

Dear Nock Community,

On behalf of the Nock staff, I want to welcome you to a new school year. Our first week was busy—learning names, practicing routines and sharing expectations.

Along with the Bresnahan and Molin Schools, the Nock is implementing a school culture program called Positive Behavior Intervention System (PBIS). Schools across the U.S. use PBIS approaches to teach and maintain high expectations for behavior and academics. PBIS puts the focus on the positive, creating systems to acknowledge when we are doing it right.

We will teach and practice what it looks to be kind, respectful, responsible, and aware. And our students will be a part of helping us bring these Clipper Values to life in the hallways, classrooms, auditorium and cafeteria.

In addition, homeroom teachers have reviewed the rules and policies outlined in our Student Handbook. A copy of the handbook can be found under the Parent tab on the Rupert A. Nock School website.

Young people are still learning, and that includes learning behaviors. Everyone is going to have a day when they forget their homework or make a mistake on a problem set, and there will also be days when our students behave in ways that are unexpected and unwelcome. As a community of students, educators and families, we will support students who make mistakes and provide corrective action when needed.

We are calling our PBIS program *The Nock Advantage*—because our students have a great “home court” in Newburyport, in their homes, and in the rooms and hallways of our school. We look forward to sharing more about the *Nock Advantage* initiative as the year progresses.

Just a few reminders for the month ahead:

- School starts at 7:30. **We do not have staff on duty until 7:15—please adjust your arrival accordingly.**
- Tuesday, September 11—School photos Students will receive order sheets from their homeroom teachers
- Thursday, September 20—Open House. We will begin in the auditorium at 6:00PM. Please enter through the doors by the skate park.
- Friday, September 21—Early release, dismissal at 10:45AM

Respectfully,

Lisa Furlong

Principal

