Dear AMS Families,

We hope our AMS families are enjoying restful and relaxing summer days as we head toward the beginning of a new and exciting school year! Here at AMS we are busily preparing to welcome our AMS families back to school. We are also looking forward to meeting our incoming 6th graders and students and families who are new to the AMS community.

Our Back-to-School Summer Mailing will be sent out on August 18th. The mailing will include finalized student schedules and other important information such as emergency contact sheets, PTA Welcome letter, supply list, bus stops, health forms and other essential information to help your child begin this school year.

All forms should be completed and returned to school with your child for delivery to his or her homeroom teacher during the first week of school. For the latest updates on COVID mitigation procedures, please visit the BCPS website.

Opening day for students is Monday, August 30, 2021. Students should arrive with fully charged Chromebooks and chargers. Doors open at 8:10am. Students arriving earlier will wait outside at their designated front entrance until the 8:10 bell. (6th grade – music doors, 7th grade – main doors, 8th grade – gym doors). Staff will be available to assist students during arrival and dismissal times. Our school day begins promptly at 8:20am. Students will proceed directly to their combined first period/homeroom class. Our “Grab and Go Breakfast” will be available from 8:10-8:30am. Students with scheduling questions will be assisted during homeroom time.

It is important that students arrive to school on time, so they do not miss the beginning of their first period class. Teachers will be ready to begin instruction by 8:20am. At the end of the school day, all students will be dismissed at 3:05pm.

Students are assigned to the following staff members for support and guidance this year:

Grade 6
Administrators in Charge – Monique Owens A-K, Perry Warren - L-Z/Counselor - Elizabeth Burton

Grade 7
Assistant Principal Monique Owens/Counselor – Taylor Edwards

Grade 8
Assistant Principal Perry Warren/Counselor - Kathy Gardner

We welcome to our new PTA president, Mrs. Jill Kneisl. We look forward to working with Mrs. Kneisl and the new members of our AMS PTA Board. More information about how to join our PTA will be included in the summer mailing.

School Security and Safety
The safety of all students and staff in Baltimore County Public Schools is of utmost importance. All students, staff, and visitors are required to wear masks at this time. Our procedures for student pick-up and dismissal are in place to ensure the safety of all students. Staff members assist in directing traffic for arrival and dismissal. Car riding families should proceed with caution in the front and back lots.

We ask that families update all student emergency contacts and that anyone who comes to pick up a child is listed on the contact form.

ALL visitors must show ID upon entering the building and should follow the COVID mitigation guidelines posted on the BCPS website.
Finally, two important dates: AMS will host our New Student Early Entry and Orientation on August 27. Our incoming 6th grade and 7th graders, new to AMS, will have the opportunity to spend a half-day at AMS locating their classes, finding and opening lockers, and most importantly, meeting their teachers. Transportation will be provided by BCPS. This visitation day is only for students. 8th grade students newly enrolled at AMS may visit from 9:00-12:00pm for a tour of the school. Transportation will not be provided for the 8th grade open house format.

Our AMS Back-to-School Night will be held on Wednesday, September 22 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. More information will be forthcoming about this evening.

Please contact us if you have any questions at (443) 809-1402 and follow us on Twitter for the latest AMS news at: @ArbutusMS and Facebook. Our school website also has important and useful information for our families such as an updated school supply list and our bell schedule for 2021-22.

We are looking forward to a great year!

Sincerely,

Michelle P. Feeney, Principal