

North Middle School Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2023

A word from our Principal...

Hello North Viking Families and Happy September!

It has been an excellent start to the school year—we are 13 days in, and we are very pleased with how your students have responded to school life at North—they are learning quickly, figuring out how to maneuver through hallways, lunch, and classes, and understanding how our systems at North will help them to be successful. We are thankful for your students and look forward to continuing the work with them!

This past Wednesday we had an excellent Open House—we estimate our attendance at over 400 participants, we ate pizza together, listened to the awesome Palmer marching band, heard some great successes from this past year academically, learned from our Applied Academics teachers, and visited students' core classes (science, math, English and social studies). To see our introductory PowerPoint, including our celebratory student data from CMAS, please click on the following link: Open House.23.pptx.

We also finished our first round of STAR testing this past week, which is simply baseline data for us going forward into this school year. We strategically utilize this data, so some class movement will definitely take place as a result of students scoring high on STAR and having a body of evidence to back up a higher placement. If your student is getting his/her schedule changed, we will communicate with you by phone or email. We are currently enrolled right at 600 students that we have physically seen at some point this year, but we are still getting new enrollees almost daily, so we are excited about our numbers and excited about your students!

Families, as has been the case for the past several years, the leadership team in our front office, Ms. Gugler (6th grade), Mr. Weickum (7th grade), Mr. Ambroz (8th grade) and me, are committed to student and staff safety, and in ensuring that positive, yet accountable relationships are formed across students, teachers and admin so your students feels like he/she has at least one trusted adult in the building. We are committed to honest and open communication and will return your phone calls or emails within 24 hours as long as it is during school days/weeks. You are always welcome in our office, and we look forward to partnering with your students and you to have another successful school year at North Middle School.

> Go Vikings and have a blessed 3-day weekend! Stephanie Leasure



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



BACCALAUREATE LEARNER PROFILE

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



I choose to continuously develop my natural curiosity. With the help of those instructing me, I will work to acquire the skills necessary to conduct inquiry, research and to use those skills to demonstrate independence in my learning. I choose to enjoy learning so that this love of learning cane be sustained throughout my life.

IBMYP Challenge: Do I make a habit of of looking for more and better information for the questions I have about everything? Each day, do I choose to look for what I can learn about myself and others in any situations that arise?



If you missed Picture Day, retakes will be **Tuesday, October 3rd.** Student IDs will be issued at this time. Lost IDs can be replaced for **\$5 in the library.**

For Parents With Picture Questions, here are 3 ways they 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

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!

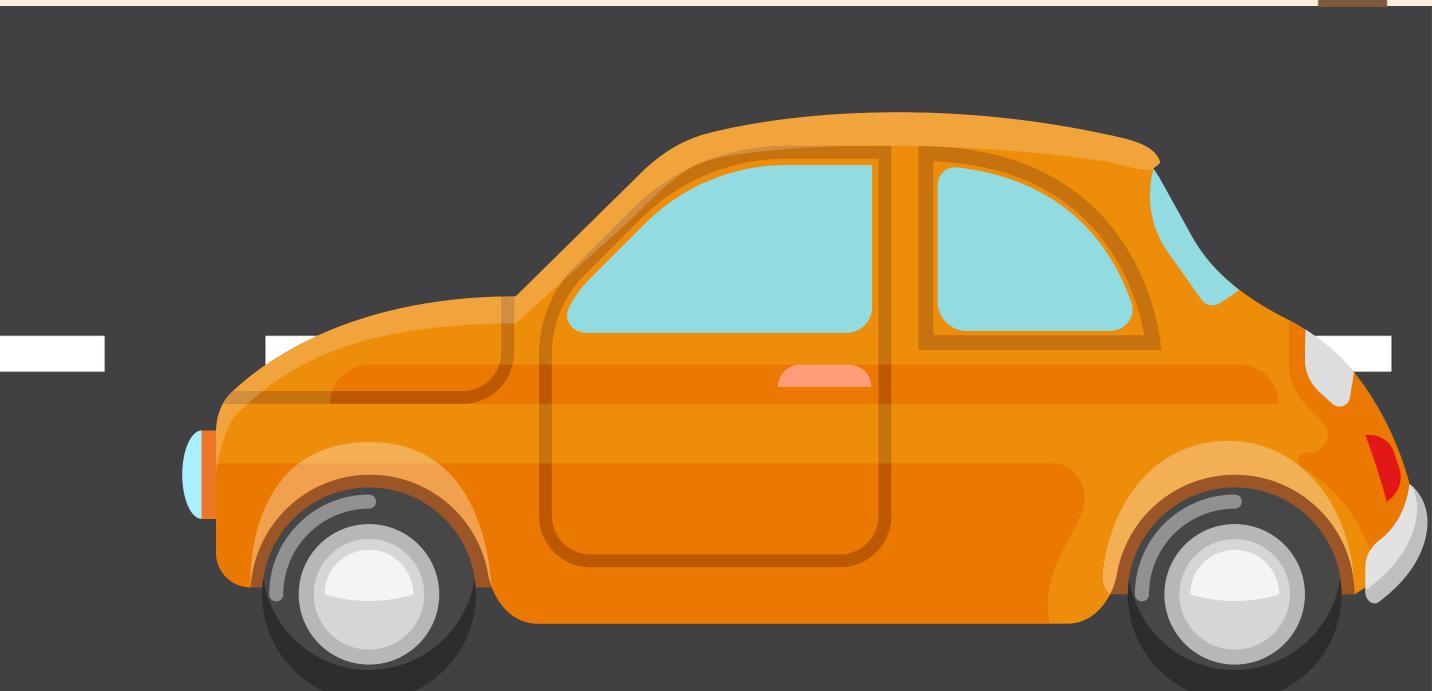


IF YOU DRIVE A CAR AROUND NORTH MIDDLE SCHOOL

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!



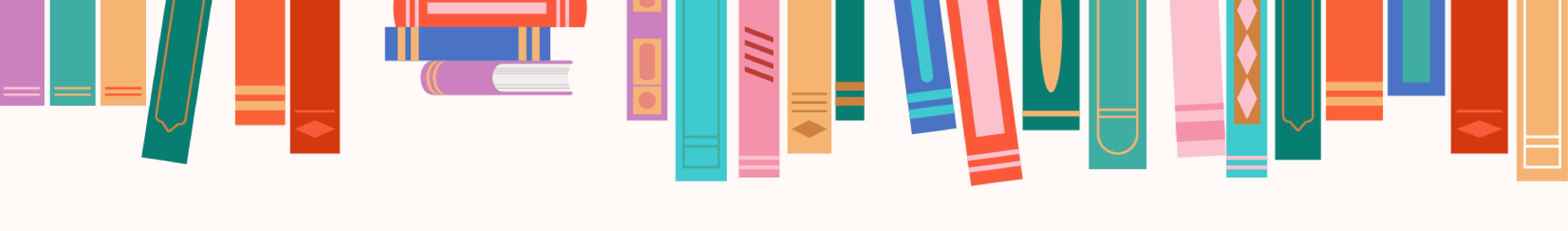


BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ARE HERE

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

Details will be posted on the North home page.



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 www.treering.com



MEDICATIONS & HEALTH CARE PLANS

Dear North Parents,

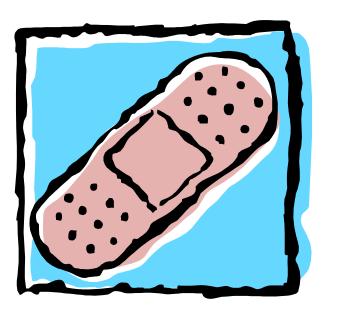
A safe and healthy school year for your child includes a partnership between home and school. When possible, the best approach is for parents to administer medication(s) to their children outside of school hours. However, when your child needs medication during the school day, Medication forms, Asthma 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: www.lmmunizeForGood.com

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...

When a student misses 4 days a month...

- You miss 20 days a year!
- You miss 30 hours of math over the school You miss 60 hours of math over the year!
- you miss 60 hours of reading and writing over the school year!
- You will miss over 1 year of school by graduation!
- You miss 40 days a year!
- 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!

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 719-328-2435 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.