



Ridge Guide

2020-2021

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Response to Covid-19

SOCIAL DISTANCING

Social distancing is an effective way to prevent potential infection. Northridge Middle School employees, students, parents, and visitors should practice staying approximately 6 feet away from others and eliminating contact with others.

- Traffic Flow – Silhouettes, or other markers, will be used in the hallways to help maintain social distancing.
- Interactions/Gatherings – Non-essential/informal meetups and visiting should be avoided

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

To minimize exposure to COVID-19, PPE may be needed to prevent certain exposures. PPE can include:

Masks: Face masks are an important part of employee protection, as well as personal hygiene, social distancing, and frequent cleaning efforts.

In addition to using PPE, please remember to:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available

VISITORS ON CAMPUS

The safety of our staff and students remains the district's primary concern. Visitors will be limited. Parents/guardians will enter the alcove and call the school or speak through the intercom if a child needs to be checked out. The child will be escorted to you and the administrative assistant will check the student out.

Parents will not be allowed to eat with their child to protect the health of our office staff and other students in the cafeteria.

Northridge will support the guideline of no non-essential guests on campus and limit entry into the building.

COMMUNICATION METHODS

To stay updated on the most up-to-date information:

1. Teachers, students, and parents need to check their email often.
2. Visit our district website
3. Follow our social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram)
4. Google Classroom Grades 6-8
5. Northridge Remind texting group

WATER

Students will be asked to bring their water bottle or thermos for water to drink throughout the day.

REMOTE LEARNING

Should we have to go from face-to-face learning to remote learning at home, teachers will continue to teach their curriculum via Zoom according to their pacing guide using technology resources designed to help students learn from home. Students will have access to individual devices provided by Northridge. Students will take devices (Chromebooks) home daily in case of a quick school closure. Northridge will maintain our Park-to-Learn long-range WIFI service in the school parking lot.

be whatever you make it. We trust you will strive to make it outstanding. Our staff and administration will do everything we can to support you along your path to educational success, and we hope your time at NMS will be productive and happy.

WELCOME

The teachers and administration of Northridge Middle School (NMS) welcome you to our educational program. We believe the opportunities we offer at NMS will prepare you for success in your future educational career as well as provide you with valuable skills for learning throughout your life. We believe in educating the whole child, providing learning experiences so each student is healthy, safe, engaged, supported, and challenged. Our school is your school. It can

POINTER PRIDE

Our educational philosophy at NMS can be exemplified in one simple theme: POINTER PRIDE! You will see this theme repeated over and over throughout our school. Pointer Pride simply is the commitment our teachers, students, and administrators have to educational, personal/professional

excellence, and the traditions we have here at NMS. Our expectations for our students are high. We will expect you to attempt to do your best in everything you do and will support you as you work to achieve the goals you establish. Your effort is vital to your success.

WHAT IS A POINTER?

A Pointer:

- Values education and strives to reach his/her potential.
- Sets goals and works to accomplish them.
- Participates in activities and enhances them through his/ her involvement.
- Has good attendance.
- Exhibits strong character, integrity, and loyalty.
- Has an optimistic outlook on life.
- Interacts with others in a warm, friendly manner.
- Turns setbacks into victories.
- Recognizes his/her teachers, peers, and family as valuable human beings.
- Takes risks and shares new experiences with others.
- Values friendships.
- Takes pride in his/her accomplishments and celebrates the accomplishments of others.
- Represents his/her school well at extra-curricular and community events.

A *Pointer of the Year Award* will be given to one 8th grade girl and boy. These students will be selected as the people who best exemplify our spirit and philosophy. *The pointer of the Year* pictures will be displayed in the office. We hope this tradition will excite and motivate our student body.

DISCIPLINE/EXPECTATIONS

NMS students will be expected to be obedient to all adult staff members and show proper respect for them at all times.

STUDENT CONDUCT

Students at NMS are expected to obey all rules and policies established by the school district, NMS, and individual teachers.

CAR DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP

Students are dropped off and picked up in front of the building only.

BUS RIDERS

All buses will pick-up and drop off at the back of NMS.

BUS ARRANGEMENTS

If you need bus information such as times and bus numbers please contact the bus garage at (479) 471-3140.

LUNCH TIMES

6th Grade: 12:30- 1:00

7th Grade: 11:30 - 12:00

8th Grade: 12:00 - 12:30

ADDING MONEY TO CAFETERIA ACCOUNTS

Please visit, www.mypaymentsplus.com

Free and Reduced Lunch Application:

- <https://vanburen.strataapps.com>

- Paper copies are available upon request.

BELL SCHEDULE

First Bell 7:50 a.m.

Tardy Bell 8:00 a.m.

End of Day 3:00 p.m.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

- 6-3 prong folders with pockets
- Colored pencils
- #2 Pencils
- Loose-leaf paper-wide ruled
- Pencil pouch
- Kleenex
- 1 package of 3 x 3 Post-Its
- 5 composition notebooks
- 2 glue sticks
- 7th and 8th Grade- BAND ONLY- 1-inch binder

BUILDING APPEARANCE CODE

please refer to Board Policy 4.3.4—Appearance

Code

- Shorts and skirts should be mid-thigh
- Straps on shirts should be the width of a dollar bill
- Holes in jeans should not be higher than mid-thigh
- Hats are not allowed inside the building

LOST AND FOUND

Students who find lost articles are requested to take them to the office where they can be claimed by the owner or directed to the lost and found holding area. Lost and found holding will be located on the stage. Items will be discarded every 9 weeks.

NMS does not assume any responsibility for any lost or stolen items.

AUTOMOBILES/BICYCLES/MOTORCYCLES

Only students with a legal driver's license may be allowed to park on campus. No students shall be allowed to sit in cars adjacent to the campus at any time during the school day. Bicycles are to be parked as soon as you arrive at school and not move until the end of the school day. All automobiles and motorcycles must be registered in the school office. This includes copies of a current driver's license and valid insurance. Failure to register in the office may result in disciplinary action.

TELEPHONE

A telephone is available for student use in the office. The use will be limited to emergencies or other important messages as determined by the office staff. Students should ask permission before using the phone.

DELIVERIES AND MESSAGES

Students will be notified when they have a delivery or a message from a parent. Students who have messages will not be notified until the end of class unless the message is an emergency. Students who have deliveries will be notified and may pick them up in the office after school.

PASSES AND PROCEDURE FOR LEAVING SCHOOL

Students are advised to use the proper procedure for arriving at school and leaving school. Students are not allowed to leave school at any time during the school day without a permit from the school office or a parent/guardian signing them out. A student may sign himself/herself out only if his/her parent or guardian has spoken with an authorized staff member. Students who are late to first-period must check-in at the office to be admitted to class.

Advisory Committee:

Lonnie Mitchell
Mark Titsworth
Anita Reagan
Stephanie Richesin
Stacey Little
Emily McDaniel
Jan Redden

CELL PHONE AND ELECTRONICS USAGE RULES

Cell Phones should remain in backpacks throughout the day. Students may use cellphones during their lunchtime once they have gone outside the building.

VIDEO SURVEILLANCE AND OTHER STUDENT MONITORING

Video/recording devices may be in use in school buildings, on school grounds, and in school vehicles as determined by the VBSD. Refer to policy 4.48.

MISCELLANEOUS RULES

1. Public display of affection (hand-holding, inappropriate hugging, kissing, etc.) will not be permitted.
2. Food is **not** permitted outside of the lunchroom area unless students are given permission by a faculty member. Only water is permitted out of the lunchroom area.

DETENTION

Lunch detentions may be assigned by classroom teachers. The teacher may email or call the parent. The student will report to lunch detention in the designated area of the

cafeteria with school work. Students will be allowed to get lunch from the cafeteria or bring a sack lunch from home. If a student is absent on an assigned lunch detention day, he/she will make up the detention on the next school day he/she is present.

IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION (ISS)

The following guidelines will apply to the ISS Detention program:

1. Students may be assigned ISS for various discipline problems and may be assigned to ISS for various lengths of time, ranging from one period to several days.
2. Students are not counted absent while serving an ISS penalty. Daily assignments, tests, or other work completed according to ISS guidelines will be graded as though the student were present in class.
3. Full day ISS students will follow the following guidelines.
 - Absolutely no talking will be permitted in ISS or during breaks or lunch.
 - Students will be expected to be in ISS on time with all necessary class materials (paper, pencil, books, etc.).
 - Students who cannot complete their assignments in ISS may complete them as homework if the supervisor determines the need to do so. The supervisor may make additional assignments.
 - ISS students will remain in ISS until 3:00 p.m.
 - Students who disrupt the ISS detention center will receive longer detention, or be suspended from school.
 - Students who repeatedly are assigned to ISS will be suspended from school.

BULLYING PREVENTION

please refer to Board Policy 4.3.6—STUDENT CONDUCT -BULLYING

Information contained in this guide does not supersede the Van Buren School District Policy.

NORTHRIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL Parent Involvement Plan Summary 2020-2021

We believe that a partnership must exist between our parents and our school. We promote positive communication between the school and our students' homes. The school provides a variety of opportunities for parents to be involved in activities supporting our school. We believe teachers have a responsibility to provide the needed framework for parents to nurture their child's formal instruction at home. We will provide materials that can successfully be used at home to reinforce the academic success of children. The district will reserve a minimum of 1% of the Title I, Part A allocation for parental involvement (\$20,000.00). It is our goal to provide an atmosphere where parents are able to express their

views and to assist in problem-solving. We want parents to understand that we view them as joint policy and decision-makers and plan to emphasize their roles as advocates.

Our goals for this school year are as follows:

School staff will use a variety of communication strategies to provide additional information to parents and to increase parental involvement in supporting classroom instruction.

Annual report to the public, informational packets for each parent, survey for parent regarding his/her interests in volunteering, school handbook, parent workshops, newsletters, positive phone contacts, Remind 101, school's social media sites, report cards, athletic nights, and orientation for new students.

The school will hold parent meetings, conferences, and activities regularly throughout the year to increase parental involvement and build staff and parent capacity to engage in these types of efforts.

The school will hold regular meetings to keep parents informed about their child's learning. The school will provide instruction to parents to help with learning activities in the home that will help enhance their child's learning. The school will provide reading and math nights. The school will hold two conferences with parents.

The school will provide information to parents about volunteer opportunities.

The school will provide a list of volunteer opportunities and solicit ideas for other types of volunteer efforts for parents/guardians. The school will provide parents and community members with information to make the experience pleasant and successful.

The school will provide an opportunity for parents to engage in decision-making processes regarding the school's program.

The school will involve parents/guardians on school improvement committees and curricular and instructional review committees.

The school will provide a parent resource center for parents.

The school will engage parents in an evaluation of parental involvement efforts.