

Dear 8W Students and Parents,

Welcome to the 2020-2021 school year! We are excited to welcome students and support them as they continue their educational journeys with us. The beginning of the year is an exciting, celebratory time; however, we must acknowledge that the current health and safety issues also make the beginning of this school year a time filled with concern and fear for many. Know that we remain steadfast in our continued commitment to each student's academic success as well as their health and well-being.

Your last year of middle school is intended to transition and prepare you for high school. Expectations, therefore, will be different from other years and will require you to step up to meet the challenge. All work will be assigned through Schoology, and you may go to other platforms from there. You can expect daily assignments in all of your classes, and it is the expectation that all work is completed. This may even be part of your attendance for the day, so it is important that you complete all daily tasks.

There may be notebook requirements for your classes; however, this will look very different for 20-21. Look for information from individual teachers as to the expectations. Normally, all students need a calculator for both math and science; an excellent choice is Texas Instruments TI-30XIIS. (This is the one used in math.) Although you have a calculator on your iPad/computer/phone, you will need to be prepared to use a hand held calculator for PSSA testing.

Parents, thank you for all that you do to support your children; it cannot be appreciated enough. As this year progresses, we recommend continuing your support by encouraging your children to develop their advocacy skills. This may look like discussing concerns that you might have with your child first, and then allowing your child to handle communication with teachers. This is a great lesson for your child to learn about responsibility. We are, of course, always available for any concerns from parents.

Your core teachers this year will be:

History – Mrs. Williams *(team leader)*

[williaml@carliseschools.org](mailto:williaml@carliseschools.org)

English – Mrs. Mathias

[mathiasj@carliseschools.org](mailto:mathiasj@carliseschools.org)

Science – Ms. Kot

[koth@carliseschools.org](mailto:koth@carliseschools.org)

Math – Mrs. Crocker

[crockerm@carliseschools.org](mailto:crockerm@carliseschools.org)

Enjoy what is left of your summer. We are ready to meet the challenges of the 2020-2021 school year, and we know that we will succeed together. We are here for you!

Sincerely,  
The 8W Teachers

