welcome Back Family Ice Cream Social** - Thursday, September 1 from 6 to 8 p.m.
 - Join the families of the Mercy community to reconnect with friends, make new ones, and celebrate our return to school! Please let us know if you plan to attend; [RSVP](#) here.
- **Student Agendas** will be distributed in homeroom.
- The [Academic Calendar](#) is maintained online.
- The **Student Handbook** will be posted on-line. Students will be reviewing this the first full week of school during Advisement. All parents/guardians will be required to sign off on a review of the handbook on [MercyLINK](#) before the start of school, indicating that they have read and agree to the policies set forth in the Handbook.
- **Forms for parent signature**, including our *Technology Use Policy* and *Agreement to the Policies* contained in the Student Handbook, are available in [MercyLINK](#). All forms should be reviewed and signed no later than September 9, 2022.
 - After logging into MercyLINK, click your child's name in the top-left. Use the *Checklist* tab to access your student's back-to-school signature requirements. You can also click the top yellow bar when you log in to view forms for completion and signature.
- **Nurse and Health Information:**
 - All new students (grades 6-12) and any returning student in grades 7, 9, and 11 are required to submit proof of a **current health physical** (dated on or after September 1, 2021) to the nurse. Students who have been referred to the Committee on Special Education (CSE) are also required to submit a current health physical. Health appraisal forms and detailed requirements can be found on the [Nurse's page](#).
 - NYS Immunization requirements, permission for medication use, and independent medication carry forms can also be found on the [Nurse's page](#).
- Students who wish to **participate in fall sports** should review the [fall sports timeline](#) on the Mercy athletics website. Registration for athletics will now be completed digitally using Family ID. To create a Family ID account and register for fall athletic participation please visit <https://account.familyid.com/>. Seventh and 8th grade students who wish to try out for JV and/or Varsity-level participation are required to complete the NYS Athletic Placement Process (APP). For more information on the APP, please contact the [Mercy Athletics Office](#). Modified sports will begin with informational meetings for students after the first day of school on September 8. Practices will begin the following day, September 9 after school. Anthony Yandek, Athletic Director, ayandek@mercyhs.com, can answer any additional questions.
- **Surface Pro, Chromebook, and Textbook Distribution**
 - **High School Device Pickup** will take place between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. Monday – Thursday in the Library Media Center
 - July 5 to August 31: AP Students
 - August 8-12: Grade 12
 - August 15-19: Grade 11
 - August 22-26: Grade 10
 - September 8: Grade 9 Orientation will include device pickup and training
 - New to Mercy Students (grades 10-12) will receive devices during orientation on August 31.
 - **Middle School Device Pickup:** No separate pickups; their devices will be distributed during homeroom on their first day.
 - **Textbook Distribution** will take place the first week of school.
- The **Bookstore** is open [online](#) 24/7, and open for in-person shopping from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. August 23 through 25.

- Stitchworks on Culver Parkway carries all uniform items with the exception of the sweatshirt, blazer, and new uniform-approved sweater. You can order uniform tops online at the Mercy Bookstore for a late August pick-up or stop by during our summer hours.
- Oval **OLM car decals** are available in the Main Office. Show your Mercy pride!

It is truly a privilege to be a member of the Mercy community where students, parents/guardians, faculty and staff care for each other and strive to build positive relationships that support academic and social growth. Let's make it a great year together!

Enjoy the rest of your summer!

Warm wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sherylanne Diodato".

Sherylanne Diodato, Ph.D. '93
Interim Principal