

## **TMMS 2019-2020 Teacher, Parent & Student Conference**

Welcome back! We are looking forward to a productive, exciting, and engaging year with your family. Our TMMS Parent Orientation will be held at the following dates and times:



**8th grade Parent Orientation:** Monday, August 5th, 2019 @ 3:00 pm

**6th and 7th grade Parent Orientation:**

Monday, August 5th, 2019 @ 2:00 pm OR

Tuesday, August 6th, 2019 @ 3:00 pm

### **Staff:**

Kimber Orr, email [korr@tmesnm.com](mailto:korr@tmesnm.com)

6A homeroom; 6A/6B & 7A Math; 6A Geography & Health/PE

Sherry Haworth, email: [shaworth@tmesnm.com](mailto:shaworth@tmesnm.com)

6B homeroom; 6B & 8A/8B Science; 6B Geography & Health/PE

Amy Romero, email: [aromero@tmesnm.com](mailto:aromero@tmesnm.com)

7A homeroom; 6A & 7A/7B Science; 7A NM Road Trip & Health/PE

Diego Lucero, email: [dlucero@tmesnm.com](mailto:dlucero@tmesnm.com)

7B homeroom; 7B & 6A/6B Humanities; 7B NM Road Trip & Health/PE

Amanda Hagerty, email: [ahagerty@tmesnm.com](mailto:ahagerty@tmesnm.com)

8A homeroom; 7A & 8A/8B Humanities; 8A Independent Study & Health/PE

Alissa Sanchez, email: [asanchez@tmesnm.com](mailto:asanchez@tmesnm.com)

8B homeroom; 7B & 8A/8B Math; 8B Independent Study & Health/PE

Educational Assistant: Shana Dempsey

### **Arrival and departure:**

6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students should arrive to school between 8:20 – 8:30 am. TMMS Morning Meetings start promptly at 8:30 am and students are required to be present for Morning Meeting, at which time attendance will be taken. TMMS students who arrive before 8:20 will need to check in at Before Care (normal fees apply). We have an optional homework help/organization help from TMMS teachers for all students from 3:30-4:00 pm on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday every week. All students not picked up by 4:00 pm will be escorted to After Care (normal fees apply) at 4:01 pm sharp.

### **Parent Communication:**

Parent communication is vital during the middle school years. Please ask your child daily about their homework (daily homework is expected Mon-Fri with some projects and weekend work), paperwork sent home, upcoming trips, and their personal and social life. Please inform us as soon as possible if there are academic, social or personal concerns. We are

here to work with you to support your child. The best way to help students through this transitional time is to keep current with communication. Reminders of homework and upcoming events may also be found on TMMS' Shutterfly page. Please contact your child's homeroom teacher if you have any questions or need further clarification on any TMMS business.

### Parent Volunteers:

Each homeroom class is in need of a strong representative parent as well as parents who are willing to make copies and similar tasks in support of the teacher's lessons. Please look for the volunteer sign-up sheet and contact your child's homeroom teacher if you would like to volunteer.

### Shutterfly

We have used Shutterfly sites for posting homework and important dates with great success for the past few years. This year there is one site per grade level. We encourage students to become members as well as their parents. These sites are updated frequently, but students are expected to be the master of their homework. They should know and should have their homework written down every single day. 😊

6<sup>th</sup> Grade address: <https://tmms6thgrade.shutterfly.com>

7<sup>th</sup> Grade address: <https://tmms7thgrade.shutterfly.com>

8<sup>th</sup> Grade address: <https://tmmsclass2013.shutterfly.com>

### Fine Arts:

Students will choose whether they would prefer to be in Orchestra or General Music. All TMMS students are expected to participate in either General Music or Orchestra. This year there will be two Orchestras-beginning and intermediate/advanced.

### Academics and Homework:

The middle school staff is committed to providing a strong foundation for your child's academic future. In order to prepare them for high school, we have recognized that developing a regular homework routine and meeting deadlines is crucial for their success. As such, our homework policy is that work is due on the assigned due date. **Late work is only accepted during the week it was due, no later than that Friday.** If not turned in by that Friday the work was due, the grade will be a zero. If your child is absent on a due date, the work should be turned in the day they return. If there are extended absences due to illness or unforeseen circumstances, each day the student was absent will be allotted to make up work. Each student will receive a planner (**FREE!**) to keep track of due dates and other information. Please check these! Replacement planners can be bought in the office if originals are lost.

### Behavior Rubrics:

Our discipline policy is centered on working with students to identify and problem solve issues. Our way of communicating with you that issues have arisen at school is through behavior rubrics. Please be sure to sign and return rubrics as soon as possible. If there are multiple rubrics issued, the student may lose trip or other privileges as outlined on the rubrics.

### Supplies:

Supplies are an important key to academic success. Time in class is lost when students are careless with their supplies. We ask that ALL individual school supplies are labeled with your child's name. There is also an annual \$10 Science lab fee. 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students should bring their "Individual" school supplies on the first day of school, Wednesday, August 7<sup>th</sup>. 8<sup>th</sup> grade students should bring their "Individual" school supplies and the items listed as "8<sup>th</sup> Grade Additional Community Supplies" on Monday, August 12<sup>th</sup>. We will be organizing the students' personal supplies on those days and setting up their binders and lockers, so it is very important that students bring their Individual supplies in on those dates. We encourage you to utilize the "Community" Supply drop-off event on Monday, August 5<sup>th</sup> between 9 am – 2pm. Please make sure to only drop-off items listed under the "Community Supplies" section of the school supplies in the drive-thru event!

### Cell phones/electronics:

Cellphones and electronics are not permitted unless they have been designated for specific academic purposes. If electronics are used outside that setting (without permission/ringing during class etc.), they will be confiscated and the parent will need to collect them from the office or the teacher at the end of the day. Each teacher will have a "phone jail" for students to turn in their phone if it is not authorized for use during that class. Students who surrender their phones at the beginning of class or use phones with permission will not have their phones confiscated.

### Trips:

*Beginning of the Year Trips:* We will start the school year off with overnight community trips to locations such as Mesa Verde in southern Colorado and Camp Oro Quay, in the Sandia Mountains. Eighth grade students will need to arrive on Tuesday, August 6<sup>th</sup> for their beginning of the year community trip to Durango, Colorado. Sixth and Seventh grade students will leave for their trip To Camp Oro Quay in the East Mountains on Thursday, August 8<sup>th</sup>. All TMMS students will return from their trips by the end of the school day Friday, August 9<sup>th</sup>.

During the time that we are on our community building trips, students will participate in meetings to review middle school policies & procedures—including dress code, our behavior policies and consequences, our trips, using a planner and the 7 Norms that we will be using in our classrooms. Beyond our class meetings, students will also be able to swim(6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup>), raft (8<sup>th</sup>),

participate in plenty of community building exercises-including a low ropes and high ropes course (6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup>) and hike the cliff dwellings at Mesa Verde (8<sup>th</sup>)! Students will return from their trips with a greater sense of themselves, their community and their peers and this is the best way to start middle school. Trip costs vary by grade level. Please see field trip permission slip and packing list for detailed information.

*Big Trips:* Each grade will take an individual Big Trip at the end of the school year. These trips are a transformative experience, and we request that all students attend as it is a cumulative experience based on many of the year's lessons. We will provide some fundraising opportunities to earn money for these trips, but we highly encourage families to brainstorm and implement ways to earn money ALL year for the trip. Start now and the task will be manageable to accomplish. Ideas for raising money include: garage sales, creating/selling jewelry, baby-sitting, yard work, dog walking, etc. **6<sup>th</sup> grade Big Trips typically cost around \$250; 7<sup>th</sup> grade Big Trips typically cost between \$400 and \$500. 8<sup>th</sup> grade trips are significantly more because they are international and cost around \$2500.**

Please look for emails from Ms. MJ, updates on Shutterfly and invitations in your students' planner for dates of the information meetings for these trips.

Please make sure to also closely follow the TMMS Dress Code below.

Thank you!

TMMS teachers

## **The Montessori Middle School Dress Code for 2019-2020**

All students at The Montessori Middle School (grades 6-8) are required to be in uniform throughout the school day. They not only have the responsibility to wear the correct uniform, they also have the responsibility to wear the uniform correctly.

Students' dress and appearance must be neat, clean and in good repair. All clothing should be sized appropriately. Shirts must be large enough that they cover the student's stomach. Pants must fit so that undergarments do not show. Clothing should not be too baggy, excessively tight or revealing.

Excessive adornments and accessories that are inappropriate or distracting to the classroom learning environment will not be permitted. Extreme facial makeup and hair color are examples of inappropriate and excessive adornment. Hair must be clean, maintained and not extreme in color. If dyed, hair must be a natural color. Hats and sunglasses may be worn outside.

Uniform violations require the student to phone home and sit outside the office to wait for appropriate clothing to be brought to them. In addition, students may lose privileges for “dress down” days. The administration will have final determination on all dress issues.

#### Acceptable tops

- ✓ Any color solid polo-style long or short sleeve shirt
- ✓ Logos on polo shirts may be no bigger than a quarter

#### Acceptable bottoms

- ✓ Navy blue, black, white or khaki twill slacks. All pants must have a finished hem
- ✓ Navy blue, black, white or khaki shorts (Bermuda type) or skirts are permitted. All shorts or skirts must be no more than three inches above the knee
- ✓ Girls may wear matching solid color (navy blue, black, white or tan) leggings under skirts. Girls may also wear matching knee socks of matching colors with skirts.
- ✓ All pants, shorts or skirts must be fitted appropriately at the waist.
- ✓ Cargo type pants or shorts are not permitted.

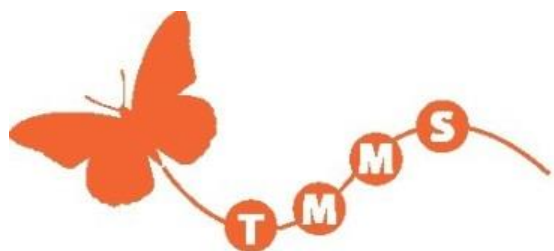
#### Footwear

- ✓ Tennis shoes or dress shoes are acceptable
- ✓ Flip flops or sandals are NOT acceptable

#### HEALTH AND WELLNESS/PHYSICAL EDUCATION ATTIRE

Comfortable clothing that allows freedom of movement is necessary for successful participation in the TMMS Health and Wellness program. Students will change clothes before participation, or will come to school dressed for their Physical Education class and then dress in their uniform attire after.

- ✓ SOLID color, plain t-shirts
- ✓ Athletic shoes...NO hiking boots
- ✓ SOLID color, athletic sweat pants or shorts, no yoga pants
- ✓ T-shirts with advertising/writing are not permitted



**The Montessori Middle School**