

NORTH MIDDLE SCHOOL

HOME OF THE VIKINGS

612 EAST YAMPA

COLORADO SPRINGS, CO

80903



Dear Viking Students and Families:

We hope that all of you have had a relaxing and enjoyable summer! It is our pleasure to welcome you to the start of the 2026-2027 school year! The summer flew by, but we missed our students and are excited to welcome them back to school! We learn so much from each other, and we look forward to establishing that same symbiotic relationship with our 6th graders and among our returning and new students and staff during the upcoming school year.

Below is some key information for the start of the school year, including links to common necessary information:

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8th:

Pastries and Pleasantries with the Principal linked [HERE](#). Between the hours of 8:30 – 11:00 am, 6th grade students and families and new to North 7th and 8th grade students and families can meet Principal Leasure and/or get a building tour and enjoy donuts and coffee. If you are interested in attending, please fill out the following [google form](#). Please enter the front doors by the Viking and come to the cafeteria.

***TUESDAY, AUGUST 11th:**

The first day of school for 6th grade students. 6th graders will meet WEB leaders who can help them in their transition, will learn about the building, and be able to run through their schedule of classes. 6th grade day starts at 8:45am and ends at 3:54 pm. Buses run as scheduled (see transportation link below if you aren't sure of your student's bus stop or pick up time) or you can drop your students off. All 6th graders will be welcome through the back cafeteria entrance on the north side of the building by the track. 6th graders may eat lunch at school or bring their own.

***WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12th:**

All students grades 6th – 8th first day of the 26-27 school year. Students will pick up their schedules on the North side of the building by the track – doors open for students on regular school days at 7:30am, and breakfast is served at 8:30am.

***MONDAY, AUGUST 17th:**

School Picture Day – You can place your order on [mylifetouch.com](#) using your Picture Day ID: EVT76DRJC. Order before midnight on Picture Day to get FREE shipping! We will also continue to send this info in school communication.

***WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19th:**

Back to School Night from 5:30 – 7:30pm. Please mark your calendars to hear from our administrative team, receive important school year information, and meet your students' teachers. This is NOT an open house, so please plan to be at North by 5:30pm!

BUS INFORMATION

If you are unsure of where your student catches the bus and the time, please check the following link: [Transportation Location Information](#)

DROP OFF/PICK UP INFORMATION

If your child walks to school, please remind him/her to cross streets at designated crosswalks on and off campus. If you drop your child off, please look at the attached map for a diagram of drop off/pick up information. You may drop off or pick up on Yampa, Royer, or on El Paso outside of the designated bus loading areas—you may not park to pick up on the opposite side of El Paso near the buses because when buses are loading, the street becomes impassable in both directions. The first week of drop-off/pick-up will be hectic and take longer than usual, so please be patient and watch carefully for students! Also, please be good neighbors—please do not drop trash in our neighborhood—our families work hard to keep the area clean and we strive to be good community partners.

BELL SCHEDULE

[Bell Schedule for 2026-27](#) is attached to this email and will also be added to our webpage.

ACADEMIC YEAR CALENDAR

[2026-2027 Calendar in English](#)
[Calendario del Distrito 2026-27](#)

FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH APPLICATION

[D11 Free and Reduced Lunch Application and Information](#)

PTA (Parent Teacher Association)

Our PTA meets monthly. If you are interested in helping with student dances, teacher appreciation, and school activities, please watch for communication in North Notes, our weekly communication.

SAC (School Accountability Committee)

Monthly (starting in September), I host our SAC meeting for any interested school constituents, and I provide both an in-person and virtual option. If you are interested in hearing about school data, finances, goals, and current events, please email Alyssa Lopez (alyssa.lopez@d11.org) so she can invite you to our meetings. Times and dates are TBD and will be announced soon.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Unless students are in band or orchestra, there are no required school supplies, as District 11 provides them.

CLASS SCHEDULES

All students will receive their schedule on the first day of school for all grades, Wednesday, August 12th. 6th graders will receive a schedule on Tuesday as well, but in case changes are made, they will receive a new one on Wednesday.

ATHLETICS

Fall sports for middle school are a great opportunity for students to become connected. Students must have a current sports physical uploaded on a new online platform called [Bound](#) to participate in the fall season start dates. Additional information on registering for Bound can be found [HERE](#).

Football - August 10
Cross Country - August 10
Girls Volleyball - August 10
Boys Golf - August 24
Wrestling - September 28
Girls Soccer- September 28

If you have questions about athletics, please contact Latoya Severa (latoya.severa@d11.org) and Justin Weickum (justin.weickum@d11.org).

COMMUNICATION

At North, we communicate consistently through D11 communication pathways. We utilize D11 School Messenger to communicate weekly through North Notes (delivered on Sunday afternoons) and once a month through our newsletter. Absence calls and D/F notifications are also delivered through School Messenger, so please make sure we always have your current email address and phone number. If you are not receiving our communication, please email Maria Bynes (maria.bynes@d11.org) or call her at 719-328-2427.

ATTENDANCE

Regular and punctual patterns of attendance are important to student success. Research is clear that poor attendance is directly correlated to decreased student performance. Should you need to excuse your student for district-approved reasons (illness – excessive student illness absences may require parents to bring in or send in Dr.'s notes) or weather, please call our attendance line at 719- 328-2435 and leave a message with Ms. Manuszak. She will track those messages and clear attendance within 24 – 48 hours. If your student misses a class and is not excused, you will receive a school-generated phone call within the given school hour.

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

Principal: Stephanie Leasure (stephanie.leasure@d11.org)
Principal's Assistant: Alyssa Lopez (alyssa.lopez@d11.org)
6th grade AP: Chrissy Boyer (christina.boyerhickman@d11.org)
6th grade counselor: Dawn Boden (dawn.boden@d11.org)
7th grade AP & Athletic Director: Justin Weickum (justin.weickum@d11.org)
7th grade counselor: Whitney Williams (whitney.williams@d11.org)
8th grade AP: Grant Ambroz (grant.ambroz@d11.org)
8th grade counselor: Kelly Gallegos (kelly.gallegos@d11.org)
Special education counselor: Deb Hronsky: (deborah.hronsky@d11.org)

6th grade families, if you need to chat with a counselor about your student's schedule, please contact Dawn Boden through August 14th. Ms. Boden will be moving to a different school mid-August – we wish her the best and will miss her, and we are currently looking for her replacement.

One significant change from previous years is that students will no longer check out chrome books 1 to 1. Teachers will utilize chrome books in their classrooms when needed, and there will be a procedure in place for students who use their time effectively in class and still need to use a device overnight – more info to come.

Vikings and families, I know this was a lot of information, but we hope with some communication ahead of the school year, you will feel more at ease going into the school year. We truly are excited to welcome your students back to North, and we look forward to an incredible school year!

Sincerely,
Stephanie Leasure
Principal – North Middle School