



MORRIS KNOLLS HIGH SCHOOL

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Dear Student and Parents/Guardians,

I hope this letter finds you enjoying a healthy and relaxing summer with family and friends. As I approach another year as principal of Morris Knolls High School, I thank you for supporting me in my endeavor to have all of our students reach their academic potential. I am honored to be a part of a school and community with legacy, history, and commitment to excellence. The 2019-2020 school year is rapidly approaching and I am looking forward to partnering with all of you to create a shared vision of excellence for the future of Morris Knolls.

Toward that end, we will be implementing many new initiatives for the upcoming school year. We are about to enter our first year of implementation of the Math and Science Magnet Program at Morris Knolls High School. The Magnet Program is a highly focused and rigorous four-year honors program. We are also entering year 2 of implementation of the Morris County Performing Arts Academy. The Academy provides opportunities for students to specialize in dance, theatre, or vocal performance. We will also have a new cohort of students entering the Aviation and Aerospace Program. We are one of the only schools in NJ offering students exposure to the aviation and aerospace community! Lastly, we will continue to challenge our students and build upon our Advanced Placement, Gifted and Talented, International Baccalaureate, and Special Education Programs through the revision of curriculum and course offerings.

Furthermore, we have planned many upgrades in the areas of technology for the upcoming school year. We will enter year 3 of our Chromebook Initiative. Students in grades 9-11 will all have school issued chromebooks, which will be used to foster creativity, critical thinking and collaboration. New security cameras have been installed throughout the building, including cameras to live stream events in our gym and at Caruso Stadium. All families will be able to view live events through the NFHS network. We are also excited to announce that we have developed a new Morris Knolls mobile app. Parents and students will be able to access class schedules, assignments, grades, receive school news and notifications, access school calendars, and much more. You will be receiving information in the near future when we are ready to launch the app.

In addition, we have many facility projects and upgrades taking place for the 2019-2020 school year. In September, we will break ground on our new athletic field complex, which includes a new all-purpose turf field and parking lot. We have also planned for construction of a new Black Box Theatre, which will be used for our Fine Arts Programs. We have implemented an Energy Saving Incentive Program to replace all lighting in the building and install air conditioning in the auditorium, cafeterias, gymnasium, and in all of our classrooms. Additionally, we will be renovating multiple instructional areas and bathrooms throughout the school. As you can see, we have some exciting things happening at Morris Knolls!

As we approach the new school year, I encourage all of our students to reflect upon their years at Morris Knolls and set new personal and academic goals. This is a time filled with great expectations, joys, and responsibilities. Decisions about further education, career choices, and some of the apprehensions that go along with significant changes in your life will occur within the next ten months. The entire staff at Morris Knolls is prepared to help you meet these challenges and make your time at Morris Knolls a positive and memorable experience.

I also challenge our students to be leaders and positive role models for our student body. Set a tone of excellence each and every day in the classroom, on our stages, and on our athletic fields. Our incoming freshmen will look to you to develop school spirit and set high academic and behavioral standards.

My staff and I are looking forward to working with you as partners in education to ensure the success of our students. This year will be exciting and I hope that you will join us in making this a rewarding and memorable experience. I encourage all of our parents/guardians to join our Home and School Association and play an active role in your child's education. Information is located on our school website. Please know that my door is always open and I welcome your involvement. Please feel free to reach out to discuss any concerns, suggestions, or ideas to make this a great year! I can be reached at 973-664-2201 or via email at rmacnaughton@mhrd.org.

With Golden Eagle Pride,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan MacNaughton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Ryan MacNaughton