

Walter G. Nord School

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: *When do we find out who my child's teacher is?*

A: All homeroom lists are posted on Friday, August 16, 2024, at 3:30 pm. Lists will be posted on the front door of the school and on the [Amherst Exempted Village School District website](#). Teachers will also be listed in Parent Portal after homeroom lists are released on the 16th.

Q: *What school supplies are needed?*

A: You can find the school supplies list on the Nord Website or by clicking below.

[4th Grade Supply List](#)

[5th Grade Supply List](#)

Q: *When is Open House?*

A: Open House is Monday, August 19, 2024. Last names A - M are from 5:00 - 5:30 and N- Z are from 5:30 - 6:00.

Q: *How much are the fees and what is provided for students?*

A: Below is a breakdown of the school fees for each grade.

Grade 4 Fees	
Agenda	\$4.00
Pencil Pouch	\$2.50
Shuttle Folder	\$1.50
Headphones	\$7.50
Language Arts	\$10.00
Social Studies	\$7.00
Science	\$6.00
Math	\$8.00
Recorder	\$4.00
Total	\$50.50

Grade 5 Fees	
Agenda	\$4.00
Pencil Pouch	\$2.50
Shuttle Folder	\$1.50
Headphones	\$7.50
Language Arts	\$10.00
Social Studies	\$7.00
Science	\$6.00
Math	\$8.00
Total	\$46.50

Q: *Are students allowed to use clear bags?*

A: Students are not permitted to use clear bags this year to carry supplies during the day. Students will have locker time between classes to gather materials.

Q: *Are walkers supposed to come in the back door and are they dismissed from the back door or the front door?*

A: Walkers may enter the building either through the front or back doors. They will be dismissed from the back doors.

Q: *What is the process for children to be able to walk home or to change transportation methods?*

A: When parents/guardians complete their Returning Student Information in PowerSchool Parent Portal, they will be able to designate the transportation type for their child. If there is a change of transportation for your child, please make this change in PikMyKid. We must have written authorization for changes and changes you make in PikMyKid are considered written authorization. During dismissal, we will follow the designations made in PikMyKid. Changes must be made by 2:00 pm. Unless there is an emergency situation, students are only permitted to ride on their assigned bus. In case of an emergency requiring the student to take a different bus, the bus driver requires a note signed by both the parent and the principal.

Q: *Do we memorize locker combinations?*

A: The combination locks have been disabled. Students will not need to memorize combinations.

Q: *How do I add money to my child's account for breakfast and lunch?*

A: Go to <http://PaySchoolscentral.com> to complete the Free/Reduced Application and/or add money to your student's account. For more information about school meals for the 24- 25 school year, please visit our [Amherst Schools Nutrition Services Website](#).

Q: *What is the car rider drop-off and pick-up procedure?*

A: Please review Walter G. Nord's Arrival and Dismissal Procedures by [clicking here](#).

Q: *How do I know what time the bus will arrive?*

A: Bus routes can be found on the [AEVSD Transportation website](#).

Q: *What if my child is a bus rider but one day I need to pick him up instead?*

A: If there is a change of transportation for your child, please make this change in PikMyKid. We must have written authorization for changes and changes you make in PikMyKid are considered written authorization. During dismissal, we will follow the designations made in PikMyKid. Changes must be made by 2:00 pm.

Q: *Does my child change classes like the junior high?*

A: Walter G. Nord School has grade level teams and students change classes among the teachers on their team.

Q: *How do I inform the school that my child is going to be absent?*

A: A parent/guardian must notify the school by 9:00 am if their child is absent (not in school at 8:30 am) using the school attendance phone number (440-988-4441). The notification must contain the name of the parent/guardian making the call, date of the call, date of the absence, and reason for the absence (must be one of the eight excused absence reasons). Please review all of Walter G. Nord School's attendance procedures by [clicking here](#).

Q: *What types of communication will be implemented from admin and teachers?*

A: Nord Administration will utilize an online newsletter, Nord News, sent out at least once a month. School information and updates will also be posted on the Walter G. Nord website. All communication is sent

through School Messenger so please make sure to have updated contact information in Parent Portal. Please also follow @NordPrincipal on X for all the latest news and happenings in the building.

Each grade level team will determine the best communication method and frequency for their students and share that during the opening days of school. Additionally, families are encouraged to call (440-988-4441) or email (ashley_harigan@amherstk12.org) during the school year with any comments, questions, or concerns.

Q: *Will the same grading system 70/30 be implemented again this year?*

A: Yes, Nord uses a weighted grading scale building-wide. Assessments are weighted at 70% of the total grade and classwork is weighted at 30% of the total grade. A common weighting system among all classes ensures that all students, regardless of the teacher, have an equal opportunity of earning a grade that reflects their academic performance, knowledge, and application of skills rather than participation or simple completion of assignments.

Q: *Will you be providing an enrichment and intervention period within the schedule for ALL kids?*

A: Yes, each student has a daily I/E class on their schedule which stands for Intervention/ Enrichment. Teachers interpret your child's assessment data to determine their proper placement for I/E. Additionally, groupings will be evaluated often to ensure students are receiving the instruction they need for either intervention or enrichment.

Q: *What specific steps will be taken and by who if my child experiences bullying?*

A: The staff at Walter G. Nord School is committed to providing a safe, productive, and nurturing educational environment for all of its students. As outlined in the Walter G. Nord Student and Parent Handbook, aggressive behavior toward a student, whether by other students, staff, or third parties is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated. Students, parents/guardians, and school personnel may report suspected bullying behavior using [AEVSD's Reporting Form](#). The appropriate school official will then review, investigate, and provide appropriate action on the incident. Mrs. Ashley Harigan, Principal, and Mrs. Rebecca McArthur, Dean of Students, will be working closely with classroom teachers and families when it comes to bullying incidents and student discipline. Additionally, Mrs. Chandler Kremer, school counselor, plays a key role in preventing, identifying, and responding to peer conflict and bullying situations.

Q: *Is the PBIS reward system going to be used and is there a plan of how to earn and record points when there is a substitute teacher?*

A: Yes, our Comet Impact program is aligned with the PBIS philosophy of modeling/teaching consistent behavior expectations and rewarding positive behavior building-wide. Students earn points each class period on PBIS Rewards for following our behavioral expectations of respectful, responsible, and safe.

Q: *Will there be clubs to join, science club, book club, friend club, etc.?*

A: Yes, Nord does have various clubs for students to join. In the past, we have had Young Men's Group, Rox Group, Kindness Crew, Academic Challenge, Running Club, and Computer Science Club just to name a few!

Once the school year begins, information on clubs will be shared on the announcements and in the cafeteria. We also encourage students to seek out a staff member if they are interested in starting a new club.

Q: *Will the kids be able to wear costumes to school for Halloween? Will there be Halloween and Christmas class parties?*

A: Costumes are allowed; however, please no masks. Nord does have class parties during the year for Halloween, Christmas, and Valentine's Day.

Q: *Where can I find the school calendar to plan winter and spring breaks?*

A: The 2024-2025 Amherst Exempted Village School District calendar can be found by [clicking here](#).