

*Dear Parents/Guardians of the Freshman Class:*

*Please read the following letter from Mr. Ron Peterson, Principal of Voorhees High School, regarding Freshman Orientation, which will be held on August 21, 2024.*

*Please click [here](#) for the schedule.*

*Sincerely,  
Juliana Scricco  
District Communications Coordinator*

August 2024

Dear Students and Parents of the Class of 2028,

Welcome to Voorhees High School! In a few short weeks, you will begin a very exciting and rewarding high school career. In the next four years, you will have many and varied opportunities for growth and success in academics, co-curricular activities, and student government. I encourage you to get involved right from the start. You can review our list of [student clubs](#) on our website. You will find that participation in one or more of these areas will add to your high school experience. The weeks and months ahead will be challenging, but please be assured that we will provide you with encouragement and support in every way possible.

### **Freshman Orientation Program**

We have scheduled an orientation program for freshmen on Wednesday, August 21, 2024 beginning at 9:45AM in our auditorium. On that day, a bus will pick you up at your bus stop exactly two hours later than the time indicated in the Transportation tab in ASPEN. Lunch will be available in the cafeteria. You can view the menus at the following link: [Pomptonian Menus](#) (menus will be posted closer to school opening). We are a cashless cafeteria so an account must be created in PaySchools in order for you to make purchases in the cafeteria. Students enter their school ID number in the keypad at the register to make a purchase, which will be deducted from the PaySchools account. More information can be found on our [Food Services](#) website.

Each grade level has an assigned assistant principal. Mrs. Jennifer Komoroski is the Assistant Principal for the Class of 2027 and will remain with the class until graduation. Please feel free to contact her with any of your questions or concerns.

## **First Day of School**

The first official day of school for all students is Thursday, August 22, 2024, which will be an A Day. We follow a rolling drop block schedule that includes A, B, C and D days. More information on how the schedule works will be sent when full course schedules are published in Aspen in the coming weeks. The 2024-2025 rotation schedule showing A, B, C and D Days has been posted on our [bell schedules webpage](#). The 2024-2025 [school calendar](#) is posted on our website.

## **Student IDs**

Students at Voorhees are required to carry their photo identification badges. Your freshman will be photographed early in the school year and provided with an ID as soon as they are processed.

## **PTSO**

The [Parent Teacher Student Organization](#) plays a vital role at Voorhees. One of its most important functions is Project Graduation. Through a series of fundraisers throughout the year, the PTSO provides a substance-free night of celebration for our seniors following graduation. Please join and lend your support to this very important organization.

## **Parent/Student Handbook**

The [Parent-Student Handbook](#) is available on the Voorhees website. We encourage you to become familiar with the information contained in this reference and mark the dates of important school events throughout the year. Of particular note, please read over the attendance policy, the dress code, and the electronic devices policy. These areas raise many questions every year for freshmen and their parents.

## **Access to the Student Information System (Aspen)**

Freshmen parents/guardians should have received login information to access Aspen, our student information system. This system will allow you to view your student's schedule, assignments, attendance, locker information, and fees. In addition, your student's bus route and pick-up time is now available in Aspen. (Please note, the transportation department does not mail home bus cards.) If you already have an account in Aspen from last year, please note that your freshman will be automatically added to your account. Instructions on how freshmen can access their own login for Aspen has been emailed to parents and their login will be given to them during freshman orientation. If you have any problems with your parent Aspen account, please contact our database operations manager, Sherri DiMarcello, at [sdimarcello@nhvweb.net](mailto:sdimarcello@nhvweb.net).

## **Chromebooks and School Network Access**

Our school district has a 1:1 initiative that provides a Chromebook and a school Google email account to every student. Chromebooks will be distributed to freshmen at orientation on Wednesday, August 23rd. In order to receive a district-issued Chromebook, a parent must have completed the Technology Agreement Form in Aspen prior to orientation day. Form is located under Page Directory, then Technology Forms.

Students also have the option to bring their own device to school. For more information on accepted devices and things to consider, please visit our technology services website ([click here](#)). If your student would like to bring his/her own device, please select that choice in the Technology Agreement Form that must be completed in Aspen. The student's device will need to be registered on our school server, which can be done at orientation, or the student can bring his/her device to the Technology Resource Center on the second floor during the regular school day.

To access the school's network, parent/guardian and student must agree to the district's technology acceptable use policy in the Technology Agreement Form. If that section of the form is not completed by a parent/guardian, the student will be unable to log into the school's network or internet.

## **Media Center/Library**

The mission of the Voorhees High School Library Media Center is to:

- encourage students and staff to find, evaluate, and ethically use information and ideas for their educational, informational, and recreational needs.
- promote an appreciation of literature that enables students to become lifelong readers and learners.

If parents wish to have certain books restricted for their student, please complete the Google Form in the following link: <https://forms.gle/qw3GMdpvtFiQd1rc7>

## **Back to School Night**

Back to School Night will be held on Wednesday, August 28, 2024 at 6:30pm., both in-person and virtually. More information will be shared closer to the date.

## **Random Substance Testing**

The North Hunterdon-Voorhees Regional School District Board of Education has a random substance testing policy. All students who participate in a co-curricular activity not required for graduation are subject to random substance testing. Any student planning to participate in a co-curricular activity must complete a consent form signed by his or her parent or guardian to be eligible for participation. This form is included in the Aspen registration information for co-curricular activities. If you have any questions, feel free to call me at (908) 638-6116.

## **Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying**

Harassment, intimidation and bullying of any kind are not tolerated at Voorhees High School. The complete Board of Education [policy on bullying and harassment](#) can be found on the Voorhees and district websites.

Again, on behalf of the faculty and staff, I welcome you to Voorhees High School. I look forward to meeting you on August 21. Until then, enjoy the remainder of your summer.

Sincerely,

Ronald J. Peterson

Principal

[Freshmen & New Student Orientation Schedule.pdf](#)