

Dear 6th, 7th and 8th grade parents,

We are so excited to welcome you back to Strafford Middle School where it is GREAT in the middle! We have missed you all!

After communicating with the Springfield-Greene County Health Department and based on best practices from schools and businesses in our area and recommendations from the Department of Elementary & Secondary Education we will NOT be hosting open houses or orientation nights for students and parents this year. Instead, students will receive an orientation through their homeroom teacher the first day of school. They will have special classes on the first day, but otherwise they will be staying with their homeroom teacher for the entire day. Teachers will be going over all orientation information along with our policies and procedures during the first day of school.

They will need to look on Lumen Tuesday, August 18<sup>th</sup> to see who their homeroom teachers are. They will report to those rooms the first day to receive their schedules. Sorry for the delay, but we are waiting on virtual enrollment to end so we can keep classroom size equal. The parent portal email that went out yesterday about homerooms was not correct.

**6th grade car riders** will enter through the same doors that they did last year (the far west doors), and go to their homeroom and leave their backpack and supplies and then go to the cafeteria if they need breakfast. If they do not need breakfast, they will stay in their homeroom class.

**7th and 8th grade car riders** will enter through the front door of the middle school by the middle school office. **8th grade students** will have the option to grab breakfast inside the lobby. **7th grade students** can grab a breakfast in the hallway on the left as you approach the bathrooms (by the 7th grade classrooms), and then go to their homeroom class. If they do not want breakfast they will go straight to their homeroom class.

**Homeroom teachers/schedules:** We will be finalizing homeroom teachers and schedules after our virtual learning deadline ends on Friday, August 14th. (This will

allow us to make homerooms of equivalent sizes) **You can login in on Tuesday, August 18th to see who your student's homeroom teacher is.** (We will not be emailing that information out).

They will report to their homeroom teacher on the first day of school. Their homeroom teacher will give them their full schedule that morning. Please keep in mind we will not begin rotating classes until Tuesday, August 25th. We are keeping homeroom classes together as much as possible during the school day to limit contact to other students. We realize staying with the same class all day long at this age is not ideal since some students get along one day and not the next day. Unfortunately, with this change, advanced classes will not be happening this year, with the exception of Algebra in 8th grade. The math/ELA teachers will be differentiating instruction within their classrooms.

**Homeroom:** Students will stay in their homeroom from 7:40-8:10 to eat breakfast and to prepare for the day.

**School Supplies/Backpacks:** Students will bring their school supplies/backpacks with them on the 1st day of school and take them to their homeroom classroom. The teachers will provide time during the day to go to lockers and put items up.

**Technology/Chromebooks:** Students will need to bring money for their chromebooks on the first day of school. The money will be given to their homeroom teacher. Free lunch students will owe \$0, reduced lunch students will owe \$10, and full pay lunch students will owe \$20. This is based off of last year's free and reduced lunch count. If things have changed for your family and this is a concern, please contact the middle school office. Please send a check made to Strafford Middle School, or exact change. This money is an "insurance" fee if there happens to be repairs made to a chromebooks. All students are required to bring their Chromebooks home every night. No Chromebooks are allowed to be left at school overnight.

**Student Registration:** You should have received an email to update your child's student portal (enrollment information). It will include your login information. Please complete this online as soon as possible. If you do not receive an email with your login

information, please email the office at [christyc@straffordschools.net](mailto:christyc@straffordschools.net) or call us at 417-736-7000 ext. 1300.

**Handbook/Tech Agreement:** We also have additional forms that MUST be completed that can be accessed through the following link These will take the place of paper copies being sent home the 1st day of school.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScoQA09Y9WZGUIIOzbmYaLkMPZHZg-kD OXIIWnGJZrWAmCE5w/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScoQA09Y9WZGUIIOzbmYaLkMPZHZg-kD OXIIWnGJZrWAmCE5w/viewform?usp=sf_link)

**Online Planners/Class Syllabus:** We will be utilizing a google online planner this year. Students will receive training the first day of school on how to fill out their planner. Within the first few days of school you will receive emails from teachers with their class syllabus, both you and your child will electronically sign those and submit those back to the teacher as soon as possible please.

**First day of school: Monday, August 24th:** 6th grade car riders will enter through the same doors that they did last year (the far west doors), and go to their homeroom to drop supplies/backpack off. If they do not need breakfast they will go straight to their homeroom class and stay there. 7th/8th grade car riders will enter the doors at the front of the MS if they are a car rider. Breakfast will be available in the foyer for 8th grade students, and in the hallway on the left as they approach the bathrooms. If they do not want breakfast they will go straight to their homeroom class.

**Students MUST have a mask on as they enter the building. Students will keep their mask on anytime that they are moving in the building. There may be times when they are seated in class that they are allowed to take it off.**

**Breakfast/Lunch:** All students will be eating breakfast in their homeroom. Students will have an assigned seat this year in the cafeteria at lunch. They will have this same assigned seat for the semester. There will not be Chik-Fil-A, pizza, salad bar, potato bar, or snack bar this year. Students may get a school lunch, or bring their lunch to school. Once they are seated they will not be allowed to move around the cafeteria at all until they are dismissed from the cafeteria.

**Assigned seating:** Students will have assigned seats in all classrooms, during homeroom time, at lunch in the classroom, and during lunch in the cafeteria. This information will be helpful when contact tracing when/if a student/students tests positive for COVID. We realize this is not ideal for students at this age since students might get along one day and not the next day. We appreciate your understanding and patience with us during this time.

**Lunch:** 6th grade students will eat lunch from 10:50-11:15. We will alternate days between 5th & 6th grade eating in the cafeteria and in their homeroom with their teacher. 7th & 8th grade students will eat lunch from 11:50-12:15 everyday. Visitors will NOT be allowed in the cafeteria this year. We will alternate days between 7th & 8th grade eating in the cafeteria and in their homeroom with a teacher.

**RTI:** **6th grade students** will have RTI (Response To Intervention) time everyday for 25 minutes. **7th grade/8th grade students** will have RTI 50 minutes everyday. This will be an opportunity for students to work on their math, or english skills (Study Island). For one day a week they will be able to use this time as a study hall to get caught up on their work.

**Dismissal time:** 6th grade car riders are dismissed at 3:00, along with the bus riders who will be sent to the buses at 3:00. 7th & 8th grade car riders are dismissed at 3:05 pm to walk out to the car line and get in their parents car. We will dismiss car riders to walk by themselves out the side doors to their cars. The students that ride the bus will walk out to the buses on the east side of the building.

**Buses:** Students ***must*** wear a mask on the bus. Bus notes are not allowed this year for students to go home with another student. Parents will need to pick those students up if they need to be transported to their house. All students are expected to have a regular bus riding schedule they follow. Once again this is for contact tracing.

**Tutoring:** The teachers will send out information about what days they are tutoring. Those will be the same days every week from 3:15-4:15 pm.

**Passing times:** Students will have four minutes between classes to get to their locker, use the restroom, and fill up their water bottle. Stopping and/or standing in the hallways

will not be allowed. We are going to ask that students continue moving in the hallway. “Hanging out” and talking to friends will not be allowed. Again, masks will be worn at all times in the hallways.

We are so excited to see everyone again. We are all going to do our best to ensure everyone's safety here at school. As always if you have any questions please contact the middle school office at 417-736-7000 ext. 1300.

**6th Grade Supply List 2020-2021:**

\*24 Pencils or Mechanical Pencils with Lead Refills (all classes will use)

\*2 - 100 page Composition Notebooks (1 each for ELA, Reading)

\*2 pkgs. Wide ruled paper (Math)

\*1 Basic Calculator (Math)

\*24 Pack of Colored Pencils (Social Studies, ELA, Reading)

\*1 Elmer’s Glue Bottle (not glue sticks) (ELA, Reading)

\*1 Pair of Scissors (to be used in all classes)

\*Highlighters pack with at least 4 assorted colors (ELA, Reading)

\*1 pair earbuds or headphones (will be used in all classes)

\*Mask

\*\*We recommend either a trapper keeper or accordian folder to help with organization\*\*

**7th grade supply list 2020-2021:**

\*1 package of Red Pens (S.S.)

\*4 Yellow Highlighters (S.S/Sci/ELA)

\*1 pair of scissors (All)

\*Colored Pencils- 12 pack (S.S/Sci/Math/ELA)

\*24 ct. Pencils or Mechanical Pencils with Lead Refills (All)

\*4 Glue Sticks (All)

\*Texas Instruments TI-30XS Calculator-Math and Science (this calculator will take them through high school)

\*6 Pocket Folders (any color) with Brads (S.S., ELA)

\*2 Composition Notebooks-(English/Math)

\*Headphones/Earbuds (All)

\*Mask

**8th grade supply list 2020 - 2021:**

\*Pens→ Science, Math, English

\*Pencils (mechanical or regular, 3 packs recommended) → Science, Math, English

\*1 Composition Notebook→ English

\*Scientific calculator (No standard calculators. Recommended: TI-30XS Multiview or

\*Casio fx-300ES) → Math

\*1 pkg. College-Ruled Notebook Paper → Science

\*3 Spiral Notebooks → Math,

\*3 Folders w/Pockets → Science, Math

\*2- 1" Binders → Math,

\*Highlighter

\*1 package index cards → English

\*Headphones/earbuds → All

\*Mask