

Kittson Central K-12
Frequently Asked Questions
www.kittson.k12.mn.us

Logistics

Q. What time does school start?

A. *Classes begin at 8:20 am. Breakfast for K-12 students is available from 7:45-8:10 am. Elementary recess is from 7:45-8:15 am.*

Q. Where should I drop my child off before school?

A. *Students may be dropped off after 7:45 am in two places, the south doors of the elementary hall (Door # 12) or the front doors on the west side of the school (Door #1). Please do NOT enter the bus cul-de-sac.*

Q. Where should I pick my child up at the end of the day?

A. *After the school day, students may be picked up in two places, the south doors of the elementary hall (Door #12) or the front doors on the west side of the school (Door #1). Please do NOT enter the bus cul-de-sac.*

Q. Where should I drop my child off if they are coming late to school?

A. *Students arriving to school after 8:20 am should be dropped off at the front doors on the west side of the school (Door #1).*

Q. Where should I pick up my child if I need to get them early?

A. *Students leaving school before 3:15 pm should be picked up at the front doors on the west side of the school (Door #1).*

Q. When I pick my child up at the elementary hall (door #12) at the end of the day, the door is locked. When does it unlock?

A. *Door #12 unlocks at 3:05 pm.*

Q. Can anyone from the public use the school playground during the day?

A. *The school playground is not open to public visitors while students are outdoors at recess or Phy. Ed. Typical hours for recess are from 7:45 - 8:15 am and from 11:30 am - 12:30 pm.*

Q. How do Early Outs and Late Starts work?

A. *Kittson Central has five dates in which staff are scheduled for two hours of professional development. These will either be a Late Start (to the school day) or an Early Out (release). There also may be times in which the weather is cause for concern, and Late Starts and Early Outs may happen.*

For a Late Start, bus routes do pick ups two hours after a regular bus pick up. Parent drop

off at the school would also be two hours after a regular drop off time. Elementary grades attend recess and then go to their classrooms as normal. High School students will be considered tardy if they are not in class by 10:20 am.

For Early Outs, students are released from their classes at 1:00 pm. Bus routes will run immediately once all route students have boarded the buses.

Q. Who do I contact if my child is going to be absent from school?

A. Parents should fill out the attendance form that can be found on the Kittson Central website. If the absence is short-noticed, please contact the school office.

Q. How do I get a message to my child at school?

A. If parents are needing to leave a message for their child, such as a change in where they go after school or they need to be picked up due to a last minute appointment, parents should call the school and leave a message with the office. Staff will notify the classroom teacher or student as soon as possible.

Q. How do I get a hold of my child(ren)'s teacher(s)?

A. A staff directory is located on the Kittson Central website. When contacting teachers via ParentSquare, email, or leaving a phone message, they may not respond immediately. During the school day they may be working with students and the district does not require teachers to respond outside of school hours. We leave that at the discretion of the teacher. If the situation is an emergency, please contact the school office.

Q. Who do I notify if my contact information has changed?

A. If there are changes to addresses, phone numbers, or emails, please log into your jmc Family Account and make changes to your contact information.

Q. Parent-Teacher Conferences

A. Parent and teacher conferences will be held in the fall and the spring. Conferences for students in K-4 will be scheduled by the teacher. Please try to keep your time as it is very difficult to reschedule conferences. Conferences for students grades 5-12 are done in an open house format. These conferences will provide information for the parents on the student's overall performance during the school year.

Q. Testing Calendar

A. At different times throughout the year, certain grades will take standardized tests. Some are required by the State of Minnesota and others are a local option for teachers to gain specific information about students' progress towards meeting state benchmarks. A calendar of scheduled test dates can be found on the school website.

Q. How do I know if school has been canceled due to weather?

- A. An automated message is sent out to contacts via the messaging system, ParentSquare. Messages are also posted on our school website and our Facebook page, Kittson Central. Notices may also be found on local mass media such as the Grand Forks Herald and other news outlets.*

Meal Information

Q. When is breakfast available?

- A. Breakfast is available for all students from 7:45 - 8:10 am.
B. Second-chance breakfast is available for students in grades 7-12 at 10:00 am.*

Q. What meals do families pay for?

- A. Students receive one breakfast meal and one lunch meal for free.*

Q. Can students get more than one milk?

- A. Students get one milk with their free meal. Additional milk is \$0.50.*

Q. Can students eat twice or get second servings?

- A. Students in grades 7-12 are able to eat a second breakfast and/or get second servings of lunch for an additional cost. If students eat breakfast before school and during second-chance breakfast, the second breakfast is \$2.50. If a student wants second helpings, an entree is \$1.25 and a side is \$0.75.*

Q. Who can go home and eat for lunch?

- A. Students in grades 7-10 who live within a reasonable distance from the school as determined by administration may go home for lunch. Students in grades 11-12 may go home or uptown for lunch. Permission forms allowing this can be found on the Kittson Central website and need to be completed and turned into the office each year.*

Q. Where do I find the lunch menu?

- A. The lunch menu can be found on the Kittson Central website.*

Business Information

Q. Where do I find daily information about what is happening at school?

- A. A Daily Bulletin is posted on the school website with student announcements, deadlines, and schedules. Some elementary teachers may provide a weekly handout with class updates.*

Q. Where does money for lunch/fees/dues/projects get turned in?

- A. In-person payments should be made in the school office.*

Q. Who do I write my checks to?

A. *Checks should be made out to Kittson Central.*

Activity Information

Q. What are activity fees?

A. *Activity fees are for students in grades 7-12 who participate in extracurricular activities to help with the cost of our programs. Fees must be paid prior to participation in contests.*

- *Grades 7-8*
 - *Athletic Fees: \$25 per sport*
 - *Drama, One Act Play, Junior Robotics, Knowledge Bowl, Math Counts: \$10 per activity*
- *Grades 9-12*
 - *Athletic Fees: \$50 per sport*
 - *Drama, One Act Play, Robotics, Knowledge Bowl, Math Contest, Envirothon: \$20 per activity*
- *Family cap of \$150*

Q. What is Study Table?

- *Study Table is a weekly eligibility list for students in grades 7-12. Teachers may add students to this list if they are failing, have missing/incomplete work, or are lacking in effort. On the last school day each week (typically Fridays), a new Study Table list is generated. Parents are notified that afternoon about their child being placed on Study Table. Students have the weekend to work on gaining back their eligibility. Once the next school day comes (typically Mondays), students will either be deemed eligible or ineligible for extracurricular activities.*
 - *Students who make up work and/or are earning a passing grade by the end of the day are eligible for practices and contests.*
 - *Students who do not make up work or are not passing by the end of the day are ineligible to practice or participate in contests that day.*
 - *The following school day, the student will again be deemed eligible or ineligible based on incomplete/missing work or grades. If the student is eligible, they are cleared for practices and contests. If the student is ineligible again, they are unable to participate in contests until they are deemed eligible. They may participate in practices, coach permitting.*

Q. Can my child play in a game if they miss school the same day?

A. *A student involved in extracurricular events must be in school all day in order to participate in the activity (game, practice, etc.) that same day. Also no student will be permitted to attend a school evening activity unless he/she has been in school for all day. The high school administrator may waive this requirement for valid reasons (medical or dental appointment,*

funerals, etc.), provided the office is notified by 9:00 a.m. on the day of absence.

On the day of a concert, if a music student is absent at Hour 1 attendance due to illness, but attends school at least half the day, he/she may perform in the concert that evening.

Student Information

Q. What is the school dress code?

A. *Appropriate clothing includes, but is not limited to, the following:*

- *Clothing appropriate for the weather.*
- *Clothing that does not create a health or safety hazard.*
- *Clothing appropriate for the activity (i.e., physical education or the classroom).*
- *Clothing must cover undergarments and private areas at all times.*

Inappropriate clothing includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- *Shorts are not permissible in school with the exception of gym class and sports after Education Minnesota Break (mid-October) through the end of April.*
- *Clothing exposing undergarments, overtly short shorts, skimpy tank tops, tops that expose the midriff, and other clothing that is not in keeping with community standards.*
- *Shorts, skirts, and dresses must fall at or below the students' fingertips when arms are placed at their sides.*
- *Hoods, coats, winter hats, or other headgear are not to be worn between first period bell and last period bell with the exception of CASH Days and specially designated dress up days. Outside of those special circumstances these items should be left in lockers.*
- *Clothing bearing a message that is lewd, vulgar, or obscene.*
- *Apparel promoting products or activities that are illegal for use by minors.*
- *Objectionable emblems, badges, symbols, signs, words, objects, or pictures on clothing or jewelry communicating a message that is racist, sexist, or otherwise derogatory to a protected minority group, evidences gang membership or affiliation, or approves, advances, or provokes any form of religious, racial, or sexual harassment and/or violence against other individuals as defined in school district policy.*
- *Any apparel or footwear that would damage school property or could injure a person (i.e. shoes that mark floors, excessive rivets in clothing that damage furniture, fish hooks in clothing or hat)*
- *Slippers, flip flops, and open toed shoes in elementary, science, industrial technology areas, gym, and weight room.*
- *Blankets/Coats in the classroom.*

If a teacher or administrator believes a student's appearance, grooming, or mode of dress interferes with or disrupts the educational process or school activities or poses a threat to the health or safety of the student or others, the student will be directed to make

modifications or will be sent home for the day. A parent or guardian will be notified.

Q. Can my student bring a cell phone to school?

A. *Yes. Personal electronic devices including hand-held video games, music players, electronic tablets, and ear buds may not be used during school hours unless specifically permitted by the classroom teacher during a learning activity. Students must store their cell phones in the designated pockets in the laptop charging room during the school day from 8:20 a.m. – 12:06 p.m. and 12:43 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. High School students may use their phones before the school day begins and during the lunch period. Phones may be checked between classes, but must remain in the designated pockets during class. Elementary students are to store their phones in their locker upon arriving and must remain there until the school day is over. Any student seen with a cell phone during class hours, whether he or she is in the classroom or in the hallway, will be in violation of this policy.*

Q. How do I see my child's grades?

A. *For students in grades K-3, parents should contact their child's teacher for progress information. For students in grades 4-12, grades can be checked by using the jmc Family log in. A link can be found on our school website. For set-up questions, please reach out to our technology coordinator, Lindsey Gullickson.*

Q. How long does my child have to do makeup work when they are absent?

A. *In high school, if a student has an excused absence for the day an assignment is due, the student must turn in their work at the beginning of the class period on the day they return to school. If they do not, the late work policy will apply. For new work assigned on the day of an excused absence, a student will be allowed one additional day after their return to complete the homework. If a student is gone for multiple days, they will have the number of days absent plus one to complete the homework. Example: A two-day absence provides three days of make-up time. A three-day absence provides four days of make-up time.*

Q. What happens if my child has an overdue book?

A. *In elementary school, if a student has an overdue book, a printout with the list of books that are overdue will be sent home with the student in their homework folder. In high school, students are notified when they have an overdue book. Parents will be notified of any overdue materials and fees at the end of each grading period.*

Q. When is elementary recess or gym outside?

A. *Weather permitting, elementary recess will be outside. In the winter, recess location will be determined by air temperature and wind chill factors. Gym classes will be outdoors in the fall and spring when conditions are dry.*

Q. What shoes should my child wear to school?

A. For elementary students, outdoor tennis shoes or weather-appropriate boots should be worn to school. Elementary students should have a pair of tennis shoes dedicated to be worn inside. High school students may wear shoes of their choice, however, all students who have gym or fitness will need a pair of inside tennis shoes to wear in the gym and/or weight room.

Q. Can my child bring items to play with at recess?

A. Students may bring items to school for use at recess. If an item is deemed inappropriate or unsafe, the student will be asked to bring the item home. Some school owned items are provided.

- *Examples: volleyballs, baseball gloves, baseballs, footballs, basketballs, soccer balls, etc.*

Q. Can my child bring birthday treats to school?

A. Birthday treats may be brought to school if they are commercially produced (cottage licenses are not commercial licenses). The classroom teacher will decide when it is best to have the treat. Treats should be eaten in the classroom and not saved for the bus.

Q. What happens if my child fails a class?

A. If a student in grades 9-12 fails a class required by the State of Minnesota, the student will either need to repeat the class at Kittson Central, schedule permitting, or the course needs to be taken as a credit recovery course through an approved recovery program.

Q. What are Class Dues?

A. In addition to fundraising, students in grades 9-12 are responsible for class dues. These dues are used for class costs such as start up costs for fundraising for prom and the class trip.

- *Seniors - \$100*
- *Juniors - \$75*
- *Sophomores - \$50*
- *Freshmen - \$25*

Q. Why does my child have to fundraise?

A. Students in grades 7-12 have fundraising opportunities to earn funds for prom and their senior class trip. Each spring, the junior class puts on prom for students in grades 10-12. As seniors, students who have participated in the class fundraising have the privilege to travel to Washington, D.C. and New York City to take in the many historical and cultural experiences in a part of the country that has been foundational to our past and present.

Health Information

Q. Can I send medicine to school with my child?

A. Yes. Any over-the-counter or prescription medication can be given at school, however, there must be a permission form on file with the school nurse. Any questions should be directed to Kittson Central School Nurse, Shunay Soliah, RN at ssoliah@kittson.k12.mn.us.

Q. What do you do if someone gets sick at school?

A. If a student gets sick during the school day, a parent will be contacted and asked that the student be picked up from the main office.

Q. What health records does the school need?

A. Any allergies that require rescue medications or any insulin dependent conditions should be reported to the office. A record of student immunizations may also be requested.