



West Irondequoit Central School District

DAKE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

350 COOPER ROAD

ROCHESTER, N.Y. 14617

(585) 342-2140

dake.westirondequoit.org

July 30th, 2026

Dear 8th Grade Families:

Welcome back to Dake Junior High School! We're so excited to have you and your child return as part of the Dake family. As we prepare for the 2026-2027 school year, we're looking forward to another year of growth, learning, and success.

As 8th graders, your students are now leaders in our building. They're familiar with the routines and expectations of junior high and are beginning the important transition toward high school. By the end of this year, most students will have completed at least one high school requirement, **World Language**, setting them up for a strong start in 9th grade.

As we prepare for the upcoming school year, we would also like to share that **Dr. Hogestyn will be on maternity leave for the beginning of the school year**. While we will certainly miss her during that time, we are excited to welcome **Mr. Canny**, who will be working closely with our 8th grade students and families until Dr. Hogestyn returns.

At Dake, we remain committed to fostering a culture of **mutual respect, responsibility, and academic excellence**. We'll continue to support your child's development as an independent learner, critical thinker, and responsible digital citizen. Our goal is to help every student build the confidence and skills they need to thrive in high school and beyond.

Team Placement & Supplies

You will find your child's **8th grade team assignment when schedules are made available via Infinite Campus on August 17th**. Please note that this may differ from their 7th grade team. Students may have any of the listed teachers for **ELA, Math, Social Studies, or Science**, as team-specific sections are shared across subject areas.

Our student **supply list** is available on our Dake website but also within this communication.

New to Dake

If your family is new to the district, we're excited to welcome you! You'll receive additional details about our **New Entrant Orientation** on **August 27th at 1:00 PM**.

Locker Set-up

Students may visit Dake to walk their schedule and set up their locker on **August 21 or 28 anytime between 9-2pm**. A parent/guardian may accompany them—please bring a photo ID for check-in through our Raptor system.

Laptops:

Students will use school-issued laptops daily and may bring them home. Please support your child to establish a routine for **charging the device nightly** and **bringing it to school each day**. All students must follow the **Code of Conduct** when using their device, even outside school hours.

To help ensure student safety and appropriate technology use, the district monitors student device activity through **Lightspeed**, our online filtering and monitoring system. Families are encouraged to discuss responsible digital citizenship and appropriate device use with their child.

School-issued laptops are valuable educational tools and should be handled with care. Please have a conversation with your child about respecting and properly caring for their device. **Families may be held financially responsible for the repair or replacement of laptops that are damaged due to negligence, misuse, or intentional damage.**

Athletics:

Modified Fall Sports begin **August 25**. Registration is open on **FamilyID** from **July 25 through August**.

Please visit our athletics website: <https://ihs.westirondequoit.org/our-school/activities/athletics>

Arrival & Dismissal

Arrival:

- Doors open at **7:30 AM**.
- Students arriving between 7:30–7:50 enter through **Door 3** (cafeteria entrance).
- After 7:50, students may enter through **Door 1** (main entrance).
- **First period begins at 8:00 AM.**

Dismissal:

- School ends at **2:55 PM**.
- After **3:10 PM**, students must be under adult supervision if they remain on school grounds.
- To re-enter the building, students must use **Door 1** and sign in at the main office.

Reminder Regarding Student Internet-Enabled Devices:

To maintain an environment focused on learning and community relationships, cell phones and internet-enabled device use is not permitted during the school day (bell to bell). Students should store their cell phones in their lockers. Violations of this policy will be responded to in a progressive manner. ***In all cases, parents or guardians will be contacted and have to come to Dake to pick up the phone/device.***

New Building Backpack Expectation:

To help maintain an organized and distraction-free learning environment, students will be expected to store their backpacks in their lockers during the school day.

- Students will have opportunities to access their lockers as needed throughout the day during transitions.
- Backpack and locker expectations will be reviewed during student orientation and locker days at the start of the school year.
- School staff will provide regular reminders and support to help students develop and maintain these routines.

Thank you for partnering with us to create a safe, focused, and productive learning environment for all students.

Important Dates:

- **September 8, 2026- First Day of School**
- **September 18, 2026- Picture Day- All students will receive a student ID and this will be used to scan into school if late and designated lunch.**
- **September 24, 2026- Dake Open House 6:30-8pm**

Counselors:

- **Emerald 8 - Mr. Joe Battaglia**
- **Topaz 8 - Miss Jessica Hess**
- **Opal 8 - Miss Nicole Williams**

If you have questions, please call us at **(585) 336-2960**. Counselors will return calls as they are in and out of the building during August.

We are honored to partner with you in your child's educational journey. We look forward to seeing your student **August 21st or 28th**, on the **first day of school, September 8**. Enjoy the rest of your summer!

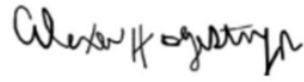
Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Timothy Baker in black ink.

Timothy Baker
Dake Principal

Handwritten signature of Claire Hamilton in black ink.

Claire Hamilton
Assistant Principal, 7th Grade

Handwritten signature of Alexa Hogestyn in black ink.

Alexa Hogestyn
Assistant Principal, 8th Grade

2026-2027 7th GRADE STUDENT SUPPLY LIST

General Supplies • <u>Earbuds/Headphones</u> • Pens • Sharpened Pencils • Highlighters • Computer charger (Bring the charger supplied by your school. If the supplied charger has been lost, you will need to purchase a replacement)	Math 7 • 1 red 2 pocket folder • Texas Instruments TI-30XIIS scientific calculator
English 7 • 2 blue 2 pocket folders (plastic preferred) • 1 composition notebook	Science 7 • 2 green 2 pocket folders
Social Studies 7 • 2 yellow 2 pocket folders	Please note: The potential exists that teachers may have additional requests for supplies. Any new requests will be shared with students during the first week of school. It will be helpful to have extra folders on hand on an as-needed basis.

2026-2027 8th GRADE STUDENT SUPPLY LIST

General Supplies • <u>Earbuds/Headphones</u> • Pens • Sharpened pencils • Highlighters • Computer charger (Bring the charger supplied by your school. If the supplied charger has been lost, you will need to purchase a replacement)	Math 8 • 1 red 2 pocket folder • Texas Instruments TI-30XIIS scientific calculator
English 8 • 2 blue 2 pocket folders with prongs (plastic preferred) • 3 packs of 3x3 Post-it Notes • 1 composition notebook	Science 8 • 2 green 2 pocket folders
Social Studies 8 • 2 yellow 2 pocket folders	Algebra • 1 red 2 pocket folder • One 1.5 or 2 inch binder (any color) • TI 84+CE Texas Instruments graphing calculator (recommended – will be used throughout high school) – please do not open until first class *Algebra students only need to get materials required for Algebra and NOT for Math 8
Living Environment (LE) One 2-inch binder *Living Environment students only need to get materials required for LE and NOT for Science 8	Please note: Teachers may have additional requests for supplies. Any new requests will be shared with students during the first week of school. It will be helpful to have extra folders on hand on an as-needed basis.

**Dake Junior High School
EMERGENCY CLOSING PROCEDURES
2026-2027**

In the event that school closes unexpectedly early due to an emergency, I have discussed with my child exactly what she/he is to do for his/her personal safety.

I have instructed (child's name) _____

GRADE _____ PARENT SIGNATURE _____

to follow the procedure I have checked below:

PLEASE CHECK ONLY ONE

___ **1. Walk directly home and call a parent.**

___ **2. Walk directly to a pre-determined neighbor/relative's home**
Pre-determined neighbor/relative's relationship: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

___ **3. Remain in school until a parent/guardian signs student out.**

Students with a handicapping condition or students who ride the bus will need to remain in school until a parent/guardian comes to pick them up, until their regular transportation arrives or unless choice #1, 2 or 4 is indicated.

___ **4. In the event of an early release emergency ONLY, my child may be released to any of the following adults if they present proper identification: (You may list up to two names):**

1. _____

2. _____

It is EXTREMELY IMPORTANT that you complete and return this form to the Dake Jr. High School Office by Tuesday, September 8th. You may mail it to: Dake Junior High School, 350 Cooper Road, Rochester, NY 14617 or bring it directly to the Dake School office.

In the event of an emergency school closing, if we do not have the information on file, your child will be kept at school until an adult comes and signs them out or they are released to walk home at the normal close of the school day, barring any hazardous conditions, and at the discretion of the principal.

Given the number of students in our school, it would be impossible to provide phone access to all students who may wish to call parents for emergency instructions under early emergency closing circumstances.

August 2026

Dear Parents and Guardians of Dake Junior High students,

As we continue to identify how to best ensure student safety, it is imperative that we have an emergency closing release policy. At times during the school year, the need may arise for an emergency closing during the school day. We are therefore requesting that parents discuss with their children:

- Where to go (home, relative or neighbor).
- What to do (stay at school until picked up, go home as usual, how to gain access to the house, how to best reach a parent or other trusted adult once at home) should this situation arise.

There are a variety of circumstances that could determine the exact procedure followed at school during an emergency closing such as: weather conditions, time of day, type of emergency, state of mind of students and staff. If the situation exists where the principal may dismiss students earlier than usual, it is imperative that we have specific information from each parent/guardian about whether or not your child can be sent home early or whether you want your child to remain supervised at school until she/he is picked up.

A PLAN MUST BE SUBMITTED EVERY YEAR FOR EACH CHILD IN OUR SCHOOL. Please indicate your preference on the enclosed form and return it to the Dake Jr. High School office by Tuesday, September 8th. This will guide our staff in making decisions regarding your child's safety under these unusual circumstances.

Returning this completed form to the Dake School office ensures that we have an accurate list of those students who may be released early to walk home and those who may not. Please keep in mind that in the event of such an emergency, with close to 600 students in our building; phones will not be readily available for students to make phone calls to parents at work or home.

An emergency school closing will be communicated in the following order:

- An automated phone call to parents using our Blackboard Connect system.
- E-News
- Local television media (CH. 7, 8, 9, 10, 13)
- Local radio stations (WHAM 1180 AM. WARM 101.3)
- District Web site (www.westirondequoit.org).
- ICAT 12/15

If school is closed unexpectedly during the day, and a completed emergency plan is not on file in our office, your child will not be allowed to go home. He or she will be kept in school with supervision until picked up by an adult or until students are released to walk home at the normal close of school. The school principal will determine whether or not it is safe for students to walk home.

We appreciate your assistance as we prepare for your child's safety in the event of an emergency school closing.

Best Regards,



Mr. Tim Baker
Principal
Dake Junior High School



West Irondequoit Central School District

DAKE SCHOOL

350 COOPER ROAD

ROCHESTER, NEW YORK 14617-3093

Telephone: (585) 342-2140



Dear Parents/Guardians & Students,

We are excited to introduce you to Juno, Dake's Therapy Dog! Juno is an 8-year-old chocolate lab mix. She is a certified therapy dog through RocDog and has worked at Dake for 3 years. Ms. Hess, one of our school counselors at Dake, adopted Juno from Joyful Rescues in 2017 when she was 4 months old. Ms. Hess started working with Juno to become a therapy dog when Ms. Graham and our former therapy dog, Nellie, retired.

Juno is trained to provide comfort and support to students, as well as to assist with the overall positive climate of the school. Research has shown that therapy dogs provide social, emotional, and academic benefits to students in many ways. We are excited to have Juno as a part of our social emotional support team here at Dake!

If you do **NOT** feel comfortable with your student interacting with Juno, or if your student is allergic to dogs and you do not want them in close proximity to Juno for this reason, please sign this form and have your child return it to the main office **by 9/22/2026**. If you do not return this opt-out form, we will assume that we have consent for your student to interact with Juno under Jessica Hess's supervision as her handler.

Please feel free to contact Jessica Hess, School Counselor or Tim Baker, Principal if you have any questions or concerns. Juno cannot wait to spend time with all the wonderful students, faculty, and staff at our school!

Sincerely,

Tim Baker
Principal

Jessica Hess
School Counselor

THERAPY DOG OPT-OUT FORM

I, _____, do **NOT** give permission for my child,

_____, to interact with the certified therapy dog at school.
First/last name of student

Reason (optional): _____

Signature _____ Date _____

"West Irondequoit Schools Are Community Schools"



West Irondequoit Central School District

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Physical examinations and immunizations are required by New York State Education Law for all students entering school for the first time and those entering UPK, K, 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th and 11th grade students. A New York State exam must be completed within one year prior to the first day of the next school year, September 8, 2026. A copy of the health examination must be provided to the school within 30 days from the first day of school. If a copy is not given to the school within the 30 days, the school will contact you.

New York has expanded health screenings to include a dental health certificate. We are requesting that the attached Dental Certificate be completed by your child's dentist and returned to the school nurse.

Documentation of required immunizations must be provided within 14 days of the start of school.. In accordance with the New York State regulation, students who do not provide proper immunization documentation by September 22, 2026 will not be permitted to attend school until requirements are met. Students entering 6th grade must receive the Tdap Booster. Students entering 7th and 12th grade must receive the Meningococcal Conjugate vaccine.

Communication between private and school health staff is important for safe and effective care at school. Your healthcare provider may not share information with school health staff without your signed permission. Please talk your provider about signing their consent form for the school at the time of your child's appointment for the examination.

Per New York State Law, students may receive medication at school only if it is medically necessary and cannot be administered outside school hours.

Students who require medication, either prescription or non-prescription ("over-the-counter" OTC), during the school day or during school related activities, must meet the following district guidelines on a yearly basis:

- Written authorization from a NYS licensed health care provider and a parent/guardian is required for school staff to administer any medication to a student in school.
- Prescription medication must be in the original pharmacy container, labeled with the student's name, medication dose, route, and time. Non-prescription medication must be in the original container with the student's name attached.
- Medication orders must be renewed annually. They do not carry over from one school year to another.
- All medication must be delivered to the nurse's office by the parent/guardian.
- All medication not picked up by a parent/guardian at the end of the school year will be discarded during the summer.

We suggest that you make copies of the completed forms for your own records before sending them to the school health office. Forms may be faxed or emailed to the information below.

Sincerely,

Kristina Sodeman, RN
Kristina_Sodeman@westiron.monroe.edu
Office phone number: 585-336-2964
Fax number: 585-336-3015

"West Irondequoit Schools Are Community Schools"

Dake JHS 8th Grade Washington DC Trip

Initial parent/guradian informational meeting

Via Zoom:

Wednesday, September 16th - 6pm

In-person parent/guardian meeting

IHS Auditorium:

Wednesday, November 4th – 6:30pm

In-person parent/guardian meeting

IHS Auditorium:

Wednesday, January 20th – 6:30pm

Meet the Chaperones Meeting

Early Spring Date: TBD

DC Trip – Wednesday, April 7 – Friday, April 9th

Trip Advisors:

Kathy Salecki- Kathleen_salecki@westiron.monroe.edu

Haley Corette-Haley_corette@westiron.monroe.edu