

Eastside Middle School – Frequently Asked Questions

1. Will parents be able to tour Eastside prior to school starting?

We are happy to offer tours. Please call the school at 502-869-5000 to schedule an appointment.

2. What are the differences between the teams?

Parents will see "split" teams and "straight" teams. We do not do split teams like elementary schools. Split teams mean that the teacher teaches more than one grade level. We do not have split classrooms with students in two different grades. On our straight teams, teachers teach only one grade level. Split teams have 6th and 7th graders or 7th and 8th graders in the same hall. No team has 6th and 8th grade together.

3. How do you order uniforms? What type of clothing is available? What kind of shoes are permitted? What is your recommendation on how much to order?

We will send a flyer home with all ordering information, including pictures, pricing as well as when, where, and how to order. The dress code will also be on the flyer and explains the shoes. Most families buy one of each item we offer. Please check our school website for this information as well

4. How does the carpool line work before and after school?

Drop off and pick up are at the front entrance of the school. Two lanes will merge into one and we have signs directing parents how far to pull up. The doors to the school open at 7:40. We ask that parents drop off and go, rather than sit in the car with your student. Afternoon drop off is much the same. We do not issue name cards and we don't call for students. They look for their ride, get in and go. If a parent drops off or picks up from the parking lot, they must walk the student across the cross walk. No letting off or picking up from the parking lot otherwise. We dismiss at 3:00 and our afternoon car rider line is free and clear within 15 minutes.

5. Will a parent be allowed to volunteer? Is there a volunteer room or coordinator?

We have a volunteer coordinator who will reach out when volunteers are needed. Our weekly newsletter will announce when there is a need for volunteers.

6. Will there be bus monitors?

Only special transportation buses have monitors on board.

7. Do extra-curricular activities overlap?

We do our very best to accommodate the need of every student. As with any school, some clubs/sports practices/games could overlap. Very rarely is there a conflict. When there is such, our coaches/sponsors do what is in the best interest of the student.

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8. How will you communicate with the parents (teacher and school admin)? Is there still an Agenda? A weekly take home folder? Weekly or monthly emails? Facebook?

We send a weekly newsletter that updates each Friday and remains available for viewing by accessing the site any time through the week. Teachers and coaches often use apps as a method of communication. Infinite Campus messages are sent as needed. We provide agendas for every student and some teams require students to take them home. We do not have a weekly folder as with elementary school. We may also communicate via our Facebook account.

9. What is a typical daily schedule? How long are the classes and how many subjects per day?
Most teams operate with 65 minute classes. We have Homeroom where we have morning broadcast announcements, followed by a 6 period day. Students will have 4 core content classes, one exploratory class (Art, PE/Health, STEM, Technology, Band) and SOAR (flexible time).

10. How much time should we expect to do nightly homework?

Homework will vary by class and content. We do not give homework for the sake of having homework. SOAR time allows for some homework completion, and most of the time, students complete the majority of the work during that time.

11. What kind of information are they going to send out to get us ready for Eastside?
We send information home with all 5th graders, use our webpage, Infinite Campus Messenger. Teaming, supplies, Open House info. etc., are all included.

12. Do we get to sign up for extra activities at registration?

Students will have an opportunity to sign up for clubs/ sports of interest. We also announce any new opportunities throughout the year. If we do not offer a desired club, and students can find a teacher sponsor, we will add the club.

13. Do we need a backpack for Chromebooks and what kind is ok?

Backpacks remain in the locker during the day. Chromebook cases are available for purchase on the PTSO site, but are not required.

14. Do students get lockers? Do we need to purchase locks?

Lockers are assigned after the start of school, after students have submitted all of the required paperwork. No locks are necessary, as they are built into our lockers

15. Do you have a dress Code?

We have a strict dress code. This is sent home with students and is also available on our website.

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16. When can we start purchasing Eastside apparel?

Information will be sent home on a flyer at the end of the year and will be posted on our website and in our newsletter. June 1-July 15 will be open for online ordering.

17. What do we need to know about dress down days?

We offer an optional dress down on Friday for \$1 donation to our PTSO. Parents will have an option to pay up front for the entire year at a discounted rate.

18. What is the current supply list?

The supply lists will be included in flyer sent home at the end of the year. Eastside will provide the majority of common supplies for our students.

19. What fees do we pay and do they have to be separate checks or one big check?

The following school fees will be collected AFTER the first day of school. For accounting purposes, school fees need to be paid with three SEPARATE checks.

Check 1: made payable to Eastside Middle School with SCHOOL FEE written in the memo line - \$30

Check 2: made payable to Eastside Middle School with STEM FEE written in the memo line - \$5

Check 3: made payable to Eastside Middle School with CHROMEBOOK FEE written in the memo line - \$35

20. When do parents get to meet the teachers/staff?

We have an open house each year. This information will be shared with all 5th graders at the end of the school year and will be posted on our website and in our newsletter.

21. Are there classes for gifted and talented students or advanced classes offered in their areas of giftedness?

We teach every student to the highest level and do not offer Pre-AP (the district doesn't recognize Pre-AP). We have a GT coordinator responsible for scheduling regular GT field trips and enhancement activities. We are proud to offer our GT Take Flight Program. This program provided enrichment opportunities for GT students, creating opportunities for enhancement in identified areas of giftedness. Students will be exposed to rigorous experiences that are authentic, exciting, and engaging. Information about this program will be sent home to qualifying students.