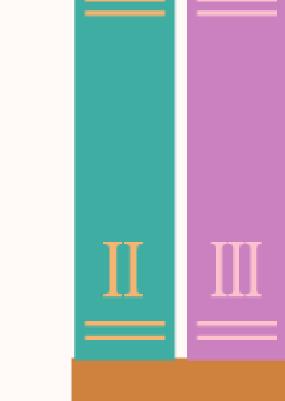


## North Middle School Newsletter



OCTOBER 2023

A word from our Principal...

Hello North Viking Families and Welcome to October!

The beginning of the school year always amazes me because while it's not easy for students, staff and families to adjust to a new school year, the time absolutely FLIES BY, and before we even know it, we are almost already through the first quarter, and we have had an excellent start! Your students are amazing—our administrative team is excited to see students daily, and we are blessed to work with an excellent teaching and paraprofessional staff. I think the best part of coming to school every day is the smiling faces—I enjoy greeting them as they start their day, and I miss it when I am out of the building and can't say hello. Your students have boundless energy, and even though the cacophony of noise is crazy when they come in from lunch, I love to see them full of life, laughter, and friendship, so I will take the noise everyday if it means they are happy.

Just to give you a bit of feedback surrounding how we have started the school year, we are working to increase our attendance rate from last year. This past year, our attendance hovered in the 85% range, and our goal this year is to stay above 90%. Thus far, we have been able to maintain that goal as our current average daily attendance is slightly above 90%. To enhance our attendance, you and your students will see more information regarding the importance of attendance, students will receive attendance incentives, and families who are in non-compliance with attendance law will receive documentation on behalf of North and District 11. Bottom line, if students miss more than 3 days in a month, or 10 days in a school year, families are in non-compliance with attendance law. Although we don't really care to follow the path to non-compliance, we need students in school to make a difference in them academically and socially, so we want your students to be here at North daily!

Our beginning of year STAR testing went well—we tested about 10 more students than we did the fall of last year, our average reading percent meets and exceeds was 2% higher than where we started last year, and our math was down 1% from where we started last year. This is just a first data point—we know we will grow students well over the course of the year, and our teachers and your students will work hard to help them achieve their best!

We have some important dates coming up in October, so below is a list of what you can expect for the end of the first quarter and start of the second.

October 12th: End of first quarter

October 13th & 16th: Teacher workday and Building PD Day — NO STUDENTS

October 18th: Quarter 1 grades in PowerSchool

October 25th: Parent/Teacher Evening Conferences from 5 – 8pm October 26th: Parent/Teacher Conferences from 8am – 6pm

Families, you can schedule conferences at the following link: <a href="http://www.canyoncreeksoftware.com/scheduler/co/d11/index.cfm">http://www.canyoncreeksoftware.com/scheduler/co/d11/index.cfm</a>, using the password "North".

Thank you for your continued partnership, and as always, please contact me with questions or concerns,





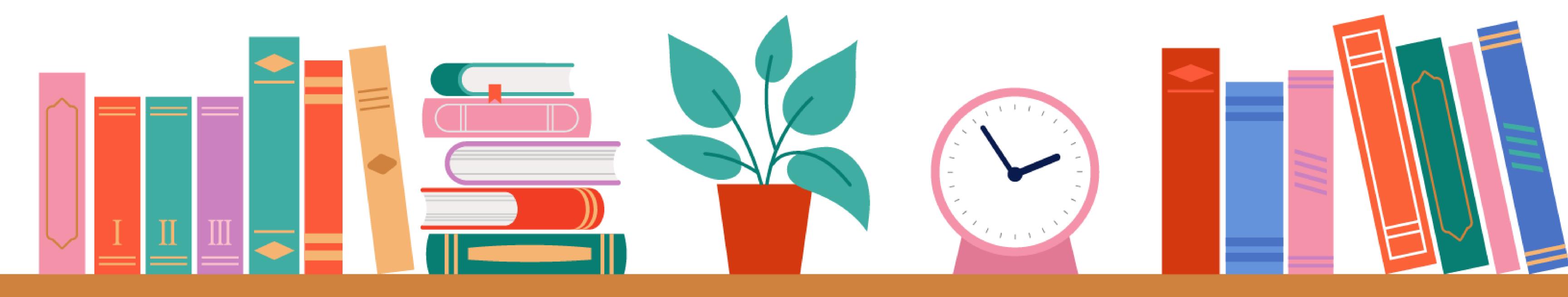


#### NORTH MIDDLE SCHOOL'S MISSION STATEMENT

North Middle School Students will be productive and successful citizens. We hold our students to high standards so they will set goals, think for themselves, problem-solve and take responsibility for their own learning.

We will fulfill our collective responsibility to reach and teach all students by building a collaborative and professional climate.

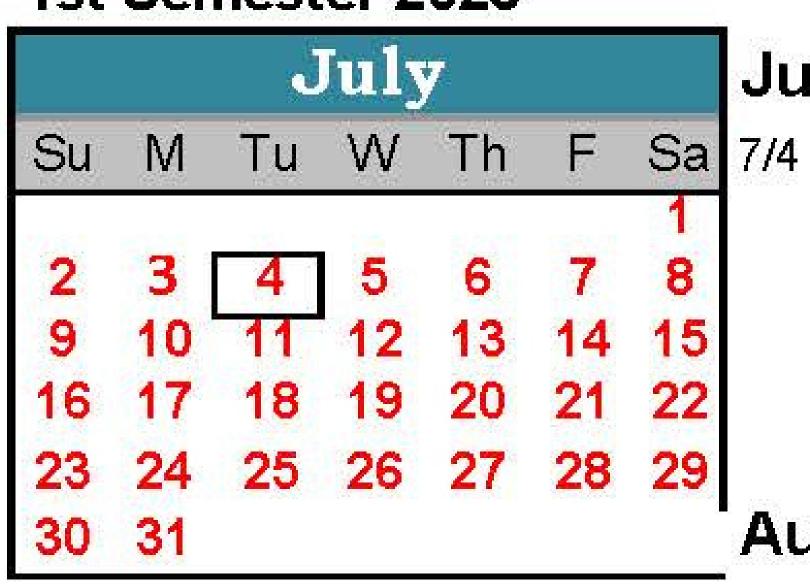
PLEASE CLICK THIS LINK
FOR THIS MONTH'S
UPCOMING EVENTS



#### COLORADO SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT 11 2023-2024

#### **Adopted 2/22/23**

#### 1st Semester 2023



#### July

Independence Day

#### August

8/4-8/8 New Teacher Orientation	
---------------------------------	--

		Αι	ıgu	st			8/9 Building Meeting Day
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	8/10 District Prof. Dev. Day
ī		1	2	3	4	5	(ES 1/2 Work Day, 1/2 Prof.
6	7	8	[9]	[10]	[11]	12	8/11 District Prof. Dev. Day 8/14 Building Prof. Dev. Day (ES 1/2 Work Day, 1/2 Prof.
13	[14]	[15]	<b>[</b> 16	17	18	19	8/14 Building Prof. Dev. Day
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	(ES 1/2 Work Day, 1/2 Prof.
27	28	29	30	31			8/15 Teacher Work Day
÷		12/1	7				8/16 First Day of School

(ES 1/2 Work Day, 1/2 Prof. Dev.) 8/11 District Prof. Dev. Day 8/14 Building Prof. Dev. Day (ES 1/2 Work Day, 1/2 Prof. Dev.)

September											
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30	(2)				

#### September

9/4 Labor Day 9/22 District Prof. Dev. Dayno students (ES 12/ Work Day, 1/2 Prof. Dev.)

#### October

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29	30	31				
		20/	22			

10/2 C	official Count Day
10/12	End of 1st Quarter (40 days)
10/13	Teacher Work Day-no students
10/16	Building Prof. Dev. Day-
no stu	dents
(ES 1/	2 Data Collaboration Day

1/2 Prof. Dev.) 10/17 Beginning of 2nd Quarter 10/26-10/27 Parent/Teacher Conf.

#### November Su 18 14 24 25 19 23 26

#### Sal November

11/11 Veterans Day 11/20 - 11/24 Thanksgiving Break

28 29 30 17/17

December										
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#### December

12/20 End of 2nd Quarter (42 days) 12/20 End of 1st Semester (82 days) 12/21 - 1/2 Winter Break (teachers) 12/21 - 1/5 Winter Break (students) 12/25 - Christmas Day

14/14

#### KEY

] =**No Students** -(Conferences (2), District/Bldg. (1),Teacher Work Day (5), Prof Development Day (8) (may include in-service, data analysis, team planning, data entry, etc.),

□ = Schools Closed

= Beginning of Quarter, ] = End of Quarter

#### January

1/1 New Year's Day 1/3 Teacher Work Day-no students 1/4 Building Prof. Dev. Day -(ES 1/2 Work Day, 1/2 Prof. Dev.)

1/5 District Prof. Dev. Day

1/8 Students Return

1/15 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day-District Closed

#### February

2/19 Presidents' Day-District closed 2/29 Leap Year

#### March

3/13 End of 3rd Quarter (46 days) 3/14 Teacher Work Day no students 3/15 District Prof. Dev. Day no students

(ES 1/2 Data Collaboration Day, 1/2 Prof. Dev.)

3/18 Beginning of 4th Quarter 3/25 - 3/29 Spring Break April

#### May

5/21 End of 4th Quarter ES (42 days) 5/21 End of 2nd Sem. ES (88 days) If additional days are not required 5/22 Teacher Work Day ES 5/24 End of 4th Qrt. MS/HS (45 days) 5/24 End of 2nd Sem. MS/HS(91 days)

#### If additional days are not required

5/27 Memorial Day 5/28 Teacher Work Day MS/HS June

#### 2nd Semester 2024

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May										
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						<u> </u>

#### High School Graduation Dates

Doherty HS 9am, Coronado HS 3pm - World Arena

5/ 22 Mitchell HS 9am, Palmer HS 3pm - World Arena

Alternative High Schools - Roy J. Wasson Campus:

5/16 Odyssey 9am, Tesla 1pm

5/17 Achieve HS 9am, Bijou 1pm

5/30 Adult Education 7pm

All school schedules may be adjusted for final exams, state required testing and graduation.

## BACCALAUREATE LEARNER PROFILE

INQUIRERS... KNOWLEDGEABLE... THINKERS...
COMMUNICATORS... PRINCIPLES... OPEN-MINDED... CARING...
RISK-TAKERS... BALANCED... REFLECT



I choose to actively explore concepts, ideas, and issues that have local and/or global significance. By doing this I work toward acquiring a more in-depth knowledge, which will help to develop a deeper understanding across a broad and balanced range of study.

IBMYP Challenge: Am I listening to other ideas with an open and willing attitude? Do I seek out accurate information? Am I willing to look beyond facts and event to find the "whys" and "hows" of their relationships to the world? Can I see where different areas of interest interact?



Lost IDs can be replaced for \$5 in the library.

Picture retakes were October 3rd.

Parents here are 3 ways you can contact Lifetouch for help:

Jessica - School Support Specialist: 303-565-5208 Lifetouch General Customer Service: 800-736-4753 To email Customer Service: colorado@lifetouch.com

Please see <u>flyer</u> for additional information!

Meals at North Middle School

- Free breakfast and lunch for all students
- Students are **not** allowed to receive food deliveries from Door Dash, Grub Hub or any other delivery service. Only parents may bring outside food to the school and <u>only</u> for their child. Students may **not** share food with other students.
- Lunch times:

6th Grade-1:17-1:47

7th Grade-12:37-1:07

8th Grade-11:57-12:27

## North Middle Parent-Teacher Conferences

NORTH MS CONFERENCES WILL BE HELD:

Wednesday, October 25th Thursday, October 26th

5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

8:00 AM - 6:00 PM

There are NO CONFERENCES on Friday, October 27th.

There is NO SCHOOL on Thursday and Friday, October 26th & 27th.

ALL CONFERENCES MUST BE SCHEDULED ONLINE.

The scheduling link attached will open Monday, October 2nd, at 9AM. The link is also available on the NMS Website.

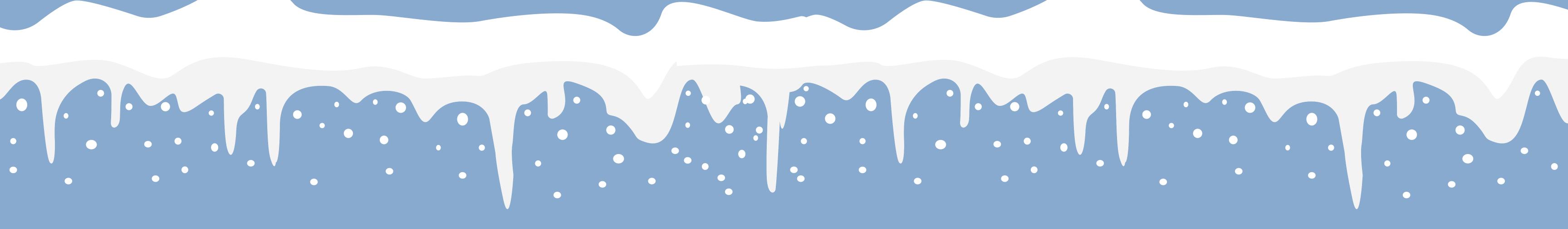
PASSWORD FOR SCHEDULING: "North"

Impactful parent-teacher conferences can boost family involvement in schools and classrooms and help promote positive outcomes for all students. A parent-teacher conference is a great opportunity to:

- Share academic progress and growth based on classroom observations, testing data, assessments, portfolios, and assignments;
- Learn about your child's academic strengths, needs, behaviors, and learning styles;
- Discuss enrichment or intervention strategies to support students' learning; and
- Discuss issues that may be interfering with students' learning and growth. Be sure to schedule and attend these important conferences at the end of October. We look forward to seeing you there!

## Inclement Weather Information What to Know Before the Snow

It's just a matter of time before the weather starts to turn cold and the snow starts to fly! Weather severity will determine D11's response.



#### What types of inclement weather decisions are there?

Depending on weather severity and how many remote learning days have been used during a school year, one of three decisions will be made:

- Full closure-all District 11 schools and offices will be closed and there is no expectation of remote working/learning.
- Two-hour delay--School will start in-person exactly two hours later than normally scheduled.
   There will be no AM preschool, and buses will pick up exactly two hours later than normal.

#### How are the inclement weather decisions made?

Sudden weather changes are part of what we expect in Colorado. To help us ensure the safety of our students and staff to the best of our abilities, School District 11 has appointed supervisory personnel to drive sections of the District during a predicted storm. We assign the driving sections because, as we all know, the weather in one part of our city can be completely different than in another part of the city during a storm. The supervisory personnel report on weather and road conditions, especially noting poor visibility, poor traction and other hazardous street conditions, wind chill factors, and snow accumulation. These on-the-street supervisors report their findings, and the Superintendent is briefed on the conditions. We evaluate the conditions and further driving reviews and conversations may occur.

The employee reports are used in addition to the reports from the U.S. Weather Bureau and the Colorado Springs Street Division, and in coordination with neighboring school districts. After all the data is examined, a decision is made for either a delayed start, a remote learning day, a full school closure, or school as usual. All of this usually begins the night before a storm is predicted to hit and is accomplished by 5:30 AM so you may be notified in a timely manner.

#### May I choose to keep my child home if the decision is made to hold in-person learning?

You as a parent/guardian make the final decision concerning the safety of your child. If you think conditions are unsafe when the District keeps schools open, you may keep your child at home. Remember to follow the proper absence reporting procedures by calling your child's school to report the absence, and your child's absence will be excused; all work may be made up without penalty.

#### How will inclement weather announcements be made?

The District uses the D11 Loop email, app push, and text messaging system to send announcements about inclement weather days. If you have not yet opted in to receive text messages and would like to, please visit <a href="https://www.d11.org/loop">www.d11.org/loop</a> and follow the instructions. You may also view any of the D11 school or district websites, where an alert will automatically pop up after a decision has been made. The local TV stations (KRDO, KXRM, KOAA, and KKTV) will also report these decisions and a tweet will be shared via the District's Twitter feed, @CSSD11.

#### NORTH MS & NJHS PRESENTS

# TRUNK OR TRUKS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2023 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM CANDY COLLECTIONS WILL BEGIN MONDAY, SEPT. 25

NORTH MIDDLE SCHOOL 612 E. YAMPA ST. TEACHERS' PARKING LOT







THE VIKING PLAYERS OF NORTH MIDDLE SCHOOL DRAMA PRESENT...



NOVEMBER 14, 15 & 16 @ 6:00 PM
NORTH MIDDLE SCHOOL CAFETORIUM

#### FREE GENERAL ADMISSION

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.NorthMiddleSchoolDrama.com

OR FOLLOW THE QR CODE.

CONCESSIONS AVAILABLE FOR CASH PURCHASE



## NORTH MIDDLE SCHOOL DRAMA'S 8TH GRADE ADVANCED CLASS PRESENTS...



By Kenneth R. Preuss



COMMUNITY/PUBLIC PERFORMANCE OCTOBER 23RD AT 5:30PM

NORTH MS STUDENT PERFORMANCE OCTOBER 25 @ 3PM

@ NORTH MIDDLE SCHOOL CAFETORIUM

ALL PERFORMANCES ARE FREE! DONATIONS APPRECIATED.

## NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY



NJHS is open to any 7th or 8th grade student who maintains at least a 3.5 cumulative GPA and has no Level 2 or higher behavior referrals. NJHS is a service organization and meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesday every month, 7:45 AM - 8:30 AM. For more information, please contact Mr. Trujillo.

#### COMMUNITY LIAISON CORNER

My name is Connie Rogers and I am the Community Liaison at North Middle School. I'm here to provide guidance and access to resources in our community for our families and students so children can have a more successful educational experience. I can also provide direct assistance with school supplies, personal care items, and basic groceries provided by our partnership with Care & Share.

The holiday season is fast approaching. If your family needs additional support for Thanksgiving and/or Christmas, feel free to call and I will place your name on a list for notification. I will reach out to families as holiday resources come available.

My office and the new Viking Center is located in room 104D and 104E in the east annex hallway.

I can be reached at connie.rogers@d11.org or my direct line: 719-328-2452. Thank you, Connie Rogers



## BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ARE HERE

Student participation in before and after school activities depends on the talents and time of our dedicated teaching staff! Teachers and staff start new clubs throughout the year; we'll keep you posted as that happens!

DM Club - D&D Club - Drama Club Girls Track - Cross Country - Football
- Boys Golf- Kids on Bikes - Avocado
Club - Wrestling - Yearbook Club Pride Club

Details will be posted on the North home page.

CLUB/ACTIVITY	MEETING DAYS	START/END	TIMES	SPONSOR(S)	LOCATION
		MORNING			
Avocado Club	Friday's	September-December	8:00-8:30AM	Jenny Malin	Room 164
Wrestling	Monday-Friday	Sept. 11th-Sept. 29th	7:00-8:15AM	Coach Moore	Gym
					— <b>,</b>
		AFTERNOON			
DM Club	Monday's	September-May	4:00-5:30PM	Christal Bricker	Room 258
D&D Club	Friday's	September-May	4:00-5:30PM	Christal Bricker	Room 258
Drama Club	M/T/Th	September-May	4:00-5:30PM	Amanda Gaden	Cafeteria
Kids on Bikes	Thursday's	September-October	4:00-5:30PM	Kate Bauder	Room 160
Pride Club	Wednesday's	September-May	4:00-5:00PM	Kate DeJong	Room 230
Yearbook Club	Wednesday's	September-December	4:00-4:30PM	Steven Wolf	Room 159
		SPORTS			
Cross Country	Monday-Friday	August-October	4:00-5:30PM	Coach Walker	Outside
Football	Monday-Friday	August-September	4:00-6:30PM	Coach Moore	Outside
Girls Track	Monday-Friday	August-October	4:00-5:30PM	Coach Freeman	Outside
Wrestling	Monday-Friday	Septmeber-November	4:05-6:05PM	Coach Moore	Cafeteria

## IF YOU DRIVE A CAR AROUND NORTH MIDDLE SCHOOL

North Middle School's high percentage of commuter families means that before and after school, traffic can be a concern. We appreciate your attention to:

- 1. **DO NOT USE or BLOCK** the **HANDICAP SPOTS** in front of the school.
- 2. PLEASE **park legally** in the neighborhood. Avoid blocking driveways.
- 3. Respect the **BUS ONLY LANES** from the corner to the driveway on EL Paso.
- 4. **Park** in the lot across El Paso at Yampa or the Administration Building parking lot when our spaces out front are full.
- 5. Please **do NOT use the staff parking lot** on the east side of the building. Student foot traffic is high and cars are dangerous.
- 6. Respect the traffic cones by the cafeteria personal cars are NOT permitted in this area.
- 7. **Do not allow** students to run between parked cars to cross the street. It only takes one slip for a disaster to occur. **Remember that gravel and sand are just as slippery as ice!**





## Mitchell High School's United Way Food Distribution is here!





#### INFORMATION FROM THE DISTRICT

The Loop, D11's communication system, is specifically designed to help YOU have fast and accurate information when you need it, where you need it. Our **North home page**, Instagram and Facebook stay updated with current activities. Check out the calendar on the our homepage for the latest info on performances, sports, meetings, field trips, etc.

The <u>D11 Loop</u> allows you to manage your contact information, select which schools you want to hear from and choose which phone numbers and email addresses you want the district to use.

Friends and family should register as a

Community Member in order to receive all of our notices, Student information is ONLY

AVAILABLE TO PRIMARY CONTACTS. Please bring a current photo ID in to the school so we can get you set up!





### IN GENERAL, YOUR STUDENT'S <u>CLOTHING SHOULD FOLLOW</u> <u>THESE GUIDELINES</u>:

- -NO VISIBLE SHORTS, BOXERS, OR UNDERWEAR AS A RESULT OF SAGGING PANTS
- -NO STRAPLESS SHIRTS OR EXCESSIVE CLEAVAGE
- -ALL GRAPHICS ON CLOTHING ARE SCHOOL APPROPRIATE (AS DETERMINED BY THE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION) INCLUDING NO SEXUAL INNUENDOS OR DRUG/ALCOHOL REFERENCES
- -SHORTS, DRESSES, AND SKIRTS MUST APPROPRIATELY COVER THE BUTTOCKS
- -NO SEE-THROUGH FABRIC
- -D11 DOES NOT ALLOW BARE STOMACHS OR BACKS, PAJAMAS, SOFT-SOLE SLIPPERS, HEELIES, BANDANAS OR BANDANA ARTWORK, OR HATS/BEANIES

#### 10% DISCOUNT

when you purchase the North Middle School yearbook by September 30th. The yearbook will include 72 schoolwide pages PLUS 2 customizable printed only in your yearbook. To purchase & customize your yearbook go to <a href="https://www.treering.com">www.treering.com</a>



## MEDICATIONS & HEALTH CARE PLANS

Dear North Parents,

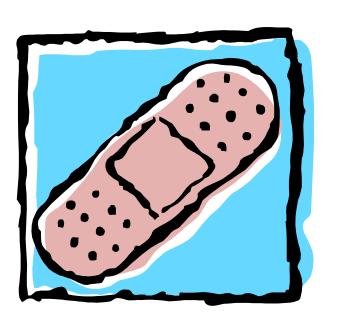
A safe and healthy school year for your child includes a partnership between home and school. When possible, the best approach is for parents to administer medication(s) to their children outside of school hours. However, when your child needs medication during the school day, Medication forms, Asthma Health Care Plans and Allergy Health Care Plans are **REQUIRED**. Forms are available in the school or on the D11 website under the nursing department: <u>FORMS</u>

Medications (prescription **AND** over-the-counter can ONLY be given at school under the following conditions:

- 1. All medications **INCLUDING OTC ITEMS**, must be ordered by healthcare providers with prescriptive authority.
- 2. There must be a SEPARATE Medication Form for EACH medication.
- 3. Written permission by parent and physician must be on file at the school for all cases (that medication form again!)
- 4. All medication forms must be renewed each school year.
- 5. Medications must be in the original, properly labeled container. We CANNOT administer medications sent in baggies or unlabeled containers.
- 6. All medications must be kept in the health room/office, except for students whose doctors require them to carry medications on their person (for example: inhalers, Epi-pens, etc.) These students will need completed Care Plan paperwork on file.
- 7. Health Care Plans **signed by the healthcare provider** are required for Asthma/inhalers, allergies, and diabetes supplies.
- 8. If your student occasionally needs OTC pain killers or allergy meds, please get the Medication form signed by the doctor and provide a small bottle of the medication to keep at the school. It is perfectly okay to have the doctor/PA/nurse to prescribe it "as needed" to cover headaches, cramps, etc. DO NOT send cough drops, pain relievers antihistamines, etc. in with your student.

It is a lot of legal work to get all of these forms and medications prepared for school, but we greatly appreciate having those emergency medications available. If an emergency arises and we do not have medications, we will call 911 and notify you immediately.

#### Attention: School Immunizations



#### All incoming 6th graders need to have a Tdap immunization. This shot is in addition to the shots required when your child was in elementary school.

Tdap protects your child from getting or infecting others with whooping cough (babies are the most vulnerable), which can lead to pneumonia, seizures, and death. Whooping cough has been reported in Colorado Springs. Tdap also protects against tetanus (which causes painful muscle stiffness, convulsions and death) and diphtheria (which can cause suffocation, paralysis, heart failure, and death).

State law requires that all 6th graders have this immunization along with those required for elementary school. The complete requirements are:

- 4 to 5 DTaP (Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis)
- 1 Tdap
- 3 or 4 Polio
- 3 Hepatitis B
- 2 MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella)
- 2 Varicella (or documented history of chickenpox)

As a parent, it is important to now that in addition to the vaccines required by the state of Colorado Board of Health for school entry, there are also vaccines that are recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices that can protect against other serious diseases.

Parents often have concerns of want more information on children's immunizations and vaccine safety. A resource developed for parents with frequently asked questions about the safety and importance of vaccines can be located at: <a href="https://www.lmmunizeForGood.com">www.lmmunizeForGood.com</a>

#### Please make an appointment to get this done as soon as possible. Bring proof of the immunization to the school office before the start of school in August.

#### Where can you get your child immunized?

- Your family doctor or pediatrician.
- El Paso Country Health Department Immunization Clinic: 719-578-3272 for an appointment. <u>Appointments are necessary</u>. <u>Bring shot record with child</u>. Medicaid is accepted. Cash, checks, VISA/MasterCard are accepted. No child will be turned away.
- Peak Vista Community Health Center: 719-632-5700: You must be registered with Peak Vista to be seen there. If your child qualifies, they will assist you with registration.
- The SET Clinic: 719-776-8850 For those without insurance, with Medicaid or if their insurance does not cover immunization (underinsured) <u>FREE Immunizations</u>, call for an appointment.
- Ronald McDonald Care Mobile will be at different location (free for those without insurance or with midecaid. For dates and appointments, call 719-866-6789



#### Attendance Matters

Missing a day of school here and there may not seem like much, but absences add up!

When a student misses 2 days a month...

- You miss 20 days a year!
- You miss 30 hours of math over the school year!
- you miss 60 hours of reading and writing over the school year!
- You will miss over 1 year of school by graduation!

When a student misses 4 days a month...

- You miss 40 days a year!
- You miss 60 hours of math over the school year!
- you miss 120 hours of reading and writing over the school year!
- You will miss over 1 year of school by graduation!

#### HELP US HELP YOU!

If you will be picking your student up during the school day for an appointment, please call the Attendance Office *first thing* in the morning, or *at least 30 minutes prior*, and we will do our best to have your child waiting and ready. **REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR PHOTO ID EACH TIME YOU PICK UP YOUR STUDENT!** 

Due to the high volume of attendance calls we receive daily, we kindly request a 24-hour window to make necessary adjustments. Please monitor PowerSchool for updates, as we are not able to return all phone calls with confirmation. If you have any attendance questions please call the attendance line at 719-328-2435 or email Andrea.Manuszak@d11.org

#### WHEN YOUR CHILD IS SICK OR ABSENT

- Please keep sick children home. They can't learn will when they don't feel well and it puts of our other students and staff at risk.
- Students with fevers over 100° are not allowed to stay in school or ride the school bus
- ALL medication, including over-the-counter items such as ibuprophin or cough drops, must have a medical form signed by a practicing physician, on file.
- Call <u>719-328-2435</u> within 48 hours to excuse students
- Absences of more than 3 days require a doctor's note in order to be excused
- Homework requests need to be made directly to the teacher via email
- Absences (such as trips) of 4 or more days require paperwork. Check with the Attendance Office. The teachers need several days' notice to create alternate assignments packets and to plan around tests and activities when you want to take work with you. Most classwork depends on in-class instruction, please do not expect to be able to use work packets to get your student completely caught up. In some classes, especially Math and World Languages, the teach will not be able to provide advance work.