



# APOLLO MIDDLE SCHOOL

LET'S GO ROCKETS! • DR. LOUIS KUSHNER, PRINCIPAL

## 2023-2024 Apollo Rocket Welcome Letter

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year. This school year, we will focus on ensuring that our learning environment is safe, and that classroom instruction is intentional while meeting the needs of every learner that walks through our doors. Our school includes highly qualified educators and staff who contribute to an overall school family feel. We aim to ensure you feel welcome and supported this school year! Please take some time to review this entire opening letter and do not hesitate to reach out to me. My door is always open to you. -L. Kushner, Principal (954) 706-4055 text or call anytime!

2023-2024 School Theme: "One band, one sound"

School Mission: The mission of Apollo Middle School is to ensure an optimum teaching and learning environment that sets high expectations and enables all students to reach their maximum potential. Through a joint community-wide commitment, Apollo Middle will meet the diverse needs of our students and the challenges of a changing society.

School-wide Priorities: Safe and Secure Learning Environment  
Student-Centered Learning  
Relationships with all community members

### SAVE THE DATE! Opening Dates at a glance:

New Student Orientation- All incoming 6th-grade students and new 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup>-grade students to Apollo are invited to attend on **Tuesday, August 15, 2023**. Please visit [estore.browardschools.com](http://estore.browardschools.com) to register. Space is limited.

Schedule Pick Up/Community Event- **Saturday, August 19, 2023, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade 8am-10am, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade 10am-12pm, and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade 12pm-2pm**. Please attend during your scheduled time. If you cannot make it, schedules will be available online through Virtual Counselor on Saturday 8/19.

On-site Uniform sales- Remaining Dates include 8/7, and 8/14 from 5pm-8pm here on campus. See our website for details. Uniforms are expected to be worn starting the first day of school. Please check our website for the full uniform plan.

First Day of School for Students- **Monday, August 21, 2023**. Students can begin entering campus at 9:00am and the tardy bell rings at 9:30 a.m. Please be on time. Every minute counts for instruction!

Coffee and Q1 Interim Drive By- Date will be shared soon.

Rocket Chat with Dr. Kushner- Morning Coffee- Date will be shared soon.

SAC/SAF- August 30, 2023, 5:00 p.m.

PTSA- August 23, 2023, 5:30 p.m.

Open House- Meet your child's teachers- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade will be Thursday 8/31/23 at 6pm. 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade will be Thursday 9/7/23 at 6pm.

Get a head start on back-to-school forms: <https://www.browardschools.com/backtoschool-onlineforms>. Print the confirmation page and turn in to your child's first period teacher or our front office.

If you see something, please say something. All of the adults on this campus are here to support and serve you. To make a report or leave a tip, you may contact the principal directly, or visit [www.browardschools.com/securitytips](http://www.browardschools.com/securitytips)



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To make a report, you may contact the Principal directly, submit a tip online or download the FortifyFL app.

Please know that I am here to support you and all students. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions, comments, or concerns. Our core values at Apollo includes Rockets on the R.I.S.E. where R.I.S.E. stands for Respect Others, Invest in yourself, stay safe, and effectively communicate. -L. Kushner, Principal

## Need Assistance Prior to the First Day?

Please make sure to read this entire document to have many of your questions answered. However, please make note of our key staff members below:

Registration- Delia.Leon@browardschools.com

Transportation- Damon.Martin@browardschools.com

Before and After Care- Renee.Job@browardschools.com

PTSA/SAC/SAF- Damon.Martin@browardschools.com

IEP Questions- Jillian.Vincent@browardschools.com

504 Plan Questions- Berna.Hernandez@browardschools.com

Need to speak to a counselor? - See next page for grade level assignments

Become a parent volunteer- Louis.Kushner@browardschools.com

General Questions- Louis.Kushner@browardschools.com

**Free Breakfast and Lunch-** The Food and Nutrition Service Department will provide all students with free breakfast and lunch under the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) for the 2023-2024 School Year.

**Transportation-** Register to Ride- <https://www.browardschools.com/register2ride>

**Uniforms-** Please visit website to view our uniform policy. Visit [www.dazoli.com](http://www.dazoli.com) to purchase uniforms online or you may still purchase uniform items from your store of choice. I.D. Badges and Uniforms are mandatory from day 1. The dress code will be strictly enforced.

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## **Important Contact Information**

**Visit our website, [www.browardschools.com/apollo](http://www.browardschools.com/apollo) for a full list of e-mail addresses for all staff members.**

### **6<sup>th</sup> Grade Office**

**Assistant Principal:**

**School Counselor:**

**Mrs. Miriam Niebla**

**Mrs. Berna Hernandez**

**[Miriam.niebla@browardschools.com](mailto:Miriam.niebla@browardschools.com)**

**[Berna.Hernandez@browardschools.com](mailto:Berna.Hernandez@browardschools.com)**



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## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Office

Assistant Principal:

School Counselor:

Ms. Jerelle Robinson

Ms. Ines Feliciano

[Jerelle.Robinson@browardschools.com](mailto:Jerelle.Robinson@browardschools.com)

[Ines.Feliciano@browardschools.com](mailto:Ines.Feliciano@browardschools.com)

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Office

Assistant Principal:

School Counselor:

Mr. Damon Martin

Mrs. Renee Job

[Damon.Martin@browardschools.com](mailto:Damon.Martin@browardschools.com)

[Renee.Job@browardschools.com](mailto:Renee.Job@browardschools.com)

## Arrival

**Students MAY NOT be on campus before 9:00 A.M. If this time does not work for your family, you must register for before care as we do not have supervision before 9:00 A.M.** Starting at 8:55 am, students will enter the school through the front entrance and report to their assigned location. For our students' safety, students cannot cross the car lanes or parking lot and must be let out of the car only on the curbside of the sidewalk. Morning Assignments per grade-level:

Grade 6- Kiva (Auditorium)

Grade 7- Cafeteria

Grade 8- Gym

All students can report to the cafeteria in the morning beginning at 9:00 am if they would like breakfast.

## Dismissal

Students are dismissed- based on location in a staggered format to minimize students in the hallway. Students not in an approved, supervised Aftercare Program/Activity must exit campus immediately.

## Montella Park (DO NOT PLAN FOR THIS!)

There is no supervision at any time at Montella Park which is located next to our school. Students should not be directed to wait for a parent before or after school at the park. If you choose to have your child report to the park, you and your child are responsible for all behaviors and happenings at the park. This park is not sponsored by our school. This park belongs to the City of Hollywood and the Hollywood Police Department should be contacted for any park issues. Please note that under state statute, our school safety zone includes the park. Meaning, students can receive school consequences for behaviors that take place at the park.

## Inclement Weather

If there is rain during arrival/dismissal, students will follow normal procedures. However, if the school is under a lightning alert, we will follow inclement weather procedures. For arrival, students enter the main building or the covered breezeway and report to their usual morning locations. At dismissal, bus riders report to their buses or the Gym. Car riders/Walkers report to 3 designated rooms by last name and staff will communicate via radios to dismiss students to their car. Your patience is appreciated as we keep our students safe.

## On Campus Safety

Apollo Middle is committed to ensuring the safety of all students. We have a full-time School Resource Officer- Officer Julie Graziani, Security Specialist- Mr. Raymond Lee, and a team of four additional Campus Monitors. All guests enter campus through the single point of entry via the buzzer system after proper vetting which includes visitors sharing their purpose for being on campus and showing their ID through the camera. All students, staff, and guests must wear ID Badges; Guests are escorted by staff members. Perimeter gates remain locked and security checks are conducted school-wide frequently. All staff and students are trained on emergency preparedness procedures. Drills are conducted monthly. There are digital real-time security cameras surveilling the entire campus. Report any unsafe happenings after hours via logging on to - **See Something, Say Something!** <https://www.browardschools.com/securitytips>