



Welcome to Harlem Middle School and the 2019-2020 school year! We are excited to start the new school year and all the exciting opportunities it brings. With a fair amount of feedback from parents, students, and staff we are reforming the Work Habits Rubric. For the past five years, we have used a Work Habits Rubric that had four different behavior criteria/soft skills which were graded. We now only have two criteria. We believe this will be a welcome change for all of our stakeholders.

We are also excited to announce HMS will be 1:1 this school year, meaning every student in the building will be assigned a Chromebook. During registration, parents and students will obtain the agreement regarding their Chromebook laptop and students will receive their Chromebook the first week of school.

Harlem Middle School encourages student participation. We offer several opportunities to get involved. Please encourage your child to take part in extracurricular activities, clubs, and/or organizations. Once the school year starts, we typically have new clubs/organizations that are created. We would like to see students get involved in two or more activities. You may pick up a pamphlet during registration which lists all of the activities.

Harlem Middle School is an incredible place where we value the students and families and have hard-working teachers and support staff who look forward to working with each student. We know when we work together, our school community strengthens and the successes of our students increases greatly.

We have several ways for parents to get involved. The following dates are key so mark your calendar and we look forward to meeting /seeing you in the near future!

- **Monday, August 5, 2019, 6:30PM** in the main gym. – **7<sup>th</sup> Grade and New Student Orientation**. This is a great opportunity to find your locker, practice your locker combination, and walk your schedule.
- **Monday, August 26, 2019, 6:30PM** in the Learning Center - **PTO meeting** – We would really appreciate our current parents on PTO and welcome new people!
- **Thursday, August 22, 2019 – Parent Night**. Please be here no later than **6:20PM** ; starting at 6:30PM, parents will follow their child’s schedule, learn about his/her classes, and meet the teachers.
- **Friday, September 6, 2019, 7:30am to 8:00am** in the main gym – **“Donuts with Dads”**. This is a wonderful opportunity for dads and/or gather figures to come in and enjoy spending time and eating doughnuts with their child/children. It’s a great way to start the day! Every year, we have over 500 people in the gym, and this year we hope to see even more “dads and/or father figures” with the students. Please contact Mr. Lemons at [blair.lemons@harlem122.org](mailto:blair.lemons@harlem122.org) or 815-654-4510 for questions.

Here’s to a great start to another school year!

A handwritten signature in red ink, appearing to read 'Matt Cascio', is written over a white background.

Matt Cascio  
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Harlem School District # 122  
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*A Community of Leaders*