



Henderson Middle School
2830 Henderson Mill Road
Chamblee, GA 30341
678-874-2902

Hello HMS Parents,

Welcome back to another exciting school year at Henderson Middle. We are extremely enthusiastic to begin our academic journey with our students this year and look forward to exciting adventures in learning and instruction. We will also continue to develop the whole child through our social emotional learning efforts.

This year, we will continue to encourage teachers to coordinate and promote field trips for our students. Field trips are an extension of the learning activities that takes place within the traditional classroom. Our students have traveled to different places in support of our STEM program. Those places include the U.S. Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama as well as STEM field trips to Mercedes Benz Stadium in downtown Atlanta, I-Fly Indoor Skydiving in Cobb County, and the annual STEM Day Activities organized at Six Flags Over Georgia in the month of May. Our social studies and history teachers have organized field trips to the National Center for Civil and Human Rights, the King Center, and the World of Coke (all located in downtown Atlanta). Finally, our language arts teachers have organized field trips to the Fox Theatre and Alliance Theatre to view various stage productions that are connected to the language arts curriculum. All of the preceding activities have helped to expand our students' learning experiences and keep our students engaged in the learning process.

This year, we will continue to address the social emotional needs of our students. We are fortunate again this year to be able to work with the DeKalb Community Service Board to offer counseling and therapeutic services to our families through the APEX program. We will also continue to offer our students opportunities to develop leadership and mentoring skills through our Sources of Strength Peer Leadership Program as well as our HMS Student Council. It is our desire, at Henderson Middle School, to address the emotional needs and promote growth of the whole child.

Finally, we will seek to increase the school's outreach activities to our parents. Our parent family engagement liaison is hard at work to develop workshops and activities that will bring parents into the building and promote a healthy relationship between the school and our stakeholders. We want to continue activities such as our executive functioning workshops for parents and students that were well received last year. Additionally, we are scheduled again to host this year's Curriculum & Cuisine workshop that was highly attended and showcased several local vendors last year. Lastly, we will continue with our Revved-Up Kids workshops that will focus on social media awareness for students and their parents. We welcome our parents to contact our Parent Family Engagement Office at (678) 874-2965 to let us know of any additional workshop topics that may need to be included in our outreach efforts.

In conclusion, it is my hope that this school year will offer a wealth of positive learning opportunities for our students. We want to continue to build positive relationships with our stakeholders and serve our community. Let's work together to make this school year great! Thank you for your continued support and as always let me say, ***Go Cougars!***

Sincerely,

Rochelle Patillo

Principal