



Walter Hill School, 1815 Kings Highway, Swedesboro, NJ. 08085 856-241-1552
Dr. Scott J. Hogan, Principal
Mrs. Barbara Costantini, Secretary
Ms. ChaeUn Hwang, Guidance Counselor

Dear Parents & Guardians:

Welcome to the Walter Hill School. We hope that you and your family have enjoyed a happy and safe summer. We are very excited to begin the new school year, and look forward to seeing students and families very soon. Please carefully review the following information regarding your child's homeroom placement, as well as our school procedures.

Your child has been assigned to the homeroom of **Homeroom Teacher** for the upcoming school year. This year serves as the transition between your child's elementary and middle school experience, and as such the Walter Hill School operates as an intermediate school. Homerooms are organized into academic teams and subjects are departmentalized. In addition to your child's homeroom teacher, he/she will be instructed by other teachers in specific subject areas while changing classes and using a locker. Each team is comprised of two Language Arts teachers and two Math teachers, as well as one Science and one Social Studies teacher. All students on a team will have half a year of Science and half a year of Social Studies. In addition, your child will be assigned to one Math and one Language Arts teacher on their academic team, however, their homeroom does not dictate who those teachers will be. Students are placed based on feedback from: teachers, guidance, administration, child study team, and looking at relevant student data and the child's needs.

To help your child become familiar with our school, we will be holding an **“Open House” on Tuesday, August 27, 2019, at 4:30 – 6:30 pm.** Students and parents are welcome to meet the administration and tour the Hill school. **Homeroom lists will be posted on each homeroom teacher's door.** We will be happy to answer your questions at that time, and personally welcome your child to WHS. Students will not travel in homeroom groups this year, but instead, will each have their own unique schedule provided to them with teachers assigned from within their team. This experience more closely follows the structure they will experience at Kingsway Regional Middle School. Team Hale-Bopp teachers are located on floors 1 & 2, and team Wolf teachers are located on the 3rd floor. Your homeroom teacher's door will indicate which academic team your child is part of.

Students attending the Walter Hill School should arrive each morning no earlier than 8:35 a.m. On the first day, September 4, all students will assemble on the playground side of the building to be greeted by their teachers. **Parents who are dropping-off students are required to use the side parking lot off of Bridgeport Ave. The front horseshoe is designated for emergency or handicapped parking only. Please do not use the front horseshoe for student drop-off.** For the safety of all children, please do not pull into the rear bus loop area to pick up or drop off your children. This area is strictly for school buses and school personnel.

After the first day of school, students who walk will assemble in the morning in front of the school on the Bridgeport Ave. (parking lot) side of the building. Walkers and parent pick-up students will also be dismissed from this door, so parents should continue to pick-up/drop-off in the side lot for arrival and dismissal. For safety purposes, staff members will be on duty to assist students arriving and leaving the building throughout the year. Please do not ask your child to cross Kings Highway directly in front of the school; students must cross with crossing guards. Bus students will continue to arrive in the bus area located in the back of the building and enter through the playground side doors. **If your child is transported by bus, the Kingsway Regional School District will mail specific information to you regarding your child's bus route. There is to be NO eating or drinking on the bus for any reason. This will be a policy throughout the entire Kingsway Transportation System.**



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If your child is riding a bicycle to school each day, then **you must provide the school with a note stating that your child may ride his or her bike this year.** Please be sure that he/she is wearing a helmet. Bicycle helmets are required by law in NJ, and students may be fined by the police for not wearing them. Bicycles should be locked on the bike rack by the parking lot. Skateboards, scooters, skates, roller sneakers, etc. are not permitted on school premises during school hours.

The first day, September 4th, will be a full day of school with dismissal at 3:15 p.m. Lunch will be served. The menu will be posted on the school website. **The cost of lunch for the 2019-2020 school year will be \$2.85.**

We are asking for your cooperation in not sending peanut or nut type snacks into school with your child. There are several students in the Walter Hill class of 2020 with severe peanut/tree nut allergies. By limiting these types of food, we hope to avoid any serious health and safety issues with our students. Foods to avoid may include peanuts, peanut butter, nuts, and any foods that may contain peanut or nut ingredients. There is a designated "peanut/tree nut free" table in our cafeteria to accommodate the needs of our students with allergies.

The Walter Hill School operates on a "six-day cycle" this year. That means we will follow Day A through Day F on our schedule, and then rotate back to start all over again when the cycle is complete. For example, if we are off the day following Day B, we would resume the cycle on Day C when we return. Under this system, your child will have an equal number of special area classes. Students will not miss "specials" when school is closed for holidays or inclement weather. This schedule will be marked on the lunch calendar and on the district website.

Parents and students may access student progress and information by using our student information system available on the website through OnCourse. Passwords and access codes for the parent portal will be sent home with your child during the first day of school. Enclosed is our daily dismissal procedure. Please read it carefully, complete and sign, and return it to school with your child. This procedure is in force to promote the safety of your student. Also enclosed, you will find the online verification form. In an effort to "go green" the district has moved largely to sharing opening information online. Please complete this form and return to school with your child once you've reviewed all of the information on our district website contained in the form. This information can be found on the district homepage under "District Policies and Forms" at the top of the page.

The Walter Hill School supports the district's mission of creating a "community dedicated to inspiring lifelong learners" by emphasizing the importance of character, effort, and growth through our positive behavior program referred to as "Walter's Way" which centers around: respect, responsibility, effort, choices, and honesty, and students "R.R.E.C.H.ing" (reaching) for success. At WHS we emphasize not only supporting students in attaining mastery of 6th grade standards, but also in their developing the 21st Century skills necessary to be successful in school, life, and eventually the workplace. Each day our motto is "Good better best, never let it rest until your good becomes better, and your better becomes your best!" Our goal is to support your child in having the BEST year they can, and achieving their highest growth and potential.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Walter Hill School main office should you have any questions or concerns. The office number is **856-241-1552 ext. 2011**. We look forward to having your child become a part of the WHS family!

Sincerely,

Dr. Scott J. Hogan

Dr. Scott J. Hogan
Principal, Walter Hill School
District Anti-Bullying Coordinator