

August 10, 2021

Dear TMS Families,

WELCOME BACK! I am excited to start this school year off as your new principal of Taos Middle School. TMS has been my home for 17 years. I am enthusiastic and eager to start this year and take the proper steps to get to a more normal school environment.

We will continue to follow PED, CDC and District guidelines to ensure all safety precautions are in place. Regardless of the guidelines set forth, we will continue to offer a quality education, while focusing on the well-being of all students. The teachers and staff are dedicated to the overall success of all student's and will continue this with open communication, cooperation and collaboration with families and the community.

There may be new challenges that arise dependent on the pandemic. Regardless of these challenges we know that there are anxieties and fears for some as we start school this fall. We will do our best to help ease those feelings. The following will be procedures that will occur daily:

- Masks must be worn by everyone on campus
- Social Distancing will continue to take place
- Assigned seating in each class
- Disinfecting seats and desks after each use
- Temperature check in 1st and 2nd period
- During lunches social distancing and shields will be used

The first day of school will be Thursday, August 12th. First bell rings at 7:40. All students will report to the gymnasium, where they will sit by grade, social distanced. Students will be dismissed by grade to receive their schedules. They will report to their advisory class where they will receive their computer, computer use forms and login information. They will then follow an abbreviated ODD block schedule.

On Friday, August 13th they will report to their Advisory class for 90 minutes, where they will be instructed on how to use PowerSchool, Canvas and Outlook 365 (email). Followed by an abbreviated EVEN block Schedule.

Starting Monday, August 16th students will follow the schedule below.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
7:45-9:10	1 st	2 nd	1 st	2 nd
9:13-10:38	3 rd	4 th	3 rd	4 th
10:41-11:01	Advisory (20 min)	Advisory (20 min)	Advisory (20 min)	Advisory (20 min)
11:04-11:41	5 th	6 th	5 th	6 th
11:41-12:11	L1	L1	L1	L1
12:14-12:44	L2	L2	L2	L2
12:47-1:17	L3	L3	L3	L3
1:20-2:45	7 th	8 th	7 th	8 th

Friday	
7:45-8:30	1 st
8:33-9:16	2 nd
9:19-10:02	3 rd
10:05-10:48	4 th
10:51-11:45	5 th
11:37-12:07	6 th /L1
12:10-12:40	6 th /L2
12:43-1:13	6 th /L3
1:16-1:59	7 th
2:02-2:45	8 th

Dress Code

Polos:

All students – orange, black and white
6th grade – royal or navy blue
7th grade – dark green
8th grade – maroon

Pants:

Khaki, black, blue, grey
Jeans (no torn pants)

Masks:

Multilayered Mask
No neck gators or bandanas

School Supplies

- Extra Masks
- Backpack
- Water bottle
- Notebook
- Pencils
- Colored Pencils
- Binder
- Dividers
- Headphones

Teachers may have specific supplies needed. They will give that list out when school starts.

Next week each grade level will be holding a Q&A Teams Meeting Online to review our Back-to-School Policies and answer any questions you may have. Your child will have a link next week on Canvas for the following dates/times:

- 8th grade – Tuesday, August 17th @ 5:30pm
- 6th grade – Wednesday, August 18th @ 5:30pm
- 7th grade – Thursday, August 19th @ 5:30pm

We recommend downloading the PowerSchool and Canvas App to your phone to monitor your child's grades. This is the easiest way to be involved in your child's education.

I look forward to working with you throughout the year. If I can be of assistance in any way, please feel free to reach out with any questions.

Sincerely,

Linda Quintana Martinez
Principal, Taos Middle School