

Dear Parents, Guardians, Students, and Friends,

This email is a quick 'mid-summer' message from CHS. More detailed information will be coming home soon.

Principal's Blog

Dr. Dias has a blog! Go visit it to find out what's going on in world of the CHS Principal. The link is on the CHS web site. (www.Cantonma.org/chs)

Schedules Going Home August 9

For the first time, CHS is sending schedules home by email on August 9. Paper copies are being mailed home for those that do not have email addresses. Students for whom we don't have email addresses will be mailed a paper copy. Another copy will be provided on the first day of school with locker information.

Note from the trenches (August 10):

The distribution of schedules this year via email is, as you know, our first attempt. The purpose for our sending of the schedules home so early was meant to help quell concerns as well as remind students that the school year is rapidly approaching. *If you have specific questions on the schedule you receive, please leave a message for your child's guidance counselor.* Contact information is posted on our web site at <http://www.cantonma.org/chs/guidance/guidance.htm> . Counselors will be arriving back from school a week prior to students arriving, and they will do their best to respond to your questions as quickly as they can.

Grade 9 Orientation

Grade 9 Orientation is scheduled for **August 30, from 8am until noon**. It will be the first class to experience the Boomerang Project, where trained upper-class mentors help 9th graders with their first year. It promises to be a wonderful way to help students throughout the entire year, both academically and socially. More information will be posted soon! Parents of grade 9 students are invited to a meeting from 8am until 9am in the CHS cafeteria to help you hear more about the Boomerang Project and Canton High School.

New Student Orientation

In conjunction with the Grade 9 Orientation, students in other grades that are new to CHS are invited to a separate orientation on **August 30, from 9 am until 11 am**. Parents are invited to the parent meeting in the cafeteria on this day from 9 until 10 am.

Core Value and Beliefs Survey

We are asking parents, students, and community members to complete an online survey. This survey is meant to hear from students and parents about the core values and beliefs supported by the school. The data collected will be combined with an identical survey given to the faculty and staff in the spring to develop a Core Values and Beliefs Statement. This Statement is important, and will provide guidance in making decisions that impact our school. (www.Cantonma.org/chs)

Student Tips Survey

In order to help students adjust to CHS quickly, we are seeking tips from students in grades 10-12 (as well as recent graduates) that help make your experience at CHS as good as it can be. (www.Cantonma.org/chs)

Principal's Coffee

Dr. Dias will be having a Principal's Coffee on **Tuesday, August 31, from 8-10 am.** While a RSVP is not necessary to attend, sending him via email (to diasd@cantonma.org) one will help keep us from mis-ordering the amount of coffee and snacks.

We appreciate your patience as we adjust to this new method of distributing schedules.

Digital Backpack

In elementary school, sending home information consisted of placing papers into student's backpacks. At the high school level, backpacks are a bottomless void where things go in, and don't escape. We have resorted to mailing and emailing vital information, and, in an attempt to add a more focused method, provide parents and students with a 'virtual backpack'. More information will be coming soon, as we explore ways to use this new feature.

Summer Reading

Students should be well on their way toward completion of their summer reading. There is still time left, if you have not yet started. Please consider this a gentle reminder. You do not want to try to do all of your summer reading over Labor Day Weekend. Trust me.

Dress Code

The back-to-school flyers are arriving home fast and furious. Deciding what to wear to school is, for some, an important decision. Please remember that there is a dress code. With the hot weather, there may be a temptation to wear spaghetti-strap tops, but these are explicitly banned by our policy. A teacher gave a wonderful suggestion to help students (and parents): "All shirts should have sleeves!" Such sleeves don't have to be long, but adherence to this tip can keep a student from being sent to the office to call home and get acceptable clothing to wear in school. Check the Student Handbook section of our web site for the specific policy.

Visit our web site.

We've cleaned up our web site a bit, and will continue to use it as a primary way of communicating with parents, students, and the CHS community. Please visit if often at www.Cantonma.org/chs .