



HILLSBOROUGH MIDDLE SCHOOL

A National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence

260 Triangle Road, Hillsborough, NJ 08844-4889 • Phone 908-431-6600 • Fax 908-874-3492

JOSEPH TRYBULSKI, Ed.D.
Principal

JOHN CICCARONE, Vice Principal
DEBRA POROWSKI, Vice Principal

July 25, 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Here are some tips to help you and your youngster prepare for the new school year with the materials all students will need for success. As students enter the secondary level, they interact with many more teachers across a greater diversity of course subjects. The specific supplies for each class will vary considerably and change unexpectedly as new technologies become increasingly embedded into the fabric of schooling. Teacher supply lists often include a mix of recommended items, suggested items, and required items. Those items recommended by teachers for their classes are intended to help develop good organizational skills as well as ensure some specific items are at hand for students to meet particular tasks in that course.

Ultimately, however, students should also have a say in what methods and materials work best for them. We want to give guidance and advice, but also encourage you to listen to your child and help them understand what will best fit his or her individual organizational preference, needs and interests. Stocking up on a variety of general office supplies can serve a student this year and next. Office supplies don't spoil. Having some extra items can ensure that the "requirements" are met while preserving some flexibility to best suit your child's learning and organization preferences.

Most importantly, students at this age should have a designated, quiet workspace at home with general office supplies to support their school work (e.g. pens/pencils, stapler, ruler, highlighters, paper, 3-hole punch, post-it notes, markers, glue/scissors, etc.). This should include access to the Internet and a printer. Internet access at home is not essential, but certainly convenient for students in managing their work. Families without Internet access at home may qualify for assistance programs through local cable Internet providers or may contact our computer resource/support teachers at HMS for additional assistance.

Establishing a regular workspace with good lighting, comfortable seating, and a variety of resources along with regular work times and routines will not only serve your child well throughout middle and high school years, but will establish important life-long habits for learning and productivity that will last well into their future.

A list of additional tips along with a checklist of recommended supplies for all HMS students and details on Chromebook cases are attached. The checklist includes items that students should have access to at home in addition to those for use in school on a daily basis or to have access to in their lockers.

Sincerely,

Joseph Trybulski, Ed.D.
Principal

HMS GENERAL SCHOOL SUPPLY CHECKLIST

General Supplies for School:

1	Chromebook Sleeve/Case	For Acer c720p Chromebook - Dim. 11.3" x 8" x 0.8"
1	Earbuds/earphones	For use with Acer c720p Chromebook
1	USB Flash Drive (optional)	Handy to have a separate digital storage space outside the "cloud."
1	Backpack or Drawstring Bag	Small backpack or drawstring bag
1	Locker Shelf (optional)	Locker Dimensions: 14" wide x 10.5" deep x 35" high
1-2 pks	Pencils & Pens	
2-3	Highlighter(s)	Useful to have in different colors.
4-6	2-Pocket Folders	Handy for organizing handouts, homework or important papers to bring home for each subject.
4-6	1" Binder(s)	Good for use in all subjects, science/social studies as well as math/literacy, health, art, world language, etc.
4-6 pks	5-Tab or 8-Tab Dividers	
	Loose-Leaf Lined Paper	
2 pks	3 x 5 cards	Literacy and/or social studies for research and pre-writing.
2-3 pks	Post-it Notes (3"x3")	Literacy class in particular, but handy in other areas, too.
2	Composition Books (marble)	Often needed for literacy class where journals or writing logs need may be periodically submitted to the teacher for feedback.
1	Book for choice reading	A general book/novel for quiet reading time in literacy and/or other times of day.
1	Scientific Calculator	Students may not always have use of Chromebook during assessments in math/science classes. Good for grades 7-12
1 pk	Graph Paper	For math class
1	Padlock	For GYM locker. Good for grades 7-12.
1 set	Sports shorts/t-shirt sneakers	For PE. Recommended sports shorts (mid-thigh in length) and any t-shirts & sweatshirt for cooler weather.
	Tissues (optional)	Classrooms are not supplied with tissues. Donations appreciated.

General Supplies for Home:

1	Ruler	Should have metric and English measures.
12 pk	Colored Pencils	
2-3	"Sharpie" Markers	Different colors/sizes (thick & thin) for projects.
1-2	Glue Stick(s)	
2-4 sheet	Poster Board	2-4 sheets on hand at home for poster projects.
1	3-Hole Punch	
1	Stapler	
1	Printer	Access to a printer at home is still essential
1	Desk/Study Area	A well-lit, quiet area dedicated for school work.

SOME MORE SPECIFIC TIPS

TECHNOLOGY:

- Chromebook Case: All students in grades 5-12 are issued an Acer c720p Chromebook (Dim: 11.6" x 8" x 0.8"). However, the device does not come with a bag or case. It is HIGHLY recommended that students purchase some protective case or sleeve for the device. Suggested cases/bags for the Chromebook are shown below:

<p>13" Laptop Sleeve by Belkin</p>  <p>Light weight. Retractable handle and extra pocket for earbuds/mouse accessories.</p>	<p>Folder Case by VolumeCases.com</p>  <p>Provides padded coverage around device and instant access as case opens/closes with the device.</p>	<p>Flak Jacket 13" by Higher Ground</p>  <p>Highly durable. Handle. Lots of pockets. Will last several years.</p>
--	---	--

- Earbuds: Students will also need a set of earphones or earbuds. It is recommended to have a spare pair beyond what the student may already own.
- Mouse: The Acer c720p has touch screen technology and a touchpad. Some students may still like the use of a mouse and you may consider adding a notebook-sized wireless mouse as an accessory.
- Printer: Although technology allows us to move toward more and more paperless assignments, there will still be a need for students to print documents from time to time. Having access to a printer at home is still a necessity.

LOCKERS: Each student will be issued a locker near homeroom with a built-in padlock. No additional lock needed or allowed. The locker is the same size as at ARIS: 14" wide x 10.5" deep x 35" high. Students should use their lockers and not attempt to carry everything around with them all day. Students have a 20 minute lunch followed by a 20 minute study/break period that is the perfect time to exchange morning items for afternoon. A locker shelf is recommended for those who like to keep things well-organized.

BACKPACKS: Students are permitted to carry bags in school. However, students must use their lockers and should not expect to carry everything around all day. A small backpack or drawstring bag is generally more than sufficient for students. A backpack with a sleeve for laptops/chromebook is ideal. A backpack should NOT have wheels or handles. That's luggage and not permitted.

PHYS. ED.: Students will change for PE at HMS. There is no specific PE uniform, although the HMS Home & School Association does sell sport shorts and t-shirts with Hillsborough colors and logo. Typical sports shorts (at least mid-thigh in length) and plain t-shirts are acceptable for PE. Students will need a **padlock** to secure personal belongings in temporary lockers in the locker-rooms. A drawstring bag can also be useful to help carry gym clothes and a padlock to and from PE class.