



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 7th Grade Families:

Welcome to Dake Junior High School! We are thrilled to have you and your child join our school community. The start of 7th grade is just around the corner, and we're excited to kick off this new chapter with your student at our upcoming orientation.

As your child transitions into junior high, our dedicated faculty and staff are committed to making their experience at Dake positive, supportive, and enriching. We will help students grow both academically and personally, while reinforcing our core values of **Mutual Respect, Shared Pride, Shared Purpose, and Mutual Support**.

Our focus remains on building a culture of respect, responsibility, and a strong work ethic. We aim to help students reach their full potential by encouraging independence, critical thinking, and sound decision-making—skills that will serve them well throughout their lives.

Orientation Information

All 7th graders are invited to attend our **student-only orientation** at Dake. This is a great opportunity to meet classmates and staff, tour the building, and get questions answered. Orientation is scheduled by **Gem Team**, which is listed at the top of your child's schedule. This will be available on Infinite Campus by August 17th.

Ruby 7- August 20th– 9:00-10:30 AM

Amethyst 7- August 20th-11:00 AM-12:30 PM

Sapphire 7- August 20th- 1:30-3:00 PM

Locker Set-up

Students may visit Dake to walk their schedule and set up their locker on **August 21 or 28 anytime between 9am-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 31 through August 31**.

Registration Opens: 07/31/2026

Registration Closes: 08/30/2026

Start Date: 08/31/2026

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 must come to Dake to pick up the phone/device.***

Backpack Expectations

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:

- **Ruby 7 - Mr. Joe Battaglia**
- **Amethyst 7 - Miss Jessica Hess**
- **Sapphire 7 - 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 students at orientation on **August 20th** Locker Day, **August 21st or 28th**, on the **first day of school, September 8**. Enjoy the rest of your summer!

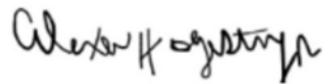
Sincerely,



Timothy Baker
Dake Principal



Claire Hamilton
Assistant Principal, 7th Grade



Alexa Hogestyn
Assistant Principal, 8th Grade



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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:

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New Building Backpack Expectation:

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

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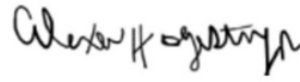
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Timothy Baker". The script is fluid and cursive.

Timothy Baker
Dake Principal

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "CHamilton". The script is fluid and cursive.

Claire Hamilton
Assistant Principal, 7th Grade

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alexa Hogestyn". The script is fluid and cursive.

Alexa Hogestyn
Assistant Principal, 8th Grade