



REDLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL

www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/redlandms

August 1, 2025

Dear Redland Middle School Families,

On behalf of the staff of Redland Middle School, I would like to welcome you to the 2025 - 2026 school year at Redland Middle School where we are dedicated to ensuring success for all students through *excellence* in teaching and learning. As we prepare to return to instruction in August, we will focus on ensuring **ALL** our students receive the needed well-being support to be successful every day, that we are building strong personal relationships with students and families, and that we are providing rigorous first instruction in every class, every day.

Our goal every year is to **Be EPIC**. We want all our staff, students, and community members to Be **E**ngaged, Be **P**urposeful, Be **I**nclusive and Be **C**aring. Let's #BeEPIC!

The Redland Middle School staff will also continue to ensure that we are teaching every student, every day through the delivery of our school mission and vision. Through our core values (Respect for Ourselves, Respect for Others, and Respect for our School), we will prepare our student Bulldogs to become contributing members of a global society. We will do so through a continued focus on academic growth and achievement, personal development, and social responsibility.

As we enter a new school year, I want to inform and remind all students and families of the MCPS and RMS **Personal Mobile Device Policy**. This policy is detailed in the MCPS Student Code of Conduct and all students will review this document the first week of school. ALL students are expected to demonstrate Redland Respect regarding the use of their personal mobile devices (PMD). This includes cell phones, wireless earbuds (air pods), and smart watches. **Redland MS is not responsible for any lost or damaged personal mobile devices as they are not required.**

At 8:15am, all devices **MUST** be silenced and out of sight. We are encouraging all students to place their devices in their lockers for the day. Headphones (wired only) are permitted for use throughout the school day on Chromebooks for instructional purposes. Students **MUST** refrain from taking photographs or videos of other students at Redland MS at any time with permission. Additionally, for safety purposes, students should always remove headphones while in the hallways when traveling between classes.

Students are permitted to use their personal mobile devices:

1. School bus to and from school,
2. Between 7:45 am – 8:15 am,
3. After the 3:00 pm dismissal bell.

Students **are not** permitted to use cell phones, wireless earbuds, and smart watches during the school day. A phone for student use is always available in the main office and health room. You may also call the main office to leave a message for your child OR email them on their MCPS account.

Office of the Principal

6505 Muncaster Mill Road • Rockville, Maryland 20855 • 240-740-0900

We will remind students of the PMD expectation over the first week of school and then we will enforce the policy as follows:

1st Reminder: Students will be reminded the cell phone or other PMD must be off, away, and out of sight. They will have the opportunity to turn it off and put it away.

2nd Reminder: A staff member will secure the cell phone or PMD in the main office and the device will be available for student pick up at the end of the day. We will document the device was secured by school staff.

3rd Reminder: A staff member will secure the cell phone or PMD in the main office. The student will meet with an administrator and a phone call to parents will be made. We will document the device was secured by school staff.

Following the 3rd reminder, all instances where the student violates the MCPS/RMS cell phone policy will require a parent to pick up the device after 3:00 pm. We will continue to document that the device was secured by school staff and a parent pick up is now required.

Our next important update is regarding our student Chromebooks. Each year, students will be assigned ONE Chromebook for use at school. This Chromebook will be picked up daily when they go to 1st period and will be returned for charging at the end of each day to the same cart. **IT IS THE STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO MAINTAIN THE CHROMEBOOK IN GOOD CONDITION.** Redland MS students will be receiving BRAND NEW Chromebooks and therefore all students will start with the device in NEW condition. If damages occur, it is the students responsibility to REPORT THE DAMAGE to the teacher immediately and take the device to our Media Specialist. The school will determine the extent of the damage and based on the issue, students MAY be financially responsible for the repair. Any fees will be communicated in writing to the family. Additionally, all families have the opportunity to request a TAKE HOME Chromebook from MCPS using the MCPS form. This will be shared on our website.

Another important reminder for families is to go to our website. On the website, you will find a great deal of information to review prior to the students returning to Redland on Tuesday, August 26th. This information is available in the Back to School Resource tab. Additionally, I have highlighted some important dates and information below:

- 6th grade ice cream social is Thursday, August 21st at 6:00 pm. Our 6th grade students and families will get to meet staff and tour the school.
- Transition Day (6th grade student orientation and any 7th/8th grade student NEW to Redland MS) is Monday, August 25th from 8:15 am – 3:00 pm. Students will ride their normal bus routes to and from school.
- School starts on Tuesday, August 26th at 8:15 am. Upon arrival at school, all students will be greeted by our staff and PTA volunteers to ensure students feel welcome and supported. Our 6th grade students will report to the front hallway, 7th grade students will report to the P.E. hallway and 8th grade students will report to the cafeteria.
- **All students** will be eligible to receive free breakfast every morning in their first period class starting at 8:05 am. Students who arrive late to school will have the opportunity to eat breakfast in the cafeteria until 8:30 am.
- The school year calendar, noting early release dates and days off, is on our website and MCPS' website for your reference.
- Redland MS will provide ONE agenda book for each student this school year. The agenda books will be used to assist your child in developing routines and strategies that will allow

Office of the Principal

6505 Muncaster Mill Road • Rockville, Maryland 20855 • 240-740-0900

him/her to be successful in school. Students are expected to use their agenda books to track their daily assignments, monitor long-term project progress, and to log all passes any time they leave class. The agenda book will allow parents to review their child's homework assignments and may serve as a communication resource with the teacher. Replacement books, for students who lose their books, will be available for \$5.00 from our financial assistant, Mrs. Fuentes.

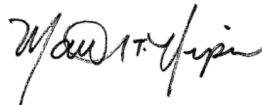
- **Mark your calendars for Back-to-School Night is Thursday, September 11th. More information will be available soon.**

If you have any questions or you would like to meet with or speak to a member of the administrative team, please contact the main office (240-740-0900) to schedule an appointment, or send us an email. We value communicating with you and thank you in advance for your continued support of Redland Middle School.

In our efforts to go green, no paper copies of the summer information will be mailed. Students will receive hard copies of specific forms on the first day that must be signed and returned to Redland MS.

If you have any questions, please contact our main office at 240-740-0900.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew T. Niper".

Matthew T. Niper
Principal