

July 31, 2021 Back to School Parent Email

Good Afternoon Mann Parents and Guardians:

I am so excited that we will get to start school with your children in just a few weeks on August 19th. Our team at Mann M.S. wants every child to have the best year ever and so I have some beginning information for you. Please be watching for emails and Remind notices and postings on our new Mann M.S. webpage (it will be up and running very soon) as well as check out our Mann PTA Facebook page to help navigate a smooth start for all 900+ students and parents.

All Parents and Students: The AISD Webpage at abileneisd.org has tons of information for you! You can find: Our Mann School Supply List, New and Returning Student Registration tabs (registration is required for all students each summer before school starts), and the current Middle School Standardized Dress Code (which is being reviewed by the AISD School Board.)

6th Grade Students: 6th Grade Walk-About will be Tuesday, August 17th from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Students may pick up their schedules and meet teachers in a "come and go" format.

7th and 8th Grade Students: Open House will be Tuesday, September 7th from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

7th and 8th Grade Pre-AP English students should be reading: 7th grade: [Refugee](#) by Alan Gratz; 8th grade: [Fever 1793](#) by Laurie Halse Anderson

All AISD Students: If you are in need of immunizations, the Abilene-Taylor County Health Department will be offering Kindergarten thru 12th grade students immunizations in the Mann Cafeteria from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 4th. They will also be at the Madison Cafeteria on Friday, August 6th from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Anyone 12 and older can also get their first COVID vaccine as well.

7th Grade Student Parents: It is a requirement that we have updated our immunization records for your child with Nurse Mary. If your 7th grader needs immunizations, this is a great time to meet this requirement for enrollment. For additional questions on the clinics, please call the Abilene Taylor County Health Department at (325) 692-5600.

All Mann Students and Parents: The 2021 Texas Legislators passed Texas House Bill 4545 this summer. An important item from HB 4545 requires that students who did not pass the grade level Reading or Math STAAR to have "supplemental instruction (tutoring) before or after school, or embedded in the school day." We are working on providing as much flexibility for students as possible and you can expect more communication from me on this topic. TEA has details on the website - just search HB 4545.

8th Grade Algebra 1 Students: For 2021-22 8th grade students who wish to take Algebra 1 but did not pass the 7th grade math STAAR last year, we are offering tutorials starting Monday August 2nd from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. in Mrs. Cornell's room. Tutorials will be provided for 6 days Monday, August 2nd-Thursday August 5th and again on Monday August 9th and 10th. These hours may count for some of the requirements for HB 4545. Please reply to this email with your

child's name and your contact information (parent name and phone number) to register for this opportunity. You may also call the Mann M.S. office at (325) 672-8493 to let us know you can attend. Students do not have to attend every day but can sign up for as much time as they can participate for the 6 days. Students may wear AISD Student Code of Conduct appropriate clothing for this tutorial.

All Parents: Administrators, Counselors and our Campus Secretary are back on campus (although all will be out periodically for trainings and meetings.) Please use the contact information provided if you have questions or need assistance:

Mann School Secretary Mrs. Gay Ganske (325) 672-8493. To reach counselors, nurse or administrators, dial the Mann campus number at (325) 672-8493 and the extensions provided.

Grade level Assistant Principals:

6th Grade Mrs. Amy Dudley: email amy.dudley@abileneisd.org ext 1906

7th Grade Ms. Monica Diaz: email monica.diaz@abileneisd.org ext 8643

8th Grade Dr. Margaret Hope: email margaret.hope@abileneisd.org ext 5403

6th-8th Grade Instructional Specialist Mr. Blake Fuller: email blake.fuller@abileneisd.org ext 1894

Counselors: Last Names A-L Mrs. Carol Burson: email carol.burson@abileneisd.org ext 5800;
Last Names M-Z Ms. Melinda Smith: email melinda.smith@abileneisd.org ext 3199

Nurse Mary Vermillion: email mary.vermillion@abileneisd.org ext 7537

I hope you have a wonderful summer and look forward to our beginning on Thursday, August 18th. Please let me know if I can help in any way.

Your Mann M.S. Principal,

Kathy Walker

kathryn.walker@abileneisd.org ext 7480