

Triad Middle School

6th Grade Orientation Summary (5.23.23)

Classes begin 7:30 am (doors open at 7:00am)



Dismissal: 1:55 pm

SAVE THE DATE

August 9th: 11 am - 7 pm Open Hallways at TMS (i.d. pictures taken)

August 16th: 1st day of school

August 23rd: 6 pm Open House (follow student schedule)

General Reminders:

*Skyward-register student for next school year & upload residency

*Impact aid and home language survey forms should be turned in ASAP

*Supply list on website

*If your child is going to be absent for school, please call the office by 7:30a.m.

Nurse:

Physical form due: September 15, 2023

Immunizations (TDAP & Meningococcal) due: September 15, 2023

Dental form due: May 15, 2024

(special forms for asthma, seizures, epipen use, & medicine administration)



Triad Middle School

Band/Chorus:

Sign-up now through July 18th deadline

Questions contact:

Dennis Carter (band)-dennis.carter@tcusd2.org

Natalie Gravois (chorus)-natalie.gravois@tcusd2.org



Wait until 8th initiative



TAKE THE PLEDGE

By signing the pledge at waituntil8th.org, you promise not to give your child a smartphone until at least 8th grade as long as at least 10 families total from your child's grade and school take the pledge. As an alternative, a basic phone might be appropriate, as it avoids many of the distractions and dangers of the smartphone. Once 10 families have pledged from your child's grade and school, you will be notified that the pledge is in effect!

TIPS FOR SUCCESS

at TMS

FIRST, LET'S ALL ACKNOWLEDGE THAT MIDDLE SCHOOL IS AWKWARD! Kids go through big changes emotionally, physically, and socially. Not to mention shifting from valuing parental attention/reinforcement to caring a lot more about what their peers think. Despite all these changes, middle school is also an amazing time full of great opportunities! Below are some helpful tips our staff compiled to help you and your student(s) find success at TMS.

- **ATTENDANCE:** One of the biggest components to student success is attendance. Students are responsible to check Canvas and do makeup work when they are absent.
- **BEHAVIOR AND RESPONSIBILITY IN MIDDLE SCHOOL:** The TMS student handbook outlines school rules that apply to all students while at school. Classroom expectations are set by teachers and may vary slightly from room to room. We know it's perfectly normal for kids to make mistakes; it's often how they learn. We strive to use those teachable moments and support student growth and learning as they navigate challenges.
- **COMMUNICATION AND COLLABORATION:** We highly encourage open communication with teachers. Email is often the quickest way to get in touch, but we are happy to schedule phone calls or meetings as well!
- **GET INVOLVED:** The more students are engaged with extracurriculars and the broader school community, the happier and healthier they will be! We encourage parents to get involved as well through our parent advisory council that meets quarterly. Your perspective and feedback is so valued in serving all students!
- **STRUCTURE AND EXPECTATIONS AT HOME:** Kids thrive with structure, expectations, and consistency. Giving them assigned time and space to do homework is helpful. Be sure to have your Skyward and Canvas accounts set up at the start of the year so that you can keep an eye on their progress. You may want to set aside one day each week to sit down with your student and check grades. It is also important to check in on the social aspects of middle school. You might plan time where you share stories from the day, such as "highs and lows". Just remember that it's normal and expected for them to become more independent during the middle school years.
- **TECHNOLOGY:** Smartphones and video games are two central focuses in the lives of many middle schoolers. We recommend a plan for limiting screen time. We recommend delaying smart phones until at least 8th grade (check out WaitUntil8th.org). If your student already has a phone, we recommend parental safeguards and monitoring closely. Teach them how to use it responsibly and what to do should they observe inappropriate or unsafe behavior from others online or via text.
- **TECHNOLOGY AND SLEEP:** Middle schoolers need 8-10 hours of sleep per night. Technology is one of the key reasons kids stay up late. It's common to see increased negative behaviors in school and at home as technology usage increases and hours of sleep decrease. It is good practice to set a time when all technology is done for the night. Strongly consider charging phones overnight in your bedroom so that students do not have the temptation of playing games or chatting with friends when they should be disconnected and sleeping.
- **CHALLENGES ARE OPPORTUNITIES:** Please remember that, while expecting a variety of changes, the challenges your incoming 6th grader will face are opportunities to grow and become smarter, stronger, and more equipped to deal with future challenges. Work with your kids in this spirit - set limits, help them set healthy boundaries, and let's work together to help keep all our kids healthy and safe!