



EMBRACE CHALLENGE,
DISCOVER YOURSELF.

June 2019

Dear Parents,

The spirit of the uniform dress code at Nichols Middle School is to provide a model for appropriate appearance in an educational and business setting. All attire (even on dress down days) should be in good condition, clean, and appropriate. Nichols Middle School has a vast array of gently used uniforms. Please feel free to purchase items at any time. Also, as your children grow throughout the year, please feel free to exchange items for larger sizes free of charge.

We are very pleased once again to present you with the options available for your child's uniform for the 2019-2020 school year. We will be working with Land's End as our uniform supplier. Each year we update the uniform options that are available to Nichols students. *Please confine your selections to those earmarked for Nichols students on the website*, which you may view at:

Lands' End website: www.landsend.com/school
Nichols Code: 900126202

The Nichols School logo is mandatory on polo shirts (both long- and short-sleeved), turtlenecks, and sweaters only. It is optional on all other uniform pieces. Finally, **please put your child's name on all pieces of their uniform for ease in identifying lost or mislaid items.** Other items with the Nichols logo sold at the Nichols bookstore (fleeces, pullovers, etc.) may be worn overtop the Nichols uniform.

Supplemental Pieces:

These are the pieces that complete the uniform, but can be purchased anywhere, according to personal taste. Please follow the guidelines below when making your purchases.

- Khaki or Land's End selected skirts (of an appropriate length nearly touching the knee) or pants (shorts are allowed in the fall and spring).
- Socks must be worn during the school day and can be any color, but should be designed for dress shoes and not for athletic footwear. Also, students should wear different socks during the school day versus during their athletic periods.
- Dress shoes/boots must be worn and be closed toe/heel. Heel height maximum 1-1/2 inches. Shoe laces should be non-athletic and appropriate to the dress shoe. Dress sneakers, fashion sneakers, anything close to an athletic shoe is not permitted.
- Sandals, flip-flops, slippers, etc. are not allowed.
- Solid color button down shirts are allowed accompanied with a tie.

The dress code is an important tool to help create a school atmosphere of learning and growth. As trends change, we attempt to adjust our policies accordingly. When making decisions around particular items of dress, we often refer to the 'spirit' of the dress code.

Sincerely,

Greg Plumb
Middle School Dean of Students



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Dear 6th Grade Parents,

We want to share information about the 6th Grade Orientation trip in September. Whether you are new to Nichols or are “veterans” of the School, there are new aspects to each school year. The whole 6th grade class and its advisors will spend two days at Whispering Pines Camp in Franklinville, N.Y. We will be there from Thursday, Sept. 5 through Friday, Sept. 6. The first day of school is Wednesday, Sept. 4. Our Orientation trip to Whispering Pines Camp is led by Earth Spirit, a local group of naturalists and educators who work with young people, teaching a respect and sensitivity for the ways of nature through various interactive activities.

We believe there are many benefits from this experience. Coming during the beginning of school, it will give us all, old and new to Nichols, an opportunity to build and strengthen relationships with teachers and fellow students alike. The trip will allow us to focus on connections to our environment, within and between our various academic disciplines, and most importantly, with each other. This trip is a springboard for the entire 6th grade year, and activities such as shelter building, orienteering, group problem solving, foraging, wildlife ecology, evening campfires and storytelling, and even preparing our own meals as advisories will be important for all of our learning. The whole trip sets a wonderful tone for working together as the 6th grade community.

Here are just a few logistical details: We will be leaving shortly after 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, Sept. 5, via coach to travel to Whispering Pines. Your child should come to school dressed in their camping attire (shorts, sneakers, t-shirt and pants). Whispering Pines Camp has a variety of facilities, including dorm space, showers, bathrooms, recreation space, dining space and a fully equipped kitchen. Staff will include all 6th grade advisors and Earth Spirit instructors. There is no additional cost for this experience. Though you will not need to purchase any special equipment for this trip, we are enclosing a packing list if you wish to gather things over the summer. The children will return to school via coach between 4:00-4:30 p.m. on Friday and will need to be picked-up by a parent or guardian in the back behind the gym. The students will miss the afternoon buses home.

If you have any questions about the trip, please contact the school or email me: jalford@nicholsschool.org. Best wishes to all for a great summer, and we look forward to greeting you all in September.

Sincerely yours,

Julie Alford, 6th Grade Team Leader

What to pack (you will carry your own gear, so pack light!):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shorts | <input type="checkbox"/> Towel |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pants | <input type="checkbox"/> Light jacket or sweatshirt |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Extra hiking boots/sneakers | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 brown bagged lunch (you will eat this Thursday); 1 bottle of water, filled |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Socks | <input type="checkbox"/> Rain gear (if necessary) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Underwear | <input type="checkbox"/> Sunscreen and hat |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PJs | <input type="checkbox"/> Bag for wet clothes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping bag/pillow | <input type="checkbox"/> No electronics or phone |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bug spray | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Toiletries | |



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5th and 6th Grade Athletic Equipment Requirements for the 2019-2020 School Year

All students participating in Physical Education are required to have the following locked in their assigned gym lockers at all times:

- Practice short(s)
- Athletic t-shirt(s)
- Athletic socks
- Sweatshirt(s) and sweatpants
- Cold weather accessories – hat, gloves, etc.
- Two pairs of footwear:
 - One pair of sneakers – will be worn ONLY for indoor activities (*to protect the gym floor*)
 - One pair of sneakers or molded cleats – will be worn ONLY for outdoor activities (*or any footwear appropriate for a particular sport*)

Athletic clothing may be purchased at the Nichols Campus Store.

All students are required to use a Nichols School lock on gym lockers, which can be purchased in the Nichols Campus Store.

Additional sport specific requirements:

- **SOCCER:** shin guards – please get taller shin guards rather than short ones
- **GIRLS' FIELD HOCKEY:** mouth guard* and tall shin guards (just below the knee)
- **ICE HOCKEY** (*needed by Oct. 30*): pads (*shin, elbow and shoulder*), skates, helmet, hockey pants, cup/pelvic protector, hockey stick, neck guard, gloves and mouth guard
- **RECREATIONAL SKATING** (*needed by Oct. 30*): ice skates (*new or used, both figure and/ or hockey skates*), winter gloves, helmet (*bicycle helmet is acceptable*), winter hat
- **BOYS' LACROSSE:** mouth guard (*helmet, shoulder and elbow pads, lacrosse stick, gloves, cup, green shorts and rib pads are all optional; hockey equipment may also be used*)
- **GIRLS' LACROSSE:** mouth guard – generic mouth guards-\$2.00; SISU custom mouth guards are available in the equipment room for \$25.00.

NOTE: Please clearly label all of your child's equipment and clothing with his/her name.

Extra Curricular 5&6 grade teams (optional) - these are after school practices 2x per week

- **Soccer** (Fall) – good soccer shin guards
- **Basketball** (Winter)
- **Lacrosse** (Spring)
 - Boys: lacrosse helmet, shoulder and elbow pads, boys lacrosse stick, gloves, cup, green shorts and rib pads needed
 - Girls: mouth guard, *NEW IN 2017*: ASTM 3077 approved eyewear (must say approved for ASTM 3077 standard on the eyewear itself), girls lacrosse stick.



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6th Grade Supply List 2019-2020

General (can be purchased at a store of your choice and brought to school on Wed., Sept. 4):

- Small manual pencil sharpener
- 5 pens (black or blue only)
- Highlighters
- One pack of dry erase markers and an eraser
- Colored pencils (12 packs)
- Wide-lined paper (100 pages)
- General use calculator (adding/subtracting/multiplying/dividing)
- One hand sanitizer w/pump

At Home:

- Pens/Pencils/Markers
- Glue sticks
- Index cards
- Stapler
- 3-ring punch
- Poster board

To be purchased at the Nichols Book Store only:

- French Students: French/English dictionary
- Spanish Students: Spanish/English dictionary

**** Please do NOT purchase a binder or any folders.
Sixth graders will be given these the first day of school****



NICHOLS SCHOOL CALENDAR-2019-2020
2/15/19

August 2019

Monday, August 19
Monday, August 26
Monday-Friday, August 26-30

Fall Sports Practices Begin
New Faculty/Staff Orientation
Opening Faculty Meetings

September 2019

Tuesday, September 3
Wednesday, September 4
Thursday, September 12
Thursday, September 19
Friday, September 27
Saturday, September 28

New Student Orientation (Grades 6-12)
Opening Day of the 128th Nichols School Year
US Parents' Go-to-School Night, 6:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
MS Parents' Go-to-School Night, 6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
Spirit Day/Big Green Party
Homecoming

October 2019

Friday, October 4
Sunday, October 6
Wednesday, October 9
Thursday, October 10
Monday, October 14
Tuesday, October 15

Convocation and Student Commons Dedication – Time TBD
All-School Open House – Time TBD
School Closed – Yom Kippur
Grade 9 and US New Student Parent/Teacher Conferences, 3:30-8 p.m.
School Closed – Columbus Day
Professional Day – No Classes

November 2019

Thursday, November 7
Friday, November 8
Monday, November 11
Wednesday-Friday, November 27-29

US Parent Conferences, 3:30-8:00 p.m.
US Parent Conferences, 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. (No classes for US students)
School Closed – Veterans Day
School Closed – Thanksgiving Break

December 2019

Thursday, December 5
Friday, December 6
Monday-Friday, December 16-20
Friday, December 20

MS Parent Conferences, 4:00-8:00 p.m.
MS Parent Conferences, 8:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. (No classes for MS students)
US Mid-Year Exams
Holiday Break begins at end of school day

January 2020

Monday, January 6
Friday, January 17
Monday, January 20

Classes Resume
Professional Day – No Classes
School Closed – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

February 2020

Monday, February 3
Monday-Tuesday, February 17-18
Thursday, February 20

Professional Day – No Classes
School Closed – Winter Break
Sophomore Parent/Advisor Conferences, 3:30-7:30 p.m.

March 2020

Monday, March 9
Friday, March 27

Professional Day – No Classes
Spring Break begins at end of school day

April 2020

Monday, April 13
Monday, April 27

Classes resume
Professional Day – No Classes

May 2020

Saturday, May 2
Friday, May 22
Monday, May 25
Thursday-Friday, May 28-29

Derby Day Auction
Verdian Day; Jr./Sr. Prom
School Closed – Memorial Day
MS and US Exams

June 2020

Monday-Tuesday, June 1-2
Tuesday, June 2
Wednesday, June 3
Friday, June 5
Friday-Saturday, June 5-6

MS and US Exams
Senior/Faculty/Alumni Induction Luncheon
8th Grade Recognition/MS Awards Ceremony; Senior Thesis Celebration
128th Upper School Commencement, 11:00 a.m.
Reunion weekend