

## Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Incoming 7<sup>th</sup> Graders

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- 1. How do I know if I should sign my student up for an accelerated class or not?**
  - a. Students are already placed in the correct math classes based on their 6<sup>th</sup> grade math class. Parents/guardians have the option of choosing Accelerated Geography and/or Accelerated English. If you aren't sure what to select, asking your child's 6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher is a good option. In general, students who take accelerated classes should be responsible, complete work on time, be willing to work hard, never have missing assignments, and have an A/B average in the subject area.
- 2. How does my child try out for a sport?**
  - a. A student must have a physical from the doctor on file in order to try out for a sport. Physicals dated after April 15<sup>th</sup> are good for the next year. Information about try-outs will be in the weekly email that you receive (Eppler Electronic Express) and on the announcements. Try-outs for fall sports (football, volleyball, and sideline cheer) are usually the second day of school, so you must get your child's physical before then if he/she is trying out for a fall sport.
- 3. How do I know my child's progress in a class?**
  - a. You should have already received your child's PowerSchool password from the elementary school. If not, you can contact your elementary school to get the password now. This password will be the same in junior high. You can check your child's progress any time. Keep in mind that teachers sometimes take a few days to grade an assignment and put it in PowerSchool.
- 4. Who do I contact if I have questions about my child's grade?**
  - a. You can contact the teacher through email or a phone call. Teachers are happy to communicate with parents/guardians.
- 5. Can I request a certain teacher?**
  - a. Due to the large number of students that need to be scheduled into 6 different classes, we are unable to take teacher requests.
- 6. If my child doesn't like his/her elective that he/she picked, can we change it during the school year?**
  - a. We work very hard to get students the classes that they want and only make enough sections for the number of students who signed up. Therefore, students need to commit to the classes that they select on their scheduling forms. If we made a mistake on the schedule, we will do everything we can to correct it.
- 7. Will my child have to share a locker?**
  - a. We are very fortunate at Eppler to have enough lockers for all students to have their own. Your child will receive his/her locker at registration day in August.
- 8. My child receives special education services. Who can I contact with questions?**
  - a. Every special education student will have a caseload teacher. You will find out who your caseload teacher is during the first week or so of school. If you have questions that need to be answered before then, there is a special education representative available at Curriculum Night, and you can always call Eppler and ask to speak to the special education department chair.
- 9. My child receives free/reduced lunch. Will that continue at Eppler?**
  - a. Yes, students who receive free or reduced lunch will continue to receive it at Eppler for the first month of school, but you will need to reapply each year by mid-October. We also serve breakfast, and students with free/reduced lunch can get free/reduced breakfast.
- 10. If my child has a lunch account from elementary school, can he/she use that account at Eppler?**
  - a. Yes. If you have money left in your account from elementary school, it will transfer to the junior high. Students will have a barcode linked to their lunch account on their school-issued ID that gets scanned when they purchase a lunch. You can put money in the account using [sendmoneytoschools.com](http://sendmoneytoschools.com) or by having your child give cash or check to the cashier.
- 11. What is Eppler's cell phone/electronics policy?**
  - a. During School: Cell phones must be in lockers all day. Bring at your own risk. No pictures, phone calls, texting, or social media.
    - 1<sup>st</sup> offense: Parent/guardian must pick up phone. Sign phone contract.
    - 2<sup>nd</sup>: Parent/guardian must pick up phone. In-school consequence.
    - 3<sup>rd</sup>: Parent/guardian must pick up. Phone banned from school. Suspension.
    - 4<sup>th</sup>: Parent/guardian must pick up phone. Progressive discipline.
- 12. If students aren't allowed to text, how do I reach my child if I need to speak with him/her?**
  - a. You can call the school at 797-2900. We can give a message to your child. Your child can also come to the office to use the phone if needed.
- 13. What do I do if I need to pick my child up for an early dismissal?**
  - a. Please have your child bring a note to the office in the morning (or the parent can call the attendance line at 797-2999) regarding the early dismissal time. The secretary will give your child a pass to come to the office at that time. You will still need to come inside to sign your child out.
- 14. Can my child ride a different bus home with a friend?**
  - a. Only bus riders can ride a bus. If a student isn't assigned to a bus, he/she can't ride home with a friend. Due to the tight capacity of the buses, there will not be an option for students to ride each other's bus.
- 15. Who do I contact if I disagree with a teacher's policy/grade/etc.?**
  - a. Always contact the teacher first in order to better understand the issue and to allow the teacher to try to solve the problem.

**16. What services does the counselor offer?**

- a. Counselors are on hand to help students with academic problems, conflict resolutions, and personal problems. They also do presentations to classes throughout the year, complete Educational Development Plans with every 8<sup>th</sup> grade student, coordinate testing, and assist with the At-Risk Program. Parents/guardians can contact counselors for referrals for outside counseling and tutoring as well. If you need help with an issue and don't know who to contact, the counselor can assist you or point you in the right direction.