

Tamaqua Area High School
500 Penn Street
Tamaqua, PA 18252
Phone: (570) 668-1901
Fax: (570) 668-2970

Tamaqua Area Middle School
502 Penn Street
Tamaqua, PA 18252
Phone: (570) 668-1210
Fax: (570) 668-5027



Tamaqua Elementary School
Boyle Avenue
Tamaqua, PA 18252
Phone: (570) 668-3306
Fax: (570) 668-3235

West Penn Elementary School
185 School Drive
New Ringgold, PA 17960
Phone: (570) 386-5051
Fax: (570) 386-3226

August 20, 2026

Dear Tamaqua Middle School Families:

Welcome back! We are happy to have our students returning to school and a special welcome to the students joining our building for the first time.

We want your child to be successful at the Tamaqua Area Middle School and believe you play an important role. The interest and support you demonstrate in your child's education almost always results in having fewer problems in school and they ultimately enjoy greater success.

We believe in fair and consistent discipline, which encourages students to be responsible for their actions. At school, we try to create a safe environment where courtesy and kindness prevail and there is respect for differences in other people, customs, and cultures.

Please share all information regarding your child's physical, mental health, and/or special needs, which will help us, assist your family. We believe communication among parents, students and teachers is critical in assuring student success.

Each student received handouts with information to acquaint you with the policies and procedures of the Tamaqua Area School District. This letter covers important topics that will assist your family throughout the school year.

Paperless Notifications:

Parent Reminders are sent through Facebook, text, calls and the REMIND app.

The REMIND codes:

TAMS 6th Grade Parent Updates 2026-2027 - @tams6th

TAMS 7th Grade Parent Updates 2026-2027 - @tams7th

TAMS 8th Grade Parent Updates 2026-2027 - @tams8th

Important documents and messages for students will be posted for students in Google Classroom. The Google Classroom code is **2etqaci**

TAMS Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100093412579673>

Student Handbook:

Please access the student handbook and selected policies online at www.tamaquasd.org, read through them thoroughly, then sign and return the **Policy Signature Sheet** and **Updated Emergency Information Sheet** to your homeroom teacher on or before **Friday, August 21, 2026**. If you are unable to access the website, you may request a hard copy of these items by checking the appropriate line on the **Policy Signature Sheet**. Your signatures indicate that you have read, understand, and will comply with policies of the Tamaqua Area School District. Failure to sign does not exclude you from following the policies and procedures.

Online Grades:

FOCUS is our student information system. This system tracks student biographical information, attendance, discipline, and grades. FOCUS is parent friendly and offers an app for your Smartphone. Parents are able to access student grades at any time using the FOCUS link located on our TAMS website. This system will allow you to view your child's grades on a daily basis and continue to improve communication between home and school.

To access the Middle School webpage, please visit www.tamaquasd.org and select Middle School from the dropdown box. Locate the FOCUS link on the bottom left side of the page. Using your child's username and password, you will have access to their online grades. All report cards may be viewed online. Notifications will be sent at progress report time and end of marking periods.

Student Drop-off:

Buses will drop high school students off at the high school cafeteria entrance. Buses will then proceed in the right lane to the middle school cafeteria entrance where middle school students will be dropped off. Buses will then move into the left lane and proceed up toward the tennis courts and around the parking lot, exiting down Penn Street.

Parents/guardians who drive middle school students to school will enter in the left lane behind the high school/middle school complex, passing the buses at a slow rate of speed, continuing up until the point of entry to the middle school parking lot. Cars will yield to buses when entering the lot, then cross over to the right, dropping students off at the main entrance. Please pull up as far as possible (**Student Drop-off Sign**) to prevent a logjam of traffic. Parents dropping students off at the middle school must remain in the flow of traffic. For the safety of everyone, please **DO NOT** drop your child in the parking lot. For pickup, please park in a visitor space to the right of the flagpole. Please **DO NOT** park in the Fire Lane.

Please avoid parking in the first four rows of the parking lot between 7:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. as they are assigned spaces for faculty members and staff. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at the Middle School Office. Have a great school year!

Sincerely,
Lisa Shirvinski
Principal, TAMS