

## **New Student Registration**

- Welcome to QMS, we are excited to have you join us. All new students must register at the Central Office. Please click the link below for more information.
- [Mansfield Public Schools: New Student Registration](#)

## **Counseling Curriculum**

- Students in all grades receive two classroom lessons per year, focusing on academic success and coping skills. The coping skills lesson for students in grade 7 is aligned with the Massachusetts state requirements regarding suicide prevention. We use the Signs of Suicide (SOS) curriculum for this lesson.

## **Tips for Academic Success:**

- Please visit the link listed below for helpful tips and strategies for academic success.
- [Test Taking Strategies](#)

## **Attendance:**

- Valuable instructional time is missed each time your child is absent, and excessive absences may hinder your child's progress. We are committed to providing the best possible education for your child. Regrettably, this process is adversely affected by poor attendance. Please help us by making school attendance a priority. Remember, we are here to assist you and answer any questions. Students are considered chronically absent when they have missed ten percent of the scheduled school days; the Qualters Middle School is committed to reaching out to the families/ guardians of chronically absent students to help implement a plan to improve attendance. Students who are chronically absent are typically at a higher risk of dropping out of high school, retention, or summer school. These are all situations we strive to avoid.

- “What If...”
  - **What if...my child is absent and is missing work?** Encourage your child to speak each of their teachers once they return to get any missing notes and/or assignments. Also, encourage your student to create a plan or schedule to make up any missing assessments with their teachers. Each classroom teacher may have a routine or procedure in place for students. Your child should communicate with their teachers directly if they have questions about specific routines.
  - **What if...my child is absent for several days and wants to complete work at home?** After a student has been absent for two or more days, parents/guardians may request work for their children. Requests for work are to be made by calling the main office before 8:00 am and work will be available for pickup starting at 1:00pm. (Student Handbook, page 16)

### **Private School Applications:**

Please know that beginning in late November/early December the Counseling Office processes over 100 applications. It is important for parents and students to be aware of deadlines, so we are able to process and get the information to prospective schools in a timely fashion. The guidance office is closed during Winter Break; so if the school's deadline is December 31st, we need the application two weeks prior to break.

If your student is applying to Southeastern, interviews will take place at QMS sometime during January or February. Parents will be informed via email once the date has been determined. Vocational school applicants will be provided support by holding mock interviews to help them feel comfortable with the process.

If your student is applying to Bristol Agricultural School, then please contact their admissions counselor, Colleen Cronin at [ccronin@bcahs.com](mailto:ccronin@bcahs.com) or dial 508-669-6744 ext. 111 for more information regarding their application and interview process.

Also, in an effort for me to get to know your students better, prior to filling out school counselor recommendations, the grade 8 Counselor will be meeting with all applicants individually. Students will be asked to complete a basic form where they will highlight their particular talents (music, art, athletics, etc.) and also their involvement in extracurricular activities, both inside and outside of school. Any community service,

hobbies, special recognition, and awards should be noted. It would be helpful for students to begin making a list of these things prior to my meeting with them in December.

Please click on the link below regarding important information related to the application process if your student is applying to a private or vocational school.

### **Mental Health Resources:**

Please click on the link below for a list of Crisis and Mental Health Resources.

[Crisis & Mental Health Resources](#)

### **Parents:**

- Emergency Contact Information - Be sure to provide the main office with any changes. For example: address changes, phone numbers, cell phone numbers, mail to information, etc.
- Links to parenting websites & articles
  - [10 Ways to Help Your Child Succeed in Middle School](#)
  - [Parent Toolkit](#)
    - Topics related to supporting your child's academic and social emotional growth
- ***What if I have school related problems & concerns?***
- Guidelines and who to turn to if needed.
  - For assistance with navigating specific school related problems and concerns, please visit the link below for guidelines as outlined in the student handbook beginning on page 13.
  - [QMS Student-Parent Handbook: School Related Problems & Concerns](#)

