



MERRIMACK HIGH SCHOOL
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Steve Claire
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October 4, 2021

Dear Merrimack Families,

I hope this October MHS Newsletter finds you and your families doing well and enjoying the Autumn weather. We have embraced the first few weeks of school and although it was not the beginning of school we had all hoped for when we left for the summer last June, our students and staff are all in, moving ahead and looking forward to a great school year.

A little bit about myself:

First and foremost, I am thrilled to be back in Merrimack. I spent 8 years working at Reeds Ferry School from 2001-2009 as a Behavioral Specialist. Before that, my career working with children and adolescents began in 1993 when I accepted the position of residential counselor at Nashua Children's Home (NCH). I worked full time at NCH from 1993-2001, during which time I became a Primary Supervisor. After I began my career in Merrimack in 2001, I continued at NCH on a part time basis from 2001-2019, working every Friday night. I had many wonderful, life changing experiences; most great, some very difficult, at both NCH and Reeds Ferry. These experiences certainly played a huge role in the person and educator I am today.

In 2009, I accepted the position of Assistant Principal at Milford High School. I spent 12 years at Milford, much of which was wonderful. I had the privilege to have a principal who served as my mentor for ten of my first twelve years. He taught me many things. One of the many things I learned was that great teaching and learning must start with a school culture and climate that is built around trusting, caring relationships. We must value each and every person who makes up our school community. This includes our student body, all who work within the school, and all of you. This allows for healthy, trusting relationships to develop organically through our conversations, our interactions, our laughter, our activities, our reflection, and of course our teaching and learning. We must look out for each other, lean on each other, and respect each other's opinions, even if we may disagree.

Finally, I have spoken with some of you and look forward to meeting and getting to know more of you. Thanks to all who have contacted me and welcomed me to Merrimack. I am looking forward to a return to some sense of normalcy and to supporting your children to the best of my abilities.

Please see the next page for some important upcoming events.

Sincerely,

Steve Claire
Interim Principal
Merrimack High School

“Believe, go forward, and inspire...”

What	When/Where	Who
Financial Aid Night Webinar (register for the webinar through the Guidance Office)	October 5, 6:00 pm/Online	Seniors and their parents
School Pictures (forms will go home 10/4 through Homerooms – retakes 11/16)	October 13/In school	All 9 th - 11 th graders
PSATs (registration sessions must be done on 10/6 or 10/7)	October 16, 8:00 am/Cafeteria	10 th and 11 th graders who have registered
Homecoming Dance	October 23, 7-10 PM	All Merrimack High students
Senior Yearbook pictures/baby photos/quotes due 11/1 – see MHS website for details on submitting items		

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