

Zebulon Gifted & Talented Magnet Middle School: Center for Advanced Studies and STEM

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the ZGTMMS daily schedule?

School hours are from 8:15 am until 3:00 pm. Students may enter the building each morning beginning at 7:45 am. Our staggered dismissal begins at 3:00 pm, with all students departing campus by about 3:45 pm. Students attend 3 core classes and at least 2 elective classes each day. Core and elective classes are about 63 minutes. Science and Social Studies cores are taught for one semester each.

How much time do I have to get to class?

You will have 4 minutes between classes at ZGTMMS. All of your core classes are in one building, and even though you have to leave the core building for electives, you have plenty of time to make it to class.

Will I have a locker?

Only students needing to store large items for classes use lockers in their halls. For example, students needing to store band instruments or equipment. Band students will use lockers in the band room to store their instruments. All students can bring a lock to secure their items in the gym locker room for physical education classes.

Do I need to bring my cell phone?

All students receive a WCPSS-issued Chromebook for instructional use. Students do not need personal cell phone devices at school. ZGTMMS has a strict technology policy and phones must be off and put away at all times.

What are the procedures for bus transportation?

The rear parking lot (in rear of the school) is the bus arrival and dismissal area. To register for bus transportation, please log onto <http://www.wcpss.net/busrider>. You are not guaranteed bus transportation until you make the request and receive a bus assignment from the transportation office. This process generally takes a few business days to complete. Until you receive notification, you must provide transportation for your child. **Here Comes the Bus** translates GPS data into an easy to use customizable map that works on a computer, tablet or smartphone. The app allows you to see where the bus is and how close it is to your stop. Get started with **Here Comes the Bus** at <https://herecomesthebus.com/getting-started/>. You will need the district code and your student's ID number to sign up. The WCPSS school code is 67500. For your smartphone or tablet, download the **Here Comes the Bus** app from the [App Store](#) or [Google Play](#). All other questions regarding transportation can be answered here <https://www.wcpss.net/transportation>. If you need assistance, contact Mr. Hinnant, assistant principal, at thinnant2@wcpss.net.

What are the procedures for car transportation?

All car riders are to be picked-up and dropped-off in the designated carpool area in the front of the school. Carpool drop-off is available between 7:45 - 8:15 AM. Students arriving after 8:15 AM must be escorted to the front door and signed in in the front office. Carpool pick-up is available between 3:00 - 3:30 PM. When parents drop their child off for the first time, they will receive a carpool number. This number must be displayed in order to pick your child up in the afternoon. Parents will keep that same number for the duration of their child's years at ZGTMMS. If you lose your number, please contact the front office. To ensure student safety, if your carpool number is not displayed in the afternoon, you must park and then pick up your child in the front office with a valid ID.

All carpool traffic will need to enter from the southeast corner of campus. When traveling on Shepard School Road, turn east onto E. Stronach Ave. and then north onto N. Privette St. Then follow N. Privette St. to ZGTMMS and turn left to get to the carpool dropoff/pick up area.

What are the procedures for walkers?

All students who walk home from school must have their parent/guardian fill out a form that will be verified by a front office staff member. Parents must fill out the form at the front office on the first day they plan to walk, a member of the front office staff will call to verify the form, and the student will receive a pass they can then for the dates included in the form (for example, all year or March 1-5).

What are the early check-out procedures at ZGTMMMS?

If it is necessary for a student to leave school during the day, the parent/guardian must sign the student out in the office before he/she may leave campus. If the student returns to complete the school day, he/she must report to the office and be signed back in with the parent/guardian before returning to class. All requests for transportation changes and all check-outs must be completed prior to 2:30pm.

What immunizations are REQUIRED?

The North Carolina General Statutes (G.S. 130A-155) requires immunizations for every child attending public school in this state. Every parent or guardian is responsible for ensuring that their child(ren) receive required immunizations. The T-dap and the Meningococcal vaccine are requirements for **ALL 7th graders**. Read more information at <http://bit.ly/7immun7th>.

What are the procedures for medications?

School staff may administer medication to students only when the Parent and Physician Order for Medication form (Form 1702) is completed by the parent and physician and present at the school. You can find a copy of the form on the WCPSS website or request a copy from the school. More information can be found here about Student Health: <https://www.wcpss.net/Page/167>.

How can parents stay involved at the middle school level?

- **Parent-Teacher Conferences:** Please contact your child's teachers in order to set up parent teacher conferences. You may also reach out to our counselors to assist you in that process. Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held throughout the year. Parent-Teacher Conferences may be held in person or virtually via Google Meet.
- **Powerschool/HomeBase:** HomeBase gives parents and students access to real-time information including attendance, grades and assignments. With HomeBase, powered by PowerSchool application, everyone stays connected: Students stay on top of assignments, parents are able to participate in their child's progress, and teachers can instantly share information from their gradebook with parents and students. Families with multiple students can also set up their accounts to view all of their students at one time, with one login. Information can be found here: <https://www.wcpss.net/student-information>
- **Canvas:** As a parent/guardian, you can view updates, assignments, upcoming classwork, and activities on your child's teacher's Canvas Homepage. Ask your child to show you their Canvas courses.
- **PTA (Parent Teacher Association):** One of the goals of the Zebulon GT Magnet Middle School PTA is to attain 100% membership during the 2024-2025 school year. We look forward to you joining and becoming an active participant in the association. You can join at <https://zmspta.memberhub.com/store?category=Memberships>. Please contact the PTA at zmspta@gmail.com for questions.
- **School Messenger:** We send a weekly update to all parents via text or email. Please ensure that your correct email address and phone numbers are listed on your PowerSchool account and your data verification form. In addition, if you would like to receive text messages, please text **YES** to the number **67587**.
- **Talking Points:** Teachers use Talking Points to communicate with parents/guardians. Your contact automatically syncs to the information in PowerSchool. Download the Talking Points app and it will automatically connect to your mobile number.
- **Volunteers:** All new volunteer applicants must **register** and have an approved criminal record check prior to engaging in volunteer work. New volunteer applicants may go online (from any location - you do NOT have to go to WCPSS school) to the WCPSS website Community Volunteers and fill out the background check through our MyVolunteer volunteer management system. Applicants will be notified by email regarding next steps in the application process and receive another email once their application has been approved. Applicants who are not approved will receive notice from Employee Relations