

School Schedule and Curriculum Updates for the 2024-2025 School Year



Presented by
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August 21, 2024

Old Turnpike School Schedule

- 55 minute classes: Math, Science, English Language Arts, and Social Studies
 - **New** NJDOE Standards for Math and English Language Arts
- PE/Health: three times a week, with once a week grade level PE with two teachers
- Spanish: Grades 5-8 twice a week, plus:
 - Extra Spanish time for 8th graders
 - **(New)** Extra Spanish time for some 6th graders
- Specials: Art, General Music, and STEM
- All 5th grade students have Chorus one day a week
- Students meet with their Advisor each morning

OTS 5th Grade

- **New** Advisory Goals
- 5th Grade Hallway
- Organization Skills (time management, taking notes, projects, transitions between classes, or anything else that helps them transition to middle school)
- Locker Practice

OTS Lunch and Recess

- Lunch 25 minutes
- 5th and 6th grade lunch Period 4 (sit with grade-level peers)
- 7th and 8th grade lunch Period 5 (sit with grade-level peers)
- Grade 5: Recess five-times a week for 20 minutes
- Grade 6: Recess twice a week (once on Friday during E&R and once during Social Studies)
- Grade 7 and 8: Recess once a week (on Fridays during E&R)

E & R at OTS

- Built into the lunch block: Periods 4 & 5
- Meet with teachers for extra help
- Grades 5-8 ASAP (Basic Skills):
 - 1 day per week, ELA and Math, for identified students starting in mid-September
- Grades 5-6 Math Aspire and Grades 5-8 ELA Aspire (Revised this year)
 - 1 day per week for identified students starting in mid-September
- Grades 5-6 Strings: 1 day per week
- Grades 5-6 Orchestra: 1 day per week
- Grades 7-8 Strings: 1 day per week
- Grades 7-8 Orchestra 1 day per week
- Grades 7-8 Chorus 1 day per week

OTS Extra-Curriculars

- **New** Introduction to Inspiration Cafe
- **New** Fall Theater Club for Grades 5-8
- **Update** to School Musical- Grade 8 students still encourage to participate and take lead roles, Grades 5-7 students can participate in walk-on parts and other supporting roles
- **New** Model UN Club for Grades 5-8

OTS Code of Conduct and Student Handbook

- Updates to OTS:
 - Clarification on rules of use of Electronic Recording Devices, Cell Phones, and Smart Watches and Social Media recommendations
 - Tiered response to student absences
 - Refined list of infractions and consequences with points and a point reduction program
- Parent and students sign-off on agreeing to the Code of Conduct
- Discussions with students and staff on consistent implementation of Code of Conduct rules
- Chain of Command
- **Updates** to High Honor Roll
- (**New**) Support for OTS discipline from Supervisor of Instruction and Programs

Tewksbury Elementary School Schedule

- Math: 60 minutes per day
 - **New** NJDOE Standards
- ELA: 120 minutes per day
 - **New** NJDOE Standards
- Science/Social Studies: 30 minutes per day
- **(New)** Additional Grade 1 Teacher to Reduce Class Size
- Special Areas: Art, General Music, STEM, Library, and Spanish- once a week
- Kindergarten - Art classes twice per week
- PE/Health: 120 minutes per week for Grade K, 150 minutes per week for Grades 1-4
 - Grade K: “full grade level PE” with two teachers three times per week
 - Grades 1-4: “full grade level PE” with two teachers two times per week, “homeroom PE” two times per week

TES Schedule (Continued)

- Lunch and Recess: 30 minutes each per day
- Schoolwide Enrichment: Interest-based, once per week, open to Grade 1-4 students during recess time, starting in October
 - Grades 1-4: TECH and Art
 - Grades 1-2: Music, Spanish, Media Literacy

TES Programs

- **New** Capstone Projects K-4
- **New** Morning Meeting Resources
 - Responsive Classroom/Character Education
 - Training for teachers

Special Education

- **New** Monthly Newsletter for Families of students with an IEP
- Professional learning for all educators on Inclusion Strategies in the Classroom to support students with special needs
- Workshops on Co-teaching strategies
- (**New**) 504 Program is now supervised by the Supervisor of Special Education
- Unified Club at OTS
- **Additional** Staffing: Special Educator at TES, Two more sections at OTS, and an additional Paraeducator at TES
- **New** Sensory Path at OTS

Multi-tiered System of Support

- Updating the description of MTSS on Website
- **(New)** To collect more student achievement data AimsWeb testing for Math and Reading will be expanding from K-4 to K-5
- Three Tiers
 - Tier 1-Students succeeding with current curriculum with support from classroom teacher
 - Tier 2-Support for students needing targeted intervention from classroom teacher and intervention specialist within the classroom, differentiated instruction
 - Tier 3-Intense intervention for students from intervention specialist outside of the classroom
- Increased data collection on support programs (ASAP and Aspire) to assess program and students' needs
- ASAP Grades K-4 (Basic Skills): Support program for math and reading
 - **New-** Identified Tier 3 students will meet at least 4x per week with intervention specialist
 - **New-** Identified Tier 2 students will have (2) in-class support sessions and support from classroom teacher
- ASAP Grades 5-8 (Basic Skills): Support program for math and reading
 - One additional period of ELA and/or math a week for Tier 2 & Tier 3 students
- Continued Homework Helper Program- OTS After-school for Math and ELA

Gifted Program (*Aspire*)

- **Updated** Criteria for identifying gifted students (on website)
- Parent Letters went out in August
- Continued Parent Advisory Group for Aspire
- TES Aspire
 - Grades 2-4: pull-out program, twice per week for identified students
 - Grades K-1: push-in support within the classroom for identified students
 - **New** curriculum for Grades K-1 *Aspire*
 - Project-based enrichment for the whole class throughout the year.

Gifted Program (*Aspire*)

- OTS Aspire
 - Aspire Math and ELA meet once a week with a teacher expert in that content area
 - **Updated** curriculum for Grades 5-6 *Math Aspire*
 - Students study two units from the grade level above
 - Focusing on Advanced Geometry and Algebra concepts
 - Grade 5 and 6 *Math Aspire* students were put into cohorted math classes
 - **New** Grade 7 Math Honors course
 - Continued High School Level Algebra Honors Course for identified Grade 8 students
 - **Updated** curriculum for Grades 5-8 *English Language Arts Aspire*
 - Study of Advanced-Level Novels
 - Change in staffing
 - More connections to ELA Honors Society
 - Exploring a Grade 8 ELA Honors Course for 2025-2026

Professional Learning

- Reading Coach for K-4: Classroom Strategies for Literacy
- Continued support for math teaching and learning
- Responsive Classrooms and Character Education Workshop at TES
- Best Practices for Inclusion and Co-teaching PreK-8
- Continued Professional Learning Communities with Student Learning Goals
- Increased opportunities for articulation between teachers, among the grade-level teams, and within the content areas
- Workshops to support Hands-on Learning and Engagement

S.T.E.M.

- Grade 8 Curriculum: Revision
 - (**New**) Automation and Robotics Unit of Study
 - Purchased Additional Resources
- Additional *Project Lead the Way* training for our Technology Teacher

World Language

- (**New**) Additional class of Spanish for Grade 6
- Exploration of additional Spanish learning opportunities
 - Spanish Reading Buddies for Grades 5 and TES Students
- Exploration of opportunities for connections to other world languages

Health and PE (*No Changes*)

As we did last year,

- In Fall: Information and Guide on Health Standards will be updated and sent to parents (this is also on the website)
- In Winter: Letter to parents of students in Grades 5, 7, and 8 to choose units of study for Health taught in May
- First Aid Unit will be the optional replacement unit for Human Relationships/Sexuality and Child Abuse Prevention in Grades 5, 7, and 8
- First Aid studies supported by school nurse and Tewksbury EMS

Parent Information

- Curriculum Workshops:
 - Parent Workshop on Early Literacy Skills
 - Family Math for Grades 3-4
 - Special Education Presentations for Parents
 - Parent Workshop on Middle School and High School Mathematics Program and Courses
 - Voorhees HS Transition Workshops- OTS School Counselor
 - OTS Grade 5 Transition Workshop-OTS Principal and School Counselors
 - Social Media Night with a **New** Presenter
- Parent Letters
 - Monthly Letters from Superintendent
 - Monthly Updates from Principals
 - Twice-monthly short form reminder cards with upcoming events
 - Aspire and ASAP Information Letters from Supervisor
 - Monthly Special Education Newsletter (**New**)

Parent Information

- All school curriculum is on our website
 - Tewksburyschools.org
 - Under “Curriculum” > “District K-8 Course Curriculum Overview” > “Click Here”> “All Curriculum”
- This presentation will be shared on our website

Tewksbury Township Schools

**Optimistic for a great school year
2024-2025!**

