

East Middle School

2025 - 2026



Ram

Student Dividers

Principal-Brad Barringer
Associate Principal-Reannon Medrano

EAST MIDDLE SCHOOL



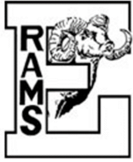
Vision and Mission Statement for 2025 – 2026

East Middle School Vision

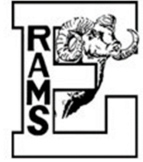
At East Middle School, each student prepares for the challenges of the 21st Century by focusing on effective communication, critical thinking, and creative problem solving to become positive contributors to the global, technological society.

East Middle School Mission

We, a unified, committed educational community, will provide a safe and respectful environment where students are accountable and responsible for 21st Century learning.



East Middle School Values
East Middle School
Ram Culture
Students



As students of East Middle School, we believe that by working well together we model being a class act. To that end, we agree to hold ourselves and others accountable to fostering a positive building culture.

One Person Speaks at a Time

- Listening is vital to communication.
- We respect **all** voices.

Listen for Understanding

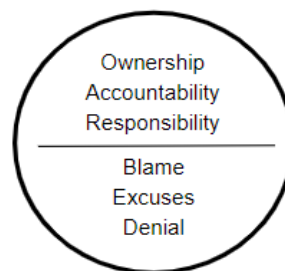
- Seek to understand information before you speak.
- Listen with an open mind.

Step Up, Step In

- Be **respectful** (be kind, live up to school expectations).
- Be **responsible** (be honest, be compassionate, be accountable, be courageous).
- Be **ready** (show up on time, be prepared for class).
- Do more than the minimum.

Stay Above the Line

- Be positive.
- Be independent.
- Be a problem solver.
- Choose a positive attitude and mindset.



United Front

- Show **RAM PRIDE** in and out of school.
- Model school expectations.
- Seek out adult guidance when necessary.

BE A CLASS ACT!

25-26 East Middle School Bell Schedule

Monday/Tuesday/Thursday/Friday

Warning Bell	7:40-7:45
Connections	7:45-8:11
Period 1	8:14-9:04
Period 2	9:08-9:58
Period 3	10:02-10:52

A Lunch	B Lunch	C Lunch
<u>Lunch 10:52-11:22</u>	Period 4 10:56-11:46	Period 4 10:56-11:46
Period 5 11:26-12:16	<u>Lunch 11:46-12:16</u>	Period 5 11:50-12:40
Period 6 12:20-1:10	Period 6 12:20-1:10	<u>Lunch 12:40-1:10</u>

Period 7	1:14-2:05
Period 8	2:09-3:00
Release	3:00

Wednesday Schedule

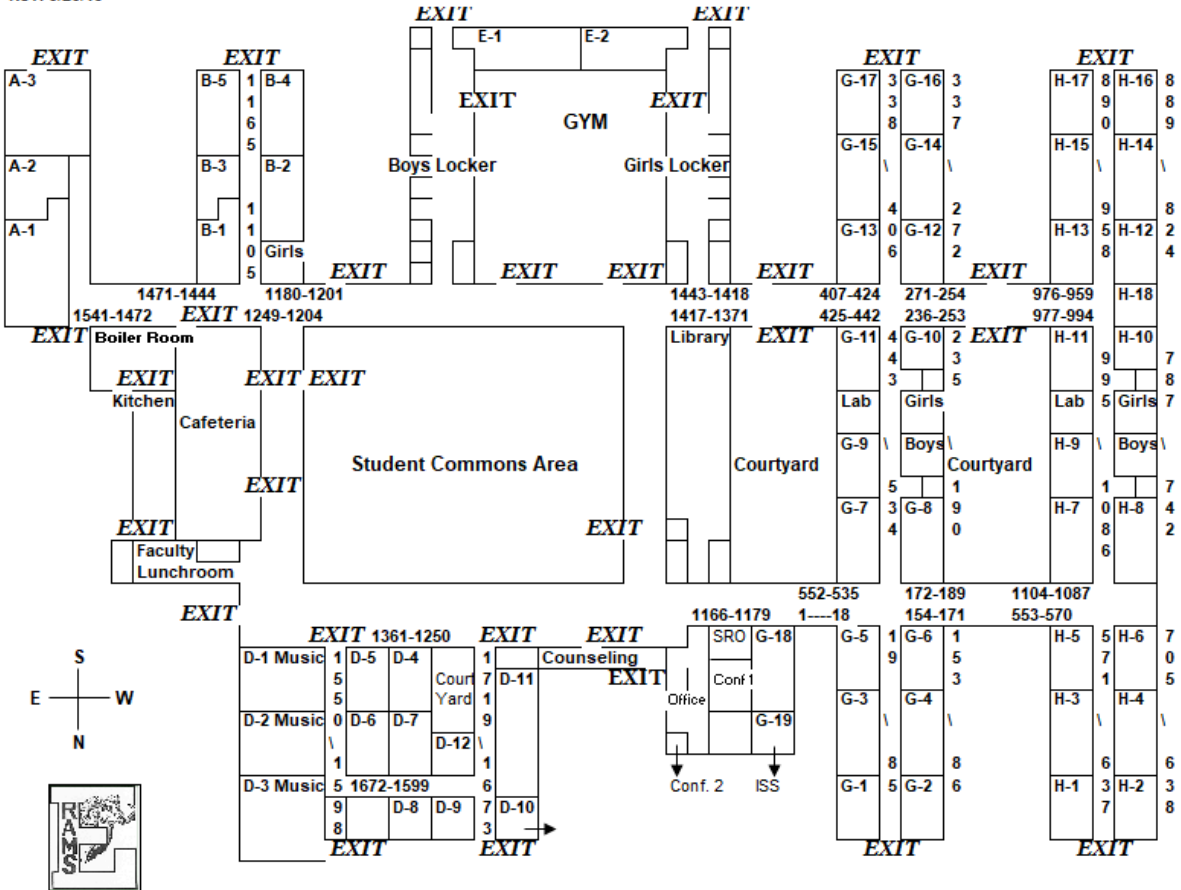
Warning Bell	7:40-7:45
Period 1	7:45-8:33
Period 2	8:37-9:25
Period 3	9:29-10:17

A Lunch	B Lunch	C Lunch
<u>Lunch 10:17-10:47</u>	Period 4 10:21-11:09	Period 4 10:21-11:09
Period 5 10:51-11:39	<u>Lunch 11:09-11:39</u>	Period 5 11:13-12:01
Period 6 11:43-12:31	Period 6 11:43-12:31	<u>Lunch 12:01-12:31</u>

Period 7	12:35-1:23
Period 8	1:27-2:15
Release	2:15

EMS Locker Location Map

Rev. 6/26/19



2025 Great Falls Public Schools 2026



August 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	

September 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

October 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	(31)	

November 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	{21}	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

December 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

January 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	<(23)>	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

February 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

March 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	{6}	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	(27)	28
29	30	31				

April 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

May 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

June 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

	PIR Days (No school)
	First/Last Day of School
	Breaks (No school; Some staff on duty)
	End of Quarters
	Wednesday Early Dismissal
< >	End Of Semester

	Parent-Teacher Conference (No school; Staff are on duty)
{ }	Middle School Only (End of Trimester)
	Early Outs (4/9 GFH; 4/10 CMR)
	Holidays (No school; No staff on duty)
	Emergency Make Up Day

Notes:

EMS 2025-26 Important Dates

August

4- Schedules available for PTA members
 19 - 7th grade Orientation & Locker Handout
 Thrive 8-9:30am, Big Horn 10-11:30am, Trailblazers 1-2:30pm
 21- 8th grade Welcome Back & Locker Handout
 Dynamos 8-9:30am, Impact 10-11:30am, Excel 1-2:30pm
 26 - Football gear check-out
 8th grade 3-4:30pm, 7th grade 4:30-6pm
 27 - First Day of School students released @ 2:15
 27 - Football begins after school

September

1 - No School - Labor Day
 2 - Cross Country begins after school
 2 - Girls B-Ball begins after school
 8 - PTA Meeting 6:30 Library
 19 - School Picture Day
 24 - World of Work all 8th graders

October

8 - Midterm of Trimester 1
 10 - School Picture Retake Day
 13 - PTA Meeting 6:30 Ems Library
 16 & 17 - No School - Teacher's Convention
 20 - Boys Basketball begins
 28 - Fall Concert 7:00 pm
Philharmonic Orchestra, Ram Choraliers, Symphonic Band
 30 - Incentive Day 90% Day
 31 - No School for Students - Staff work

November

10-14 - Parents/Grandparents to Lunch week
 10 - PTA Meeting 6:30 Library
 11 - Passport Parent Night from 5:00 to 7:00
 1/2 hour once parents arrive, start in Connections
 21 - End Trimester 1
 26-28 Thanksgiving Break

December

No December PTA Meeting
 4-16 Scholastic Book Fair Library
 16 - Holiday Concert #1 6:00
East String Ensemble, Ram Band, Percussion
 16 - Holiday Concert #2 7:30
Ram Strings, Big Horn Band, Percussion, 7th grade Choir
 18 - Holiday Concert #3 - 6:00
Concert Band, Concert Orchestra
 18 - Holiday Concert #4 - 7:30
Symphonic Band, Philharmonic Orchestra, Ram Choraliers
 22 - Jan. 2 - Holiday Break No School (Return on Jan. 5)

January

5 - School Resumes
 5 - Girls Volleyball begins after school
 12 - PTA Meeting 6:30 Ems Library
 12 - Wrestling begins after school
 19 - No School - Martin Luther King Day
 22- Midterm of Trimester 2
 23 - No School for Students - Staff work
 27 - GFHS Performing Arts Assembly @ EMS
 27 - 4.0 Gratitude Dinner 8th Grade

February

2 - 8th grade Scheduling Awareness - GFH Parent Night 6pm
Great Falls High Auditorium
 9 - PTA Meeting 6:30 EMS Library
 9 - High School Counselors @ East Scheduling for next year
 9 - 13 Parents / Grandparents to Lunch Week
 16 - No School - Presidents Day
 17 - Girls Swimming begins

March

5 - Academic Bowl at North
 6 - Trimester 2 ends
 9 - PTA Meeting 6:30 Library
 10 - Orchestra Step-Up Concert - 7pm
Ram Strings, East Ensemble, 6th grade guests
 12 - Band Step-Up Concert - 7pm
Big Horn Band, Percussion, 6th grade guests
 17 - Band MIOSM - 7:00 pm *Symphonic Band*
 19 - Choir MIOSM - 7:00 pm *Ram Choraliers*
 24 - Orchestra MIOSM - 7:00 pm *Philharmonic Orchestra*
 26 - March Madness Incentive Day
 27 - No School for Students - Staff work
 30- Track begins
 31 - NJHS applications due

April

2-6 - No School, Spring Break
 13 - PTA Meeting 6:30 library
 13 - 8th Grade Celebration Parent Planning Meeting
 TBD - 7th Grade College Day
 24 - Midterm Trimester 3
 30 - National Junior Honor Society Induction - 6:30pm

May

11 - PTA Meeting 6:30 Library
 12 - Spring Concert #1 7:00 pm
7th Grade Choir, Ram Choraliers
 14 - Spring Concert #2 6:00 pm
East String Ensemble, Ram Band, Percussion
 14 - Spring Concert #3 7:30 pm
Rams Strings, Big Horn Band, Percussion
 TBD - GFHS Leap Up Day
 21 - Spring Concert #4 6:00 pm
Concert Band, Concert Orchestra
 21 - Spring Concert #5 7:30 pm
Symphonic Band, Philharmonic Orch
 25 - No School - Memorial Day
 26 - EMS Awards Night 8th Grade
 29 - Leap Up Day for Grades 6 & 7
 29 - 8th Grade Celebration 4:30 - 6:30 pm

June

3 - Yearbooks Distributed
 4 - Team Day
 4 - 2:40 8th Grade Walk-Out
 5 - End of Trimester 3
 5 - PTA Sponsored Pool Party ends at 12:00 p.m.
Students Released from the Electric City Waterpark

EMS 2025-2026 Music Concert Dates and Times

Date	Concert	Site	Time	Group
10/28/2025	Fall Concert	EMS	7:00 PM	Philharmonic Orchestra, Ram Choraliers, Symphonic Band
12/16/2025	Holiday Concert #1	EMS	6:00 PM	East String Ensemble, Ram Band, Percussion Class
12/16/2025	Holiday Concert #2	EMS	7:30 PM	Ram Strings, Bighorn Band, Percussion Class, 7th Grade Choir
12/18/2025	Holiday Concert #3	EMS	6:00 PM	Concert Band, Concert Orchestra
12/18/2025	Holiday Concert #4	EMS	7:30 PM	Symphonic Band, Philharmonic Orchestra, Ram Choraliers
1/27/2026	H.S. Assembly	EMS	8-9 AM	GFHS Band, Chamber Orchestra, Delphian Choir
2/7/2026	M.S. Solo Festival	PGEC	8 AM-1 PM	Any interested band, choir, or orchestra student
2/23/2026	Montana Youth Sing	GFHS	all day	Select choral students
3/10/2026	Orchestra Step Up Concert	EMS	7:00 PM	Ram Strings, East String Ensemble, 6th Grade Elementary Guests
3/12/2026	Band Step Up Concert	EMS	7:00 PM	Bighorn Band, Percussion Class, 6th Grade Elementary Guests
3/17/2026	Band MIOSM Concert	GFHS	7:00 PM	Symphonic Band
3/19/2026	Choir MIOSM Concert	GFHS	7:00 PM	Ram Choraliers
3/24/2026	Orchestra MIOSM Concert	GFHS	7:00 PM	Philharmonic Orchestra
4/30/2026	NJHS Induction Ceremony Performance	EMS	6:30 PM	Full Orchestra (Symphonic Band, Philharmonic Orchestra)
5/12/2026	Spring Concert #1	EMS	7:00 PM	7th Grade Choir, Ram Choraliers
5/14/2026	Spring Concert #2	EMS	6:00 PM	East String Ensemble, Ram Band, Percussion Class
5/14/2025	Spring Concert #3	EMS	7:30 PM	Ram Strings, Bighorn Band, Percussion Class
5/21/2025	Spring Concert #4	EMS	6:00 PM	Concert Band, Concert Orchestra
5/21/2025	Spring Concert #5	EMS	7:30 PM	Philharmonic Orchestra, Symphonic Band

EMS Sports Information 2025-26

All students can participate. We do not cut at the middle school level for athletics. A physical is required before the first practice. Physical forms are located outside of our main office. Fees are: **\$25 for one sport. Two or more sports would be another \$20 dollars (\$45 total for two or more sports).** Free and reduced lunch students pay a reduced fee of \$12.50 for one sport and \$22.50 for two or more sports. Fees can be paid at the main office.

When Practices are not immediately after school, athletes need to leave campus and come back for their practice time. We do not have an after- school program to supervise kids. Athletes can be on campus no sooner than 7 minutes prior to their practice. No students are allowed to stay on campus unsupervised.

In August:

Only Football starts the first day of school: The first school day is Wednesday and ends at 2:15 p.m. Practices are after school.

- **Football** starts the first day of school if students have turned in a physical and paid their fees.
 - **Football gear checkout Aug. 26 (Grade 8 - 3 to 4:30 p.m. & Grade 7- 4:30- 6p.m.)**
 - Day one 7th & 8th grade starts at 2:30 p.m. Players report to the boy's locker room.
 - The following practice days start at 3:05 (3:30 on Wednesdays from the 2nd week on).
 - The first 3 days of football practice is Helmet, T-shirt, shorts, and cleats only. Football practice will end every day by 5:00 p.m. no matter the start time. Three non-contact practices are required from each player before full pads.
 - There will be football practice every day except game days.
 - Approximate end date week of Oct. 13th.
- **Girls Basketball** Starts Tues. September 2nd after school if students have turned in a physical and paid their fees.
 - Day One - 8th grade Girls Basketball Practice starts at 3:05 - 4:30
 - Day One - 7th grade Girls Basketball Starts at 4:30 – 6:00
 - Thursday and Friday 8th grade from 3:05 – 4:30 and 7th grade from 4:30 – 6:00
 - Approximate end date week of Oct. 13th.
- **Cross Country** Starts Tues. September 2nd.
 - Practice will begin at 3:05 on most days, 3:30 on Wednesdays - meets in the hallway in front of the gym near the trophy cases.
 - Cross Country races are often on a Monday.
 - Approximate end date week of Oct. 13th.

In October:

- **Boys Basketball** starts Oct. 20th.
 - 8th grade practice starts at 3:05 - 4:30 the first three days
 - 7th grade practice starts at 4:30 – 6:00 the first three days
 - Times will vary by team once the boys are divided into teams.
 - Approximate end date Dec. 15th.

In January:

- **Girls Volleyball** starts on January 5th.
 - 8th grade Girls Volleyball Practice starts at 3:10 - 4:30
 - 7th grade Girls Volleyball Starts at 4:30 - 6:00
 - Later in the week the start times will be communicated by coaches.
 - Approximate end date Feb. 20th.
- **Wrestling** starts on Jan. 12th, in the cafeteria at 3:05 p.m.
 - Approximate end date March 5th.

In February:

- **Girls Swimming** first practice is February 17th. A Bus comes to EMS and transports the girls to GFH's Pool. East will let the girls know which bus # to get on. Swimmers need to be picked by parents no later than 5:15 p.m. at the gfh swimming pool. The season is approximately a month long. Approximate end date is March 27

In April

- **Boys and Girls Track** first practice is March 30 at 3:05 after school. Approx. end date is May 8.
 - We practice indoors in the event of inclement weather. Approximate end date May 9

East Middle School Supply List

1.	3-ring zippered binder (minimum 2 inches)
2.	Eight divider pages for binder organization
3.	Pencil pouch that clips into binder
4.	Pencils and Pens - pack of pencils, eraser for pencils, blue/black/red pens
6.	Highlighters (yellow, pink, and green)
7.	Colored Pencils (small pack)
8.	Pack of Fine Tip Dry Erase Markers
9.	1 inch binder for math (non-zippered)
10.	3-Hole loose-leaf college or wide-ruled paper
11.	4 Composition notebooks (2 lined, 2 graphing)
12.	<u>P.E. Supplies:</u> Tennis shoes, socks, gym shorts or sweats, deodorant, and T-shirt
13.	<u>Music Supplies:</u> black dress pants or black jeans for concerts (before the first performance), instruments for band or orchestra, and single notebook for general music
	Permanent Markers are not permitted or used for instruction. Please do not purchase them for school.

Activities & Awards:

Announcements

Students may apply to participate in morning video announcements. In order to participate students must work hard at their academics and be someone EMS can hold up as a role model.

Athletic participation

The fees are \$25 for one sport or \$45 for two or more sports. (Students who qualify under the federal guidelines for free or reduced school lunch shall be granted a fifty percent reduction of the participation fees.) All fees will be paid at the main office; receipts will be issued. No refunds will be made after team selections are determined and fees have been collected. Payment of participation fees does not guarantee play on any individual team for any designated amount of time.

Athletics

Students may participate in a variety of athletic activities:

- Basketball (girls) - fall 7-8
- Cross-Country - fall 7-8
- Football - (boys) - fall 7-8
- Basketball (boys) - fall 7-8
- Wrestling - (boys) - winter 7-8
- Swimming - (girls) winter 7-8
- Volleyball - (girls) - winter 7-8
- Track - spring 7-8

Awards Assembly

In May we have a student awards assembly in the evening. We honor student accomplishments and recognize students for outstanding performance.

Concerts

Band, orchestra, choir, jazz and fiddlers' concerts are scheduled throughout the school year.

Clubs

Clubs start in the second semester and typically run for 7-10 sessions. Clubs at East must have a Career, Academic, Vocational, or Life-Long Learning focus and a teacher sponsor for the club. All clubs have to be approved by administration and must meet our club criteria. All students need to participate in clubs.

Honor Roll

The Honor Roll for all grade levels is compiled at the end of each Trimester. To be eligible for the Honor Roll, a student must maintain a 3.5 average GPA.

Honor Society

The National Junior Honor Society consists of full time students in the 7th and 8th grades who maintain a minimum 3.5 grade point average for two consecutive trimesters and also meet the additional criteria based upon citizenship, service, leadership, and character. Those selected for membership will be inducted into the East Chapter in a formal ceremony in the spring.

PTA Fundraiser

This is our annual fundraiser with outstanding student prizes.

Student Aides

Seventh and eighth grade students may apply for positions as teacher aides in the classroom areas and as office aides in both the main office and counseling areas. One or two aides will be selected per period in each area. There are citizenship expectations and expectations of trust to being an aide. If students break trust during their aide positions they will be returned to a study hall.

Video Announcements

Our daily announcements are run by students with a teacher facilitating. Students must be trustworthy, demonstrate good citizenship, be inclusive of others, and work hard to be part of EMS Video Announcements. Non-productive students will be removed from the class. Our video announcements are inclusive and often open to having guest hosts.

Yearbooks

A memory book with an individual photo of each student and staff member is produced each year at a nominal cost to students. The yearbooks, which are published by a committee of students, are distributed at the end of each school year.

Attendance Policy:

Attendance

Students are responsible for attending class. The learning experiences that take place in the classroom environment are an essential part of the educational process. Absences and tardiness tend to disrupt the continuity of the instructional program and the time lost from class is irretrievable, particularly in terms of opportunity for interaction and exchange of ideas between students and teachers. Missing class hinders a student's ability to master the subject matter, and this may be reflected in the grade. The administration does not condone absences that detract from our academics. A student's regular school attendance also reflects dependability and is a significant component on a student's permanent record.

Attendance Notification

It is the student's responsibility to come to school on time and be prepared for each day. Daily notification to the school from a parent/guardian is required when a student is absent or late.

Parents/guardians are asked to call the Attendance Office (268-6501) on the day of a student's absence. Make-up work is the responsibility of the student and may be obtained by calling the teacher. Students have 2 days (for every day of absence to complete homework.)

If a student has a medical appointment during school hours, parents should call the school or send a note to excuse the student. The student will then be given a pass allowing him/her to leave the classroom and the campus for the appointment. When returning from an appointment, the student must check in with the Attendance Office.

Any absence must be verified within 48 hours of the absence or the absence will be recorded as unexcused. The Attendance Officers and/or School Resource Officers (SRO) of each school will be notified of all unexcused absences. Excessive absences will result in consequences according to policy procedures 3122R and will be reported on the report card.

East Middle School is a closed campus. Therefore, students may not leave the campus during the school day without permission from the Attendance Office.

Absences, Activities

Participation in school activities is an important factor in a student's success in school. It is the parents' and student's responsibility to notify the school prior to being absent. Absences for the participants in school sponsored activities are excused, but students are responsible for the work missed. In order to participate in an extracurricular activity, including practice, students must be in school during the afternoon of the date of the event or in the afternoon on the last school day prior to the activity, if the activity falls on a non-school day. Exceptions may be made by the administration.

Absences, Excused

A student is excused when the absence is due to:

- Illness
- Bereavement
- Medical or legal appointment
- Weather related absence when the schools remain in session but parents deem it unsafe for the student to attend school.
- Necessary absences approved by the parent
- Participation in school activities

Athletic Attendance

Being involved in extracurricular activities is an important component of the educational program. East Middle School offers a comprehensive, "no-cut" sports program for both boys and girls. Students must have current sports physicals, and pay participation fees to be eligible.

Practices: Before a student can participate in a scheduled game or event, he/she must have a minimum of 10 practices.

- A player with 3 unexcused absences from practices or games may be removed from the team.
- **In School Suspension or Out of School Suspension is considered an unexcused absence.**
- Students absent from school half the day or more cannot participate in practice or play in a game that day.
- Students receiving ISS or OSS are not allowed to participate during suspension days and will have an athletic suspension for the next following event.

Athletic Travel: Parents are responsible for transportation to and from practices. Students not practicing immediately after school must leave campus. We do not have assigned staff to supervise them while they wait for practice. Athletes can be on campus 7 minutes before their own practice.

Google Classroom

Google classroom provides a way for all students to access missing school work.. All students at East are taught how to access google classroom.

Tardies

Students are expected to be on time for each class during the school day. Tardy students will receive consequences as outlined in each teacher's classroom rules.

Truancy

For the purpose of this policy “truant” or “truancy” means the persistent non-attendance due to “unexcused absence”, as defined in this policy, for all or any part of a school day. Truants will be reported to legal authorities as prescribed by law, § 20-5-106, MCA Truancy

Unexcused Absences

An unexcused absence is an absence that has not been verified by a parent, or the school administration, an Attendance Officer and/or SRO. Staff will not be expected to recreate the educational experience for students who have unexcused absences. Students who are not in their assigned classes and who do not have permission to be elsewhere will be considered unexcused.

Unexcused absences from single period classes will result in office detention. Unexcused absences from partial school days or full school days will result in in-school suspension assignments and notification of the SRO as well as parents.

Cafeteria Procedures:

Entering Procedures

1. Always walk in the halls to and from the cafeteria.
2. Do not bring books or binders into the cafeteria. Place them in your locker.
3. Move quietly into either the hot lunch line or the deli lunch line. No pushing, taking cuts, etc. If you bring your own lunch, you may enter and sit down at the table of your choice.
4. Do not wear headgear (including hats, headsets, and bandanas).

Table Manners

1. Keep noise to a minimum.
2. No throwing of food.
3. Keep your area clean.
4. Remain seated.

Dismissal Procedures

1. Clean your area.
2. Raise your hand to ask the teacher to check your area and dismiss you.
3. Put trash into garbage.
4. Bring the tray to the dishwasher.

Exiting Procedures

1. Students will check with boy's and girl's monitors to use bathrooms.
2. No one is allowed back to his/her locker or in the halls without a pass.
3. Exit to Ram Court using the South Street door.
4. Students must pass quietly. There are other classes in session.

Hallway Procedures

1. Treat everyone with respect.
2. Follow school rules.
3. If an adult asks to speak with you, stop, listen and comply

Go with the F.L.O.W. at East Middle School-(Strategy for Hallway Behavior)

FLOW is our hallway procedure we expect from every student.

F File to the Right
L Lower voice
O Open Pathways
W Walk

Ram Court Procedures

1. Walk from the cafeteria to Ram Court.
2. Stay in the assigned area.
3. Be kind, follow our cultural beliefs
4. Use appropriate language. No profanity or name calling.

Curriculum, Middle School:

<u>7th Grade</u>	<u>8th Grade</u>
Core Classes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English & Honors English • Math • Social Studies • Science Related Arts Rotation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family & Consumer Science • Keyboarding • Art District Required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Enhancement • Music (Vocal & Instrumental) Electives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study Hall • French/Spanish (yearly rotation) • Ram Enterprises • IT (1 trimester) Extended Curriculum Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special Education • Math Lab • Title I Math 	Core Classes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English & Honors English • Math • Social Studies • Science Related Arts Rotation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial Literacy • Industrial Technology • Art District Required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Enhancement • Music (Vocal & Instrumental) Electives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study Hall • French/Spanish (yearly rotation) • Ram Enterprises • IT (1 trimester) Extended Curriculum Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special Education • Math Lab • Title I Math

Elective Classes

Middle School students have the option to choose a few electives; foreign language, woods, band, orchestra, choir, and study hall. Selection of courses is one of the most important choices students have to make. Parents are encouraged to be involved in the course selection process and are invited to contact a counselor if any information is needed.

Fee Schedule

Some classes in middle school require a class lab fee. The class fees cover the cost of materials, resources, or additional cost associated with an enhancement to a project. Examples are perishable foods, kitchen tools and supplies, computer programs, wood and woodworking tools. **Thanks to House Bill 387 on Career Technical Education, the State of Montana is providing direct funding to pay for class lab fees for the school year.**

- **Middle School Fees (*paid by HB 387*) for Career and Technical Education Courses:**
 - Computer Applications \$5.00
 - Family Consumer Sciences \$15.00
 - Financial Literacy \$5.00
 - Industrial Technology \$15.00

Field Trips

Numerous field trips are planned each year. Any trip involving transportation requires a signed parent-permission slip. On field trips, which involve short walks, parents will be notified ahead of time that the students will be out of the building. **ALL** field trips are designed to enhance classroom instruction and increase student learning.

Grading Policy

The Great Falls middle schools are on a trimester grading period for all grades. Report cards are sent home following the end of each grading period. The letter grade on the report card represents the following academic evaluation:

A (100-90)	Excellent	This indicates marked initiative and that the student does exceptionally well on the required work.
B (89-80)	Good	This shows that the required work is well done.
C (79-70)	Average	Required work is done in an average manner.
D (69-60)	Poor	Work is inferior and barely passing.
F (59-below)	Failure	Work is inferior or improperly prepared.
P	Pass	Student has completed the work satisfactory to the given circumstance.
I	Incomplete	Work is incomplete. When a student receives an "incomplete (I) on his/her report card, he/she will be given two weeks to make up the work. If incomplete work is not made up by the end of his two-week period, the incomplete grades changes to an F.

Grading Procedures

In most classes, grades are reported on an A, B, C, D, F basis. Some classes, such as Health Enhancement, may offer a pass fail grade. Each team develops the grading procedure for its students. During the scheduled open houses, a complete explanation of grades will be discussed. On all teams, homework completion, tests, quizzes, and class work are considered when calculating the final grade.

Heath Enhancement Requirement

Each student is required to participate in Health Enhancement and gym activities unless you present a doctor's excuse to the teacher and office. Students may be excused for one day for H.E. by bringing a note, signed by a parent, stating the reason they cannot participate. Failure to bring Health Enhancement clothing to class is not a valid excuse for not participating. Students without Health Enhancement clothes may be expected to wear clothing articles provided by the teacher.

To protect personal belongings, students should mark each item with his/her name. Valuable items should not be kept in gym lockers.

Study Hall

Seventh and eighth grade students may be assigned to a study hall as part of their school day. Attendance is required, and students assigned to study halls are expected to study. Students may use the study hall period to receive academic assistance, to do research in the library, or to work in the technology lab. Passes must be completed by the subject area teacher and presented to the study hall teacher after attendance has been taken. Study hall teachers may issue passes to the Library/Tech Lab. Students who receive an F in any subject area will have study hall privileges restricted until the F grade has been removed.

Health/Safety /Medical Concerns:

Emergency Evacuation Drills

Emergency evacuation drills will be practiced periodically for safety reasons. When the alarm rings, students must exit quickly in a quiet and orderly fashion. Specific evacuation procedures will be discussed by teachers, and evacuation maps will be posted in each classroom. Procedures for safe evacuation and reentry will be practiced throughout the year.

Fire alarm boxes are accessible throughout the building for emergencies only. Tampering with fire alarms is considered a major disciplinary violation and a criminal offense. There will be consequences for this behavior during drills.

Immunization

For middle school entry in 7th grade, the minimum requirements are listed below. For further information or clarification, please contact the City County Health Dept. at 454-6950. School Board Policy 3413.

Injuries

Any student who is injured while participating in any school activity should notify his/her instructor/coach immediately.

Medication

All medications brought to school must be stored in the nurse's office with the appropriate signed documentation. This includes common medications such as cough medicine, Tylenol, etc. Documentation for over-the-counter medications and prescription medications must be completed. Each form requires a parent signature or parent and physician's signature. State law mandates that all prescription medication must be in the original container. There is a form specifically for inhalers (School Board Policy 3416F), and these forms are in the main office. The office will NOT provide any medication for any student that has not been approved, documented, and stored. Students with specific medical needs, such as carrying an inhaler, epipen, or diabetic necessities, must have office documentation to carry these items. Medications are never to be stored in a student locker. We recommend a second inhaler, epipen, or diabetic items be stored in the nurse's office. School Board Policy 3416, 3418.

Physical for Athletes

All athletes must have a current sports physical in order to participate. One physical is current for fall and spring sports in one school year. The physical must be signed by a physician and a parent and filed with the Athletic Director. Forms are available in the main office.

Grievances:**Uniform Grievance Procedure**

All individuals should use the District's grievance procedure if they believe that the board, its employees, or agents have violated their rights guaranteed by the State or Federal constitution, State of Federal statute, or Board policy 3215.

The District will endeavor to respond to and resolve complaints without resorting to this grievance procedure and, if a complaint is filed, to address the complaint promptly and equitably. The right of a person to a prompt and equitable resolution of the complaint filed hereunder shall not be impaired by the person's pursuit of other remedies. Use of this grievance procedure is not a prerequisite to the pursuit of other remedies, and use of this grievance procedure does not extend any filing deadline related to the pursuit of other remedies.

Transportation:**Buses**

Bus schedules are listed on the Great Falls Public Schools website at www.gfps.k12.mt.us/ under the Parents & Students link. For busing questions or concerns, contact Big Sky Bus Lines at 454-1283.

Bikes

Bikes are to be placed in the racks provided. All bikes should be chained and locked.

Personal Concerns:

Backpacks

Backpacks are only for carrying materials to and from school and are to remain in the lockers during the school day. Approved clear stringed backpacks may be used to carry chromebooks in the halls.

Bathroom Use

We have a 10 - 10 rule. Which means students are not allowed to use the restroom in the first 10 minutes of class or the last 10 minutes of class unless it's an emergency. Students need to sign in and out of the classroom with the correct time and date to use the restroom.

Students are not permitted to be in a bathroom stall with one-another. If this occurs it will result in automatic out of school suspension requiring a parent conference with administration before the student is allowed to return. There is no logical explanation that two students should be in the same restroom stall designed only for the purposes of bodily relief. The expectation for bathroom use is Go, Flush, Wash, and Leave.

Binders

Students are required to use 3 inch-ring binders in all classes.

Cell Phones & Electronic Devices

At no time shall any student operate a cell phone or other electronic device with video or picture capabilities in any locker room, bathroom, or other location where such operation may violate the privacy right of another person. ***Cell phones are not to be used in our building during the school day.*** Students may use cell phones prior to the start of school outside. Once inside the building cell phone use is not permitted. Students in grades 7-8 may use such devices only with adult consent in the presence of an adult. If a cell phone is brought to school, cell phones are required to be left in a locker. Students are not permitted to remove or use cell phones while standing at their locker. Cell phones may be used after school when the instructional day has ended.

Cell phones and electronic devices must be kept in lockers and turned off during the school day. Unauthorized use or failure to secure the phone device in a student locker are grounds for confiscation of the device by teachers, staff, or school officials. Confiscated devices will be returned only to a parent or guardian. Repeated infractions and unauthorized use of such devices may result in further disciplinary action.

If having a cell phone confiscated causes behaviors that are disruptive to the milieu, that information will be taken into consideration of whether or not the cell phone will be banned from school for that student. School law allows for schools to ban any item deemed disruptive, neither parents nor students decide what is, or what is not disruptive to the school milieu.

Confiscated cell phones are subject to information/photo searches as needed School Board Policy 3231, 3612, 3612F.

If a cell phone or device is taken from a student, the following actions shall apply.

- Parents or legal guardians will need to pick up and sign for the possession of the phone.
- Students can let their parents know their phone has been confiscated by calling from the main office at a time that does not disrupt learning.
- Chronic cell phone problems at school

- May be dealt with by having the cell phone be a banned item for that individual. Administration will make the determination of “chronic”.
- Parents must show an effort to work cooperatively with the school to correct the behavior in order to avoid the cell phone being a banned item for their child.

East has 91 desk phones in the building. Our staff is very generous in allowing students to talk with parents using our classroom and/or office phones. Students will not be denied phone access if they are respectful in requesting to call parents. Students may be asked to wait until the passing time to call.

Internet Access

Internet access is available to all students. The purpose of District-provided Internet access is to facilitate communications in support of research and education. The District does provide filtering software for computers accessing the Internet. However, in order for a student to remain eligible as a user, he or she must assume the responsibility of appropriate usage that furthers the purpose of research and education. Inappropriate computer or internet use may result in termination of computer privileges, other administrative action, or legal action. School Board Policy: 3612 and 3612F.

School Pictures

Individual pictures are taken of each student and faculty member in the fall. Picture purchases are done only via direct contact to the photographer by website.

Valuables

School is not the place to bring valuables, flash money, or sell personal items. On occasion, some items may be stored in the office if a need arises. The school cannot be responsible for any items left in a classroom, a locker, or the gym area. School officials will not invest staff time during instructional hours to search for a cell phone that was not secured properly in a locker.

Visitors

Parents and guests need to check in with the office. If a parent wants to visit with a teacher they will need to call ahead of time to schedule an appointment. We don't allow parents, past students or staff to come in during school hours to visit teachers. Visits will need to be conducted after school hours. No other visitors will be allowed on campus.

Student Dress Policy:

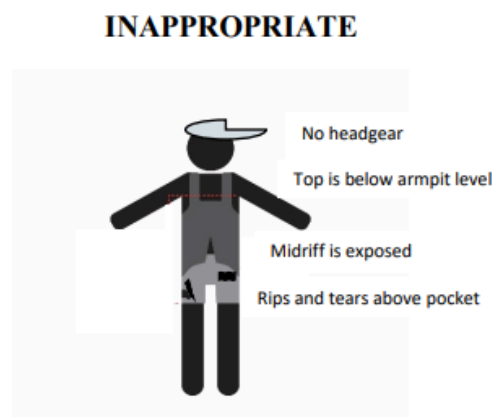
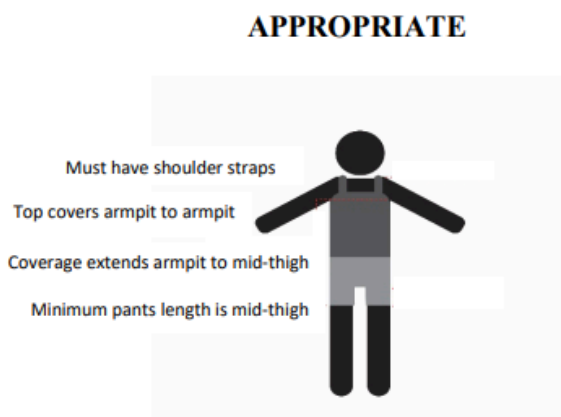
Dress / Attire

Students at East are asked to use good judgment and take pride in their dress and grooming. Students are expected to dress in a manner that is neat, clean, comfortable, and conducive to a formal and positive learning environment. Dressing appropriately, covering ourselves as needed, and engaging in good personal hygiene are all signs of professional courtesy, consideration, and maturity.

Due to the unique nature of each student's individual clothing, the dress code is subject to the best judgment of school staff and administration. School administration reserves the right to define what is inadequate, excessive, or inappropriate. Our goal is to minimize reasons for conflict and distraction whenever possible.

Minimum Dress Code Requirements:

1. Tops must fully cover the torso (armpit to armpit), including back and midriff area, even when seated, and even with arms lifted.
2. Tops must have sleeves or shoulder straps at least 1 inch (approx. 2 fingers) in width.
3. Undergarments should not be visible at any time and must be fully covered, even when bending / leaning.
4. Bottoms must provide adequate coverage at all times.
5. Cuts, rips, or tears in clothing should not be excessive.
6. Shoes must be worn at all times.
7. Headgear including hats, hoods, caps, and sunglasses are not allowed unless permitted for religious, medical, or other reasons by school administration.
8. All clothing and accessories should be safe and appropriate for the school environment. Things like **pajama pants**, onesies, capes, muscle shirts, slippers, costumes, etc. should not be worn unless permitted on special occasions, dress-up days, etc.



Additional Dress Code Requirements:

1. Clothing may not depict, imply, advertise, or advocate any of the following:
 - - illegal activities, violence, or weapons
 - - alcohol, tobacco, marijuana or other drugs / controlled substances
 - - vulgarity, lewdness, obscenity, pornography, nudity, or sexual acts
2. Clothing may not state, imply, or depict language / imagery **targeting groups** based on
 - Race
 - Ethnicity,
 - Gender
 - Sexual orientation
 - Religious affiliation, or
 - Any other protected classification.

3. Apparel, jewelry, accessories, tattoos, or any manner of grooming that, by virtue of its color, arrangement, trademark or any other attribute, denotes membership in a gang or advocates illegal or disruptive behavior, is prohibited.

4. Facemasks, if allowed by administration, must meet all of the above requirements.

The administration at East Middle School reserves the right to determine what constitutes appropriate dress. Students who do not adhere to these guidelines will not be allowed to attend class. Parents will be called if appropriate clothing is not available or the student refuses dress-code appropriate clothing.

Student Assistance: Connections

Connections meet 4 days a week and is one of the most important classes at East. Its purpose is to assist students in achieving success in the middle school environment and to assist students in accomplishing a smooth transition from the elementary school class-rooms to the high school.

The teacher/advisor will work with students on organizational skills, social skills, decision making, team cooperation, self-awareness, school pride, and community involvement. Structured activities will be determined by teams. Connection periods may also be used for academic assistance in CORE and related arts curricula, for student involvement in extra-curricular meetings including clubs and organizations, and for appropriate socialization. Community service is an integral part of Connections activities.

Lockers

1. HOW TO WORK YOUR LOCK...RIGHT, LEFT, RIGHT
2. Turn your lock to the right several times and stop on the first number of your combination.
3. Turn it to the left past your first number and stop on the second number.
Turn your lock to the right and stop on the third number.
4. All lockers are assigned through the Connections teacher.
5. Students who are having trouble with a locker must report it to the Connections teacher immediately.
6. Every attempt will be made to keep lockers secure. Do not reveal your combination to other students. Be sure you close your locker tightly and twirl the lock to be sure it is locked.
7. Store valuables at your own risk.
8. Students are expected to use the locker assigned to them.
9. Lockers are school property. Abuse of the locker will result in loss of privilege. Exteriors may not be decorated. Interior decorations must be appropriate for school. No tape allowed.

Lockers may be searched from time to time. See School Board Policy 3231.

Counseling

The Counseling Department provides services to all students in the academic, career, and personal/social areas. Counselors will work with students in the classroom and one on one. Students can request to see a counselor on a one-time basis or on a continuing basis. In addition, the counselor can assist in referrals to outside agencies and in-school support programs.

Students who wish to see their counselor should use the sign-up procedures in the counseling office. Parents are encouraged to call counselors for questions, conferences, or appointments at any time throughout the school year.

SRO

A School Resource Officer is available for law enforcement and related services, advising students and parents, and to provide a safe, orderly learning environment.

Library

Students and parents are encouraged to use Rams Library for research and recreational reading. Library hours are 7:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m., Monday through Thursday and Friday 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Books and magazines are available for checkout during hours.

Recreation reading passes allow students to use the Library from the study hall. Subject area teachers may issue additional research passes as they are needed by students. The technology lab houses Dell computers which are available for classroom or individual use. Classroom use is scheduled by teachers. Individual students may obtain lab passes from the technology staff based upon computer space available.

The purpose of District-provided Internet access is to facilitate communications in support of research and education. To remain eligible as users, students' use must be consistent with the educational objectives of the District. Access is a privilege, not a right. **Access entails responsibility.**

Planbook / Google Classroom

This is a teacher lesson plan book available to students and parents through an online link on the school webpage. Google classroom provides a way for all students to access missing school work. All students at East are taught how to access their work using google classroom.

Disciplinary Procedure

Student Discipline

East Middle School policies and procedures as outlined in this handbook have been developed in accordance with the Great Falls Public Schools Student Code of Rights and Responsibilities. In the fall students will be given a copy of the East Handbook which contains general guidelines to the student Code. The GFPS Board Policy is available to anyone through our district website. East students who attend the first days of school will go over the student handbook with their Connections Teacher.

Detention

Students who have been assigned to detention by the office will serve their time in the detention study hall which is open daily from 3:00 until 3:55. Late students will not be admitted unless escorted by a teacher. The teacher and/or the office staff will make every reasonable attempt to contact parents. Unserved detention will be doubled. With the third consultation about detention time, the student will be assigned to in-school suspension.

Students in office detention must use the time for academic work and consequently must bring with them textbooks and/or library books. No talking will be allowed. Failure to bring appropriate materials or off task behavior will result in the assignment of additional detention time.

Drug, Alcohol, Tobacco

All students will be held accountable for using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, or selling illegal drugs or controlled substances, imitation controlled substances, look-alike drugs and drug paraphernalia, alcohol, and tobacco or nicotine innovations. Students who may be under the influence of such substances will not be permitted to attend school functions and will be treated as though they had drugs or alcohol in their possession. (Board Policy 3310) Use of tobacco products in a public school building or on public school property is prohibited, unless used in a classroom or on

other school property as part of a lecture, demonstration, or educational forum sanctioned by a school. (Board Policy 8225)

In addition to disciplinary action outlined in Policy 3310, the following penalties apply. For more information regarding drugs and alcohol reference school board policy 3340, either on the district website or our school website.

Drug, Alcohol, Tobacco Violation for Students involved in Co-Curricular Activities:

The District views participation in extracurricular activities as an opportunity extended to students willing to make a commitment to adhere to the rules which govern them. Students participating in school related activities whether sponsored by the MHSA or not, shall not illegally use, have in possession, sell, or distribute alcohol, tobacco, nicotine innovations or illegal drugs, or abuse prescription or non-prescription drugs.

This rule is in effect twenty-four (24) hours a day for the duration of the school year. The school year is defined as the start of fall sports to the end of the school year or activities, whichever is later. If a student is charged with a Minor in Possession (MIP), Minor in Possession – Tobacco (MIPT), or Driving Under the Influence (DUI), or there is reasonable suspicion to believe the student is or has been illegally using tobacco, alcohol, or drugs, the student will forfeit the privilege of participating in school related activities. Additional sanctions for the student may apply depending upon the individual circumstances of the offense and the specific written requirements of their activity supervisors. The student will be offered a District-approved chemical awareness class and/or a tobacco education group (TEG) class. Successful completion of this class may reduce the sanctions.

Office Referral

Office referrals which will result in disciplinary consequences and be documented as part of a student's disciplinary record. Students may work off one Office Referral. Special recognition will be given at the end of each grading period to students who received zero Office Referrals during the nine-week period.

Search & Seizure

School officials may search any individual student, his/her property, or District property under his/her control, when there is a reasonable suspicion that the search will uncover evidence that he/she is violating the law, Board policy, administrative regulation, or other rules of the District or the school. Reasonable suspicion shall be based on specific and objective facts that the search will produce evidence related to the alleged violation. The types of student property that may be searched by school officials include but are not limited to lockers, desks, purses, backpacks, student vehicles parked on District property, cellular phones, or other electronic communication devices. School Board Policy 3231.

Suspension - In-School

In-School Suspension (ISS) is a consequence sometimes used as an alternative to out-of-school suspension so that the student may remain under school supervision. ISS is issued for violations such as truancy, fighting, insubordination, vandalism, or theft. ISS may be assigned for a student's refusal to complete detentions. Every effort will be made to notify parent/guardian, regarding ISS. Students receiving ISS are not allowed to participate in athletics on the day of their suspension and will receive an athletic suspension for the next event.

Students must comply with ISS rules in order to complete ISS. Disruptive or off-task behavior will result in additional ISS time or OSS. Suspended students are not able to participate in school activities (concerts, games, practices, etc.) on the suspension day. Lunch will be eaten in the ISS

room as the student serves their day from 7:45 to 3:00 pm. Bathroom breaks are available once before lunch and once after lunch.

Suspension - Out-of-School

Out-of-School Suspension (OSS) is assigned for serious Student Code violations such as violence, insubordination, the use of or possession of alcohol, illegal drugs, or other mood-altering substances. OSS may be assigned when other corrective actions taken by the school to modify a student's misbehavior have not been effective. Students receiving OSS are expected to continue their academic work by accessing Planbook or contacting teachers directly. Students receiving OSS are not allowed to participate in athletics on the day of their suspension and will receive an athletic suspension for the next event.

Video Surveillance

The school campus has several cameras. The purpose is to ensure the health, welfare, and safety of all staff, students, and visitors to District property. Video documents violations of Board policies, administrative regulations, District or building rules or law, and provide a historical record to assist in investigations as authorized or permitted by law. School Board Policy 3235.

EMS Students with RAM PRIDE “R”



ESPECTFUL

- Appropriate in all school-related settings
- Compliant with reasonable requests
- Using appropriate language



ESPONSIBLE

- Considerate of the safety and feelings of all
- Truthful, owning mistakes and learning from them
- Good role models and citizens



EADY

- On time with all needed materials
- Actively engaged
- Dressed for academic success

Go with the F.L.O.W. at East Middle School-(Strategy for Hallway Behavior)
FLOW is our hallway procedure we expect from every student.

F	File to the Right
L	Lower voice
O	Open Pathways
W	Walk

EMS COMMUNICATION GUIDE

ATTENDANCE OFFICE

Attendance Secretary

Karin Enyeart

406-268-6501

Please call when your student is absent or when you anticipate an upcoming absence.

MAIN OFFICE

Main Office – Front Desk

406-268-6500

Administrative Assistant – Stephanie Major

406-268-6509

Please feel free to call at any time, we're happy to assist you in any way we can.

RECORDS OFFICE

Scheduling Technician/Registrar

Keely Wrobel

406-268-7509

Contact the scheduling office if there is a need for scheduling, withdrawing, enrolling, any records concern, immunizations, or Parent access to PowerSchool

EMAIL A STAFF MEMBER

All GFPS email addresses have the same naming convention

- Firstname_lastname@gfps.k12.mt.us

East Teacher's names and phone numbers can be found on our website:

- <https://www.gfps.k12.mt.us/EMS>

PTA INFORMATION

PTA President: Jennifer Lo Giudice

- eastmiddleschoolpta@gmail.com or join us on Facebook @ East Middle School PTA Great Falls

POWERSCHOOL

Parent Portal: ps.gfps.k12.mt.us

If you need further instructions please go to our website:
<https://www.gfps.k12.mt.us/EMS>

or call 406-268-7509

The PowerSchool Parent Portal allows parent access to student grades, daily attendance, and a parent bulletin.

ADMINISTRATION/SRO/COUNSELORS

- **Principal** – Brad Barringer – 406-268-6503
- **Associate Principal** – Rea Medrano – 406-268-6505
- **Admin. Intern** – Jolena Hinchman – 406-268-6475
- **7th Grade Counselor** – Carly Swingley – 406-268-6466
- **8th Grade Counselor** – Rochelle Johnson – 406-268-6490
- **SRO** – Shayne Stadel – 406-268-6517

BUSING INFORMATION

Look up where and when the bus will pick your student up at:

<https://www.infofinderi.com/tfi/default.aspx>

or go to the school website at:

<https://www.gfps.k12.mt.us/EMS>

- Click the information tab, type in your address and find your bus.