

# TIMBERCREST FAQ's

The transition to middle school can be both an exciting and uncertain experience for students and parents. Here are some FAQ's to help you navigate.

***Q: How do I stay up to date on what is happening at Timbercrest?***

- Check the TMS website frequently! The website is updated daily/weekly with announcements, school calendar, Daily Bulletin, news and school resources. Go to: [www.nsd.org/timbercrest](http://www.nsd.org/timbercrest).
- Read the **Pack Report** – Timbercrest's bi-monthly e-newsletter. You will automatically be subscribed to receive the newsletter in August based on the email address(s) provided on registration materials. Updates can be made through ParentVue web portal. The Pack Report can also be downloaded from the Timbercrest website.

***Q: What does the daily schedule look like?***

- School start and end times as well as bell schedules are available on the website at <https://timbercrest.nsd.org/our-school/middle-school-schedules>

***Q. What if I have concerns about my child's progress in school, or any other student issues?***

- Open and direct communication is promoted at Timbercrest.
- Contact the teacher or staff member directly.
- Parents and students have access to view attendance, grades, etc. through ParentVue. Parents and students can easily communicate with teachers within the portal.
- Counselors are available on campus to support students' emotional, social, and academic needs.
- Additional resources are available – math help and homework help.

***Q. Who is my student's counselor and how can I reach them?  
2022-2023 Assignments:***

- Ann McGowan, [amcgowan@nsd.org](mailto:amcgowan@nsd.org) 425/408-6920 – 6<sup>th</sup> grade
- Dierdre Flaherty, [dflaherty@nsd.org](mailto:dflaherty@nsd.org) 425/408-6924 – 8<sup>th</sup> grade
- Alon Patashnik, [apatashnik@nsd.org](mailto:apatashnik@nsd.org) 425/408-6921- 7<sup>th</sup> grade

*Note: Counselors follow class as they move grades.*

***Q: How do I get a username and password to access ParentVue?***

- Email our Registrar, Maureen Wilson at [mwilson@nsd.org](mailto:mwilson@nsd.org)

***Q: How does Timbercrest help 6<sup>th</sup> graders make the transition?***

- WEB – Where Everyone Belongs – is a program specifically designed to help students' transition into middle school.
  - 6<sup>th</sup> graders are grouped with selected 8<sup>th</sup> grade peer mentors.
  - First day of school is for 6<sup>th</sup> grade only (and WEB leaders).
  - 6<sup>th</sup> graders will spend their first day at middle school with their WEB group and walk through their individual class schedule and classroom locations. The day will include a variety of fun orientation activities.
  - WEB activities continue throughout the school year.

***Q: What about backpacks, lunch and school supplies?***

- There are no lockers at Timbercrest, except in the PE locker room where students enrolled in PE can store their items during their PE class.
- Students involved in after school athletics, need to make arrangements with their coach or PE teacher to store their gear during the school day.
- Students need a backpack that they can take from class to class.
- Typically, students don't need to carry textbooks. Many textbooks are available online.
- Students who bring lunch need to carry it with them throughout the day.
- Various lunch options can be purchased in the cafeteria.
- Prepayments for lunch can be set up through TITAN School Solutions on the NSD website, or by sending a check or cash with your student to be given to the kitchen manager. TITAN will charge a \$2.60 per payment processing fee.
- School supplies – Less is more for the first day of school. Typically a binder or set of folders (one for each subject), paper, a couple composition books, and pencils will be enough. There is a general Supply List posted on the Timbercrest website for all grades and all subjects. Teachers will communicate specific material requirements within the first 1-2 weeks of school. Students will receive a student planner/agenda the first week of school.
- Families needing financial assistance can request a backpack with basic school supplies from their student's counselor.

***Q: What is an ASB card, and does my child need it?***

- The ASB (Associated Student Body) card is required for all students choosing to participate in any extracurricular school activity. This includes all clubs, athletics, Honor Society, theater productions, etc. The money collected is used to pay officials at sporting events, buses for transportation, uniforms, materials for use by clubs, etc. The cost is \$30 per school year and can be purchased through the Timbercrest online store at <https://schoolsales.nsd.org> or through the main office.

***Q: What is the Electronics Policy?***

- Cell phones and other personal electronic devices are discouraged from being brought to school and may not be used at school during the school day. These devices are to be inaudible, put away and not visible (in students' hands) from the first bell / warning bell to the last bell / end of the school day bell. (ie: BELL to BELL)
- They are to remain out of sight during the school day while in and out of the classroom. Use of electronics (in hands or on desks) during the school day is not allowed. They are not allowed during passing periods, nutrition breaks, or at lunch. The only exception is when a teacher may choose to allow use of them for educational purposes in their classroom.
- Students who need to contact their parents have access to a phone in the main office. Parents should contact the main office if they need to communicate with their student during the day.

***Q: What do I need to do if my child is absent, late to school, or needs to leave early?***

- Report an absence (within 48 hours of absence.....complete one of the following)
  - call the Attendance line @ 425-408-6910
  - send an email to [tmsattendance@nsd.org](mailto:tmsattendance@nsd.org)
  - send a note in with student when they return to school.
- Request early dismissal or late arrival (complete one of the following)
  - Send a signed note with student to bring to Attendance desk. Student may then sign themselves in or out at the Attendance desk and meet parent/guardian in parking lot or return to class.
  - Send an email to [tmsattendance@nsd.org](mailto:tmsattendance@nsd.org) with the requested dismissal time and then come in to the office to sign student out.
  - Call the Attendance line @425-408-6910 with the requested dismissal time and then come in to the office to sign student out.
- Pre-Arranged absences – student will miss more than 3 consecutive school days.
  - Student/Parent/Teachers complete Pre-Arranged Absence form (online or at Attendance desk) and returns completed form to Attendance desk prior to scheduled absence.

***Q: If my child is absent, how can they request their homework?***

- Homework can be obtained by:
  - Checking teachers' Schoology page.
  - Emailing teachers

- Contacting a fellow student from class
- Upon returning to class, obtain assignments from teachers.

***Q: How can my child obtain a pass to ride another bus?***

- Students will receive their bus assignment from the Transportation Dept. in August.
- Students wishing to change their assigned bus or stop location, will need to complete and submit a "Request Bus Stop Change Form" which can be found on the NSD website under Transportation.
- No bus passes can be approved until the bus loads are determined and the Transportation Department has given approval (usually late October).
- To ride another bus on a particular day, students must request a pass. Many buses are full and do not accept bus passes. Most buses limit the number of extra riders. Bus pass requests are good for that day only.
- To obtain a bus pass, students must bring a note signed by their parent/guardian to the Main Office no later than 10:30 AM. **We cannot accept bus pass requests by phone or email.**
- The request must include:
  - First and last name of the student requesting the pass
  - Name of the student they will ride with
  - Stop location of the student they will ride with
  - Bus number
  - Signature of parent/guardian
- Student's should pick up their bus pass from the main office at lunchtime.

***Q: If my child is transported to school by private vehicle, is there a particular location for drop off/pick up?***

- The front parking lot is used for all student arrival/departures.
- Please use the drop off/pick up line.
- Once in the drop off/pick up line, stay in tight formation and please keep moving.
- Do not use the second lane to drop off/pick up as this creates a safety concern for students crossing through the parking lot.
- If your son/daughter is not ready to be picked up, please park in the parking lot until they are ready to be picked up in the drop off/pick up lane.
- Do not pick up/drop off in the back or side entrance to the school.
- Please DO NOT park in the bus loading zone at any time.
- Please avoid parking on the street as this causes congestion and limits bus access.

***Q. What if I need to deliver an item or a message to my student?***

- Student deliveries are brought to the main office. We will notify your student that they have an item to pick up. Messages are delivered to your student's teacher to relay to your child.

***Q. What if my student needs to take medication during the school day?***

- State law mandates several requirements for medications to be administered at school. This applies to all medications including prescription/emergency and over-the-counter medications such as inhalers, Epipens and Ibuprofen. Requirements include:
  - Written authorization from a licensed health care provider including specific instructions.
  - Completed Medication Authorization form on file in the health room
  - If any medication adjustments in dosing or frequency are made, parents must notify the school nurse and a new order (Medication Authorization form) must be completed.
  - Advanced planning with the school nurse is needed for students who need access to medications during field trips, after school sports, clubs and activities where students may not have access to school stored medications in the health room after school hours.

***Q. Does Timbercrest offer and Clubs for students? Can you sign up for National Junior Honor Society?***

- Timbercrest has a number of clubs that meet regularly. Club offerings vary from year to year. The only requirement for participation is an ASB card. 2021-22 Clubs included: Magic Card, Learn to Code, GSA, Robotics.
- National Junior Honor Society has very specific requirements students must meet to qualify. Please see the NJHS link on our Timbercrest website for detailed information and forms.

***Q. Can I visit during the school day?***

- We are a closed campus. Visits to classrooms during the school day must be pre-arranged with the classroom teacher and approved by an administrator. Volunteers must be cleared through Washington State Patrol. Volunteer forms are available on our website, the district website and in the TMS main office. Completed forms are turned into the Timbercrest main office and require 48 hours to process. Each NSD school maintains their own database of cleared volunteers.
- **ALL VISITORS MUST SIGN IN** (in the main office) and wear a Visitor badge while on campus.

**Q. What role can a parent play in supporting the entire school?**

- Join PTSA – The cost is \$15 per person.
  - At the beginning of the school year, we raise money through our one fundraiser, “Pass the Hat”, to support special school programs and classroom needs through grants.
  - We connect parents to the school through volunteering.
  - We publish a Student Directory.
- Support the ASB fundraisers
- Volunteer – complete volunteer forms (on the NSD and TMS website). Volunteer clearance (Washington State Patrol background check) is good for two years.

**Q: What sports are offered at TMS?**

- Tennis, Soccer, Volleyball, Cross Country, Basketball, Wrestling, and Track.
- Sixth grade sports are non-cut and include: Basketball, Cross Country, Soccer, Track, Wrestling, Girls Volleyball. See website for schedules.

**Q: How do I register for sports?**

To participate, all forms must be completed online at: <https://northshore-wa.finalforms.com/>

- Online registration process must be completed. The parent/guardian must complete their part online at Final Forms, and the student must log into their district email to complete the forms. *(Please note that incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders will receive their final forms initial email mid-August).*
- Turn in a current physical completed by your child’s physician to the office (physicals are good for 2 years).
- Purchase an ASB card.
- Pay Player fees.
- Student must maintain academic eligibility during the entire season.
- For assistance with registration contact Kristie Brower - [kbrower@nsd.org](mailto:kbrower@nsd.org).

**Health/Fitness Uniform FAQs**

**Q. What is the required dress code for Health Fitness?**

- With no exceptions, the following dress code is required of all Health/Fitness students.
  - A purchased Timbercrest uniform, or
  - Student provided charcoal grey T-shirt (no logos, no V-neck, no sleeveless) and black shorts with a minimum 7-inch inseam or black sweat pants. No logo on shorts or pants and no yoga pants. Student’s name is required on front or back of the T-shirt (first initial and last name – hand written is okay.)

*If it is cold outside, personal jackets and sweatshirts will be allowed for warmth/dry purposes.*

**Q: Why dress code and uniform requirements for Health/Fitness?**

- The uniform brings a positive level of consistency to our department and our students. We currently have regulations on the dress code in our classes for fitness reasons, but with the streamline uniform requirements, we are confident the students will have an increased sense of equality, ownership, and community. This will create a more inclusive environment and support those that may otherwise be left out due to socioeconomic status, clothing choices, and/or lack of proper athletic clothing.

**Q: How do I order the uniform?**

- Uniforms can be purchased at the main office at the beginning of the school year ( cash or check payable to TMS ASB) or online through Touchbase (schoolsales.nsd.org) The online store will open on August 21, 2022. Purchased PE clothes will be passed out during PE class.

**Q: How much does it cost?**

- |                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| ● T-Shirt - \$7.00    | Shorts - \$9.00    |
| ● Cinch Sack - \$5.00 | Full Set - \$20.00 |

**Q: What if we can't afford the uniform or provide for the dress code requirements?**

- Scholarships are available. Please contact Brigitte Wheeler at [bwheeler@nsd.org](mailto:bwheeler@nsd.org)

