MAUREEN KNOWLTON, Principal EMAIL: <u>mknowlton@millisschools.org</u>



PHONE: 508-376-7014 FAX: 508-376-7020

MILLIS MIDDLE SCHOOL 245 Plain Street, Millis, MA 02054

August 26, 2019

Dear Middle School families,

We've been busy getting the Middle School ready for the return of our students on Tuesday, September 3! Even though our building is not brand new, the Operations staff has done a great job working to make sure it is as clean and shiny as can be! Teachers have been in organizing their rooms and preparing to meet their new students. It's nice to have activity in the building again and we can't wait for the students to return!

Some of our teachers have changed rooms this year and we have some staff changes to announce as well. Mrs. Rachel Gough is joining the Middle School as our 7th grade Spanish teacher, and Mrs. Paulina Saliba is joining the Spanish department as our Spanish Immersion Unified Arts teacher for grades 6-8. Ms. Renee Monteiro-Bernard will be our MS Art teacher and Ms. Shannon Pearson is joining us as a paraprofessional. We are also pleased to announce that Ms. Christina Rooney will be teaching 8th grade Spanish and Ms. Olivia Zitoli will work with our staff and students as a part-time social-emotional-learning interventionist.

Personalized learning in service of academic growth and wellbeing is our goal. Social-emotional learning and developing citizenship will continue to be important focus areas in the Middle School. Our school-wide expectations are that children will be accepting, be respectful, and be an inspiration to others through their words and actions. We know that adolescence can be a challenging time, and we understand the importance of a positive, safe, and supportive school culture that welcomes and includes all children. Building strong relationships is a priority practice for teachers in Millis, and we hope these relationships will both support and motivate your children as they learn and grow.

The first day of school is Tuesday, September 3. School hours are 8:00am - 2:20pm. It is important that students are in attendance and on time for school each day unless they are called out for an excused absence. Breakfast is available at 7:40am each day and all students should report to the cafeteria before school until 7:45am.

Student schedules will be given out on the first day of school. Please look for more information in your child's backpack during the first week. Visit the Millis Public School's website <u>http://millispsms.ss9.sharpschool.com/</u> regularly and sign up there for our Listserve/Newsletter for updates and information. Follow us on Twitter @millismiddle and on Facebook at <u>www.facebook.com/millismiddleschool/</u> for announcements and a glimpse into what's happening in our school during the year.

We welcome you to a new school year and hope to keep the lines of communication with families open. Concerns are best addressed early on and we encourage you to contact us at anytime. Thank you very much for supporting the work that we do and for collaborating with us for the benefit of your child!

Sincerely, Maureen Knowlton, Principal

## Small School, Big Family

The Millis Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, age, gender identity, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, disability or homelessness.