



HULL LOWER SCHOOL

July 11, 2014

Name
Address
City

Dear Eighth-Grade Parents and Students:

As we prepare for your arrival on campus, we want to cover the following six major topics in order to get the impending school year under way smoothly. Please read carefully and schedule accordingly.

1. **Summer Reading List and Math Requirements:**

Visit www.musowls.blogspot.com for Summer Reading and Math Packet information.

2. **Book Sale:**

Eighth graders may buy their books Tuesday, August 5, from 1-3 p.m. **Students should attend the Book Sale at this time** in order to assist their parents. Parents and students may also purchase books at any of the subsequent Book Sale sessions (Wednesday, August 6, 9-11 a.m. and 1-3 p.m.; Thursday, August 7, 9-11 a.m. and 1-3 p.m.; Friday, August 8, 9:30-11 a.m.). If you are unable to attend one of the Book Sale sessions, you may send someone in your place. Class schedules, seat assignments, and locker assignments are distributed at Book Sale. We suggest that you take books and materials home after the sale, and **DO NOT** place them in assigned lockers. Students bring books to school Tuesday, August 12.

3. **Reminders:**

To be eligible to receive schedules and buy books, tuition must be paid in advance. During the week of Book Sale, we will accept credit and debit cards for payment on books, spirit wear, and season athletic passes. Visa, MasterCard, and Discover are the cards we accept.

4. **Directions to Book Sale:**

Enter the Primacy Parkway gate on Ridgeway and park in the main lot facing the south doors of the Sue H. Hyde Sports and Physical Education Center. We will have plenty of friendly students around to help you find your way. Coffee is also provided. Visit www.musowls.org/NetCommunity/Campus for a campus map.

5. **School Supplies:**

There is no definitive supply list. There are a few items all our students need: paper (either loose-leaf or spiral notebooks), blue or black pens, red pens, pencils, highlighters, index cards, and a standard, non-graphing calculator. You will buy an MUS assignment book at Book Sale. Teachers have particular nuances for their specific supply requirements, and the boys will receive that information during orientation. Both rolling and regular backpacks are acceptable. A large athletic bag is advisable for students with sports equipment. These bags are stored in the secure athletic closet within the Lower School.

6. **Parent Camp: Thursday, August 7, 5:30-6:30 p.m.**

This important session is for eighth-grade parents only. Read: No students or children.



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We will attempt to anticipate your questions and concerns by providing brief descriptions of necessary information with faculty presenting highlights and tips for success. Afterward, we will address any questions. Please meet in Dunavant Lecture Hall, Hull Lower School building, north of the baseball field. We will provide sandwiches and bottled water.

After the boys rest during the ensuing weekend, it's game on!

- **Monday, August 11**, is Convocation Day – the first day of school. Students should arrive by 8 a.m. in the Lower School, and we will get them to Hyde Chapel.
- **Convocation Day** provides activities designed to orient all new MUS students to their new school in a variety of ways. Since everyone wears coat and tie for Convocation Day, we will take student yearbook pictures, so “get ’em spruced up” and that hair “high and tight” right off the bat. *Returning students (eighth graders) are free to leave campus following student pictures around noon. No lunch is being served to returning students.* We will serve lunch to seventh graders and new eighth graders and then embark on our tours. Convocation Day for all seventh graders and new eighth graders ends at 2:30 p.m. The boys are to be picked up in front of the Lower School.
- **Tuesday, August 12**, your son begins his regular academic schedule.
- **Academic and Medical Evaluations:** Mrs. Catherine Schuhmacher is your contact if you have particular academic and medical evaluation data, including documentation of learning issues, to relay to the counseling office. She can be reached at catherine@musowls.org.
- **Lower School Blog:** Visit www.musowls.blogs.com, and mark it as a “favorite” for easy access. You can sign up for blog updates to come to you, as well. I suggest you read some of the archived posts to get a sense of the culture of our quaint operation. You will also find great stuff on our Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube pages. Links for these are located on the school homepage: www.musowls.org.

Parents, just be glad we’re not 12 and 13 again. It’s hard being young. As we adults remember, school can be laborious – even grueling at times. Not much has changed. However, be reminded that you’ve already been through school, and now it’s your son’s turn. In other words, statements like “we have a test tomorrow” should be avoided. Rather, “he has a test tomorrow” is correct. See, you’re off the hook.

Please email me at clay.smythe@musowls.org if you have a question that cannot wait until August. As a general rule, MUS staff members tend to schedule personal time with our families in July. We may not be readily available during this time.

We look forward to seeing you at Parent Camp and at Book Sale!

Sincerely,

S. Clay Smythe
Lower School Principal