

This Student Agenda belongs to:

Name _____	Grade _____	Bus # _____
Lancer Time Teacher	Locker #	

## New Market Middle School

125 West Main Street  
New Market MD 21774  
240.236.4600 – Main Office  
240.236.4561 – Counseling Office  
240.236.4691 – Health Room

## Student Handbook 2023-2024

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### NMMS Regular Bell Schedule 2023-2024

	GRADE 6				GRADE 7				GRADE 8		
Period	Time	Per Min	Period	Time	Per Min	Period	Time	Per Min	Period	Time	Per Min
1	8:00 - 8:49	49	1	8:00 - 8:49	49	1	8:00 - 8:49	49	1	8:00 - 8:49	49
2	8:53 - 9:40	47	2	8:53 - 9:40	47	2	8:53 - 9:40	47	2	8:53 - 9:40	47
3	9:44 - 10:31	47	3	9:44 - 10:31	47	3	9:44 - 10:31	47	3	9:44 - 10:31	47
ELT	10:34 - 11:04	30	ELT	10:34 - 11:04	30	ELT	10:34 - 11:04	30	ELT	10:34 - 11:04	30
Lunch	11:07 - 11:37	30	4	11:08 - 11:55	47	4	11:08 - 11:55	47	4	11:08 - 11:55	47
4	11:40 - 12:27	47	Lunch	11:58-12:28	30	5	11:59 - 12:46	47	5	11:59 - 12:46	47
5	12:31 - 1:18	47	5	12:31 - 1:18	47	Lunch	12:49 - 1:19	30	6	1:22 - 2:09	47
6	1:22 - 2:09	47	6	1:22 - 2:09	47	6	1:22 - 2:09	47	7	2:13 - 3:00	47
7	2:13 - 3:00	47	7	2:13 - 3:00	47	7	2:13 - 3:00	47			

## **2023-2024 NMMS**

**Goal Setting is an important skill in life to help people be successful.  
Define success.**

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**How can you work to be the most successful each day?**

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Each term set a personal goal. On the lines below, begin the school year by writing your personal goal for term 1. At the end of each term, write your goal for the upcoming term.  
**Term 1 goal:**

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**Term 2 goal:**

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**Term 3 goal:**

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**Term 4 goal:**

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**Did you meet your goals? What helped you be the most successful this year?**

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## Mission

The mission of the New Market Middle School community of students, staff, and parents is to foster the development of critical thinkers, problem solvers, effective communicators, and life-long learners who are prepared to be honorable, successful, and contributing members of an ever-changing 21<sup>st</sup> century society.

## Vision

The New Market Middle School community of students, staff, and parents will work collaboratively to exceed local, state, and national standards for student achievement, character development, teacher efficacy, and family and community involvement.

## Goals

**The New Market Middle School community's collective commitment will ensure:**

1. Rigorous learning that challenges and supports all students to achieve at high levels and reach their full potential.
2. A welcoming, disciplined, and healthy environment that is conducive to student learning and character development.
3. Highly qualified teachers are working in professional learning communities that focus on student learning and achievement.
4. Parents and community members are partnering in the learning process of our students.
5. Time, material, and human resources are allocated in a manner that supports student learning.

## **PREPARING TO LEARN**

### **ACADEMIC STANDARDS**

Academic achievement is the focus of all activity at New Market Middle. In order to reach his/her potential, each student has the responsibility to:

- Be in school each and every day.
- Arrive in school and to class on time.
- Accept the challenge of scheduling academically rigorous classes.
- Bring to class all books and required material including Chromebook charged every day.
- Participate in all class activities in active/meaningful ways.
- Strive to be an honor roll student by giving your best effort every day.
- Carefully complete class assignments and homework.
- Seek help to schedule tutoring time with teachers if experiencing academic difficulty.
- Exhibit respect for staff and other students.

### **VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL**

Schools welcome visitors who wish to learn more about the educational programs, meet administrators and staff, tour the facilities, and share ideas. Meetings with staff members and classroom visits should be arranged in advance to ensure that the time is appropriate and does not interfere with planned activities. All visitors are required to ring the bell, state name, and purpose for visit to gain entry and sign in the main office and be issued a visitor's badge. The badge must be visible when walking through the building.

The building administrator or designee may limit or refuse visitor access to school property in order to ensure student/employee safety and confidentiality, and to minimize interruption of school activities or instructional programs. Unauthorized visitors will be considered trespassers as stated by the law.

### **ARRIVAL AT SCHOOL**

- Parents who bring their child to school are asked to have their student use the sidewalk to get to the gym/cafeteria entrance of the building.
- Students are **not permitted in the building before 7:30 a.m.**
- **Students arriving before 7:53 a.m. report to the gym (6<sup>th</sup> grade & 7<sup>th</sup> grade) or the cafeteria (8<sup>th</sup> grade).**
- Students arriving after 8:00 a.m. must report to the office and will be marked as late.
- Permission must be granted to take projects or items to teachers. (See sign-in procedures above.)
- Students must be in class by 8:00 a.m.
- Attendance will be taken during the first period.
- **Students who arrive to school late (unexcused) more than 3 times in one term, will be assigned lunch detention for each additional unexcused late arrival.**

### **DISMISSAL FROM SCHOOL**—3:00 p.m.

All students are required to be off school property by 3:10 p.m. Supervision is not provided after 3:10 p.m.

### **EARLY DISMISSAL FROM SCHOOL**

- Students may not leave campus during the day without consent from a parent and the attendance office.
- **Students leaving school for medical appointments must present a written excuse from the parent. This note should include a phone number where the note can be verified. Present the note to the attendance office.**
- Students must retain the dismissal pass from the attendance office and present the pass to the teacher before leaving.
- Upon returning to school, the student must report immediately to the attendance office for an "admit to class" pass.

### **AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES**

1. Students in the building after 3:00 p.m. MUST be under the supervision of a NMMS staff member and remain in the appropriate area.
2. Students staying after school must have a written note from a parent or guardian. Arrangements to stay after school must be made in advance.
3. Students who participate in LOUYAA activities must be supervised by an adult at all times in the approved appropriate area. This should be coordinated through the coach – not school staff. LOUYAA is not affiliated with NMMS.
4. Private community groups sponsor all middle school sports; therefore, neither Frederick County Public Schools nor the school is responsible for those programs. Students staying after school for community activities must be supervised by an adult at all times in the approved appropriate area. This should be coordinated through the activity coordinator – not the school.

### **FAILING / DANGER OF FAILING**

Progress reports will be sent to parents at the midpoint of every term or whenever the following conditions exist:

1. A student is failing a course.
2. A student's performance is less than satisfactory and he/she is in danger of failing.
3. There is a two-letter drop in a student's grade.

Progress reports may be sent home at any time during the marking period; however, specified times have been established during the four terms. Dates are published in the Calendar Handbook.

## **POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

Parents/guardians and students are responsible for knowing the Frederick County Policies and Regulations outlined each year in the Calendar Handbook.

### **ATTENDANCE/ABSENCE POLICY**

Students who need to leave school early should present a note to the office before first period on the day of the anticipated early departure.

Students coming to school late are to submit a note from the parent. If the child has a doctor/dentist/orthodontist appointment, please present the appointment card or other verification of the appointment in place of a note from the parent.

Students who have an excess of five (5) unlawful absences in any term shall be assigned a failing grade in those missed class. When a student has reached three (3) days or classes of unlawful absences in any marking period, the principal will mail a letter to the parents or guardians alerting them of the impending failure.

Parent notes excusing student absences for illness will be accepted on a maximum of **ten (10) days** throughout the ten-month school year. Additional days missed from school must be verified through a physician's note in order to be coded as excused. Parent notes should include the student's first and last name.

To insure that all absences are coded correctly and accurately, students are requested to do the following:

1. Within two (2) days of returning from an absence, a written note, signed by a parent or physician, must be submitted to the attendance office or the child's first period teacher.
2. Students who wish to leave school before 3:00 p.m. must submit a signed, written note from their parent or physician to the attendance office in the morning.
3. Students who take trips with parents will be excused no more than twice during the year for a combined maximum of five (5) vacation days. Other trips will be coded as unexcused absences. Students should present a note to the attendance office three (3) or more days before leaving for the trip.

Parents are asked to notify the school in the event of a student's absence. Parents should call the school at 240-236-4600 before 8:00 a.m. and leave a message or email NMMS.Attendance@fcps.org if a student is going to be absent from school. School personnel may contact parents of absent students if a message has not been left. A note stating the reason for an absence or lateness is required within two (2) days of the student's return, or the absence is automatically classified as unlawful. Notes should be given to first period teachers. Students absent from school may not participate in after-school activities.

When students are absent from school they have the responsibility to request make-up work within two (2) days of their return. Any questions regarding assignments should be discussed with your child's teacher, either by email or telephone.

### **HOMEWORK** Students should record daily homework assignments.

- ❖ Students should establish a regular routine to work on homework assignments.
- ❖ Students should be prepared to submit homework on the date it is due.
- ❖ If students are absent from school or class, they are still responsible for any homework.

### **MAKE-UP WORK FOR ABSENCES**

- ❖ Students may make-up work missed during absences. Make-up work counts for full credit.
- ❖ Teachers are given the courtesy of 24 hours notice for work requests. Such requests should not be made for absences of less than three (3) days.

## **DISCIPLINE**

### **DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES & GUIDELINES**

- ❖ The school administration and teachers are charged with the responsibility of enforcing state laws with reference to the school's operation. In addition, the administration is responsible for ensuring the proper school-learning climate in which (1) each student maintains the "right to learn", (2) each teacher maintains the "right to teach", and (3) the social and physical well being of all individuals is maintained.
- ❖ No matter how effective a disciplinary program may be, violations of the student conduct code occur. The school administrator is responsible for taking action based upon the facts of the incident and may be required to notify the proper authorities.
- ❖ The complete discipline policy can be found in the Frederick County Public Schools Calendar Handbook and online at fcps.org, Regulation 400-08.
- ❖ **The new Parent/Student Handbook and Code of Conduct can be found here: [link to Code of Conduct](#)**

### **DRUG SUPPRESSION AND DISCOVERY PROGRAM**

The Board of Education and local law enforcement authorities have joined in a program to curtail the use of drugs in county secondary schools. We will cooperate in this program. The program works as follows:

At unannounced and randomly selected times, law enforcement authorities will bring to the school a dog that has been trained to detect various types of drugs. The police, the dog, and some members of the school administration will inspect lockers and certain areas of the school building. Students should keep their lockers locked at all times. If, as a result of these investigations, a student is found to be in possession of drugs, his/her parent/guardian will be notified immediately. At that time, the school system's procedures for the handling of drug offenses will be initiated. In addition, local law enforcement authorities may take further action.

This program is designed to eliminate the use, possession, and distribution of drugs on campus.

## **SCHOOL RULES**

### **1. GUM OR CANDY**

Gum is allowed at school, at appropriate times. Follow teacher directions regarding gum chewing. Food and beverages are permitted in classroom areas only if a staff member has granted permission. **Always appropriately dispose of gum.**

### **2. ATTIRE AND GROOMING**

The responsibility for attire rests with the students and the parent/guardian. It is inappropriate to wear anything that distracts from or disrupts the learning environment. (SEE STUDENT'S RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE **Student Code of Conduct**.) Clothing or apparel that advertises alcohol, drugs, tobacco, and/or clothing that supports or implies violence or sexual activities is not permitted. Students who wear clothing that is inappropriate will be asked to change or to turn clothing inside out. Revealing clothing, including "muscle shirts", crop tops, low cut shirts, tube tops, halter tops, spaghetti strap tank tops, and excessively short skirts or shorts are not permitted. Underwear is not to be visible. Hats and head gear of any kind are not to be worn during the school day and must be kept in student lockers.

Students may find it helpful to have available a sweater or sweatshirt on days when the air conditioner is operating.

### **3. NOT PERMITTED IN SCHOOL**

Articles that interfere with school procedures, disrupt instruction, or become hazardous to the safety of others are not permitted. Such items include, but are not limited to: water pistols, squeeze bottles, knives (including kitchen knives), firecrackers, lighters, and matches. Also, students may not have laser pens/pointers on school property. These items are not toys. They can cause eye damage when directed in one's eyes. If brought to school, these items will be confiscated and returned only to a parent.

### **4. WEAPONS/DRUGS**

- It is **unlawful** for a student to possess or use any weapon, firearm, pellet gun, bomb or look-alike weapon that may be determined harmful to another person. Students who are in possession of a weapon on school property will be suspended/expelled from school and the police will be notified. (SEE THE FREDERICK COUNTY **Student Code of Conduct**)
- It is unlawful for students to possess, distribute, and/or use tobacco or be under the influence of drugs in any form while on school property. (SEE THE FREDERICK COUNTY **Student Code of Conduct** FOR SPECIFIC DETAILS.)

### **5. SOLICITATION/PANHANDLING**

Students are forbidden to sell items of any kind at school. Students may not collect money or personal items from other students. Students who continuously panhandle food/money during lunch, etc., will face consequences.

### **6. BUS SAFETY**

Bus safety is a shared responsibility and depends upon the cooperation of students, parents, and school officials. The following practices should be reviewed:

- Students should be at their respective bus stops **five (5) minutes** before the bus is scheduled to arrive.

- Parents are responsible for the safety and conduct of their children from the time the children leave home until they board the school bus, and from the time they leave the bus until they reach home at the end of the day.
- **Students may ride only the school bus to which they are assigned. Inviting friends home via the school bus makes it difficult for schools to account for students and can cause capacity problems. School principals may authorize a pupil to ride another bus on a temporary basis in emergency situations only.** Transportation to social meetings, non-school sporting events or practices remains a parental responsibility and is not considered an emergency. **If a student needs to ride another bus home, a note must be provided by the parent or guardian of BOTH students involved and must be dropped off to the attendance secretary before lunchtime.**
- Students are to listen to the directions of the bus driver.
- Students are to remain in their seats and keep all body parts inside the bus and out of the aisle.
- **Eating, drinking, smoking, loud voices and horseplay are not permitted on the bus at any time.**
- Large items may be taken onto the bus only if they can be safely held on the owner's lap, placed on the window-side of the seat beside the owner, or placed on the floor between the owner's feet. Sharp-edged items, glass, or materials subject to spillage are prohibited.

#### **7. LOCKERS (HALLWAY/GYM)**

Lockers are the property of New Market Middle School and are assigned to each student the first day of school. Students are required to use a locker before PE, and lunch and may not change lockers without permission from a staff member. Periodic locker clean-outs will be conducted.

Students are required to bring locks from home to put on their hallway and gym lockers.

**Students are ultimately responsible for all assigned chromebooks, textbooks and supplemental school materials that are stored in their lockers. Any locker thefts must be reported to the administration immediately.**

Students are responsible for clearing their lockers of all personal possessions prior to leaving school on their last day of attendance. Also, on or about the last day of school, all lockers will be cleaned out and all personal property of a student's will be held in a designated location for one (1) week then given to a local charity. In unusual circumstances when the school is notified that a student cannot be present on the last day, the school will obtain the student's possessions from the locker and hold them for pick-up at an agreed upon time.

**Search and seizure:** As described in the Public School Laws of Maryland Section 7-307, every Principal, Assistant Principal, or authorized security officer of a public school may conduct a reasonable search of the school and every appurtenance thereof, including students' lockers, if he/she has a reasonable cause to do so. **The right of the school official to search the locker must be previously announced or published within the school. This statement serves as notification to all students.**

#### **8. SOCIAL EVENTS/CONTESTS, ETC.**

ONLY CURRENTLY ENROLLED STUDENTS OF NEW MARKET MIDDLE SCHOOL SHALL BE ALLOWED TO ATTEND SCHOOL DANCES AND OTHER SIMILAR SOCIAL EVENTS. No student serving a school suspension for a discipline infraction will be permitted to attend a school event. New Market Middle reserves the right to exclude a person who has not exhibited lawful standards of conduct. The same standards for appropriate behavior during the school day apply to school sponsored events after school. Persons leaving an event will not be readmitted to that event.

Any of the offenses listed below shall result in immediate expulsion from a dance or social event. Additional consequences may be issued per the FCPS System's Calendar Handbook. Any of the following offenses may also result in denial of a student's privilege to attend future school social events. The school administration shall decide when privileges are to be restored.

- Smoking
- Possession, use, or being under the influence of intoxicants, narcotics, marijuana, or illegal drugs
- Vandalism
- Taking part in physical violence
- Acting in a boisterous manner
- Attempting to enter without paying
- Any other offense which, in the judgment of the chaperones, warrants expulsion from the event

#### **9. CAFETERIA**

All students eat in the cafeteria. Hot lunches may be purchased or students may bring a bag lunch from home; milk and snacks may be purchased. Prices are posted in the cafeteria.

#### **10. FREE AND REDUCED MEALS**

In August, every student receives an application for the Free & Reduced Meal program. These applications MUST be returned by October 1. Free & reduced price meals are available to every eligible student.

#### **11. LOST AND FOUND**

If a student finds items belonging to another student, the items should be taken to the office. If an item is lost, the loss should be reported and the student should check the lost and found in addition to checking with each of the student's classroom teachers. The lost and found is located in the cafeteria unless it is an expensive item then it is kept in the front office.

#### **12. PHONE CALLS**

Students are to use the office phone only in case of an emergency. Parents may call the school regarding emergencies and a message will be delivered to the student. In order to minimize interruptions to the classroom, parents should communicate transportation arrangements with their child before the student leaves for school.

### **13. CELL PHONES**

As stated in Regulation 400-18, student possession and use of electronic devices (*cell phones*) on school property and at school sponsored events on and off campus is a privilege, not a right.

School staff reserves the right to revoke privileges associated with this use under any of the following conditions:

- Disrupts the learning environment or approved school activity.
- Poses a threat to academic integrity.
- Violates confidentiality or privacy rights of others during the school day as well as during after-school activities or the safe transportation of students.
- Electronic devices with camera and recording functions may not be used to take or transfer any image or recording at any time on school premises without teacher permission.
- Creates safety concerns.
- Violates criminal laws.
- Classroom use without teacher permission.
- Cell phones must be off and away at all times (with the exception of lunch).
- Any staff member who witnesses a student violating the cell phone policy will confiscate the phone and bring it to the main office (first offence). The phone will be locked away until a parent/guardian comes to claim it.

### **14. SOCIAL BEHAVIOR**

All students are expected to display appropriate social behavior at all times. This includes NO holding hands, hugging, kissing, or intimate touching. Students have the responsibility to conduct themselves in a manner that demonstrates respect for themselves, each other, the school staff, and the school community.

### **15. PERSONAL / SCHOOL PROPERTY**

- **Personal belongings:** NMMS is not responsible for lost or stolen items that students do not need in order to perform successfully in school.
- **Chromebooks, textbooks and other materials purchased by FCPS:** Students' parent/ guardian will be responsible for replacement or repair costs for lost or damaged materials.

### **16. STRANGERS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY**

Students should report the sighting of a stranger, either adult or student, on school property (especially in the building) to a staff member. An accurate description and the exact place the stranger was observed should be noted. The staff member will relay this information ASAP to an administrator who will take appropriate action.

### **17. SCHOOL CASH**

**Payment for fees, field trips and other extracurricular activities will be collected using School Cash Online**

- Convenient and Easy to Use—Available 24/7 from everywhere with Internet access
- Safe—avoids having students carry cash and checks, and remembering (or not!) to turn them in at school
- Saves Time—Shows your payments and order history in one place and eliminates teacher time collecting them

Register now: <https://frederickcounty.schoolcashonline.com>

Any financial difficulties that these fees may impose on the family should be brought to the attention of an administrator for confidential consideration.

## **STUDENT SERVICES**

### **CASS (Community Agency School Services)**

CASS is a comprehensive community-based program designed to provide coordinated, family-focused services to families and children. Frederick County Public Schools, public and private agencies, and local communities have collaborated to provide these services. For more information regarding CASS, contact the NMMS Guidance Department at 240-236-4561.

### **COUNSELING DEPARTMENT**

The school provides counseling services for all students. Each student will meet with a counselor to discuss curriculum choices, occupational planning and personal concerns. The counselor works with administrators, teachers, and parents in an effort to better understand each student's needs and to provide an appropriate middle school program. The counselor is in a position to call upon other agencies in the community when additional services are necessary.

Conferences between parents, teachers and counselors are encouraged and may be arranged through the guidance office at 240-236-4561.

While our school has zero tolerance for harassment of any kind, we cannot resolve conflicts or address issues that are not reported. The FCPS Harassment Report form is located in school administrative and counseling offices. Students are encouraged to share what they know (regarding harassment or dangerous activities) with an adult. If you or someone you know is being harassed, please tell a staff member. Mediation and conflict resolution work! It improves relationships!

### **MEDIA CENTER**

Students are encouraged to use the media center frequently to do research, complete homework assignments, and look for good books to read. Students will find a wide variety of books and magazines, subscriptions to on-line research databases, computers, and a media specialist who is eager to help them with their reading and information needs.

The Media Center is open from 7:45-3:00 every day. Students can come to check out books before first period, during lunch, and at the end of the day. Students must have a pass from a teacher in order to go to the media center during the school day. Students may check out three books at a time and may keep most of them for three weeks, renewing if necessary.

Students are responsible for the safe return of all materials signed out to them and all items should be returned on time, since report cards are held for overdue books. Replacement fees will be charged for lost or damaged items.

#### **INTERNET USE**

FCPS policies for student use of computers, including the media center computers, are as follows:

- Students MUST be supervised by their teacher.
- Students CANNOT download anything onto the computer.
- Students must be logged in to their FCPS account at all times while at school.
- Students must follow the guidelines laid out in the [Usage Agreement Form](#) at all times.

#### **HEALTH ROOM**

An emergency information sheet will be provided to each student at the beginning of the school year to be completed by a parent/guardian. Every student must have an emergency sheet on file. The emergency information sheet will help the school locate parents/guardians in the event a student becomes ill or is injured. Please contact the health room and the Guidance office if information changes.

A full-time health technician staffs the health room. The technician works under the direction of a registered nurse who has responsibilities at several other schools. The health technician distributes medication and assists ill or injured students. **Students leaving early due to illness must sign out with their parent/guardian through the health room and the Main Office.**

All non-prescription and prescription medications require a written order by a physician or other licensed health care provider. If the medications are to be given at school, **the physician and the parent must complete a "Prescription Medication Form" that is available from the health room. Prescription medicines must be in a correctly labeled pharmacy bottle. Non-prescription medicines must be in the original container.** Students are not allowed to carry medications (prescription or non-prescription) on their person, in backpacks or purses.

If you have questions about the policies or have health-related concerns, please contact the Health Technician or Registered Nurse at 240-236-4691.

## **ACTIVITIES/PROGRAMS**

### **GRADE LEVEL FIELD TRIPS**

Grade level field trips may be taken at various times during the year. These trips will be enrichment activities for the essential curriculum and are designed to reinforce positive school participation. If students choose not to participate, they are expected to attend and participate in a regular school day.

### **MUSIC/THEATRE ARTS PROGRAM**

Students participating in performance classes are required to participate in evening performances. Unlawful absences from these performances will result in a one-letter grade reduction. Performance dates will be published in advance so that transportation arrangements can be made.

### **BEHAVIOR**

Behavioral expectations in a variety of actual school settings are taught to all students. Appropriate student behaviors are practiced, acknowledged and rewarded.

At New Market Middle School our motto focuses on SHARP (Safe, Honest, Accountable, Respectful, Prepared). In order to reinforce appropriate behavior, the **SHARP** process is followed. This process involves the following steps to address inappropriate behavior school-wide:

- Step 1: Official warning to student of expectations
- Step 2: Parent phone call and written reflection
- Step 3: Teacher led response and parent phone call
- Step 4: Intervention with counselor or behavior support specialist and parent phone call
- Step 5: Office referral and parent phone call

Data collected is used to make adjustments that will foster the development of more appropriate behavior. During the year there are also incentives and rewards to encourage and recognize positive behavior.

### **ELT TIME**

In keeping with FCPS Middle Schools, ELT Time (**Extended Learning Time**) has been built into the NMMS daily schedule.

#### **What is Extended Learning Time (ELT)?**

Within each FCPS middle school, students benefit from a 30-minute period of time that allows them to receive individualized instruction that meets their academic needs, as well as, to receive the structures and supports needed to meet the needs of the adolescent learner. This 30-minute extended learning time increases instructional time for students and teachers and allows teachers time to provide enrichment, extension and intervention within their respective curriculum and area of expertise.

Finally, the ELT period within the middle school schedule allows for staff to meet the needs of adolescent learners in a less formal setting. **Lancer Time** is provided in order for students to develop a positive relationship with a trusted adult at the school. This time

period allows students to receive support and encouragement academically and socially, to develop positive habits such as goal setting and time management, and to celebrate personal achievements and appreciate differences and similarities in others.

### **STUDENT GOVERNMENT**

The NMMS SGA is a student elected, student run, student organized, student motivated, and student driven organization. The purpose of the SGA is to serve the student body of NMMS by making our school and community a better place for all people. Elections for officers and representatives are held in the first term of each school year. Students aspiring to be members of the SGA must be self-motivated and maintain a 2.0 grade point average, exemplify the pillars of character, and exhibit exemplary behavior in and outside of the classroom. The General Assembly will meet once a month to plan projects and upcoming events. Members of the SGA may be required to participate in activities beyond the school day.

### **YEARBOOK**

The yearbook staff at NMMS produces a hard cover yearbook that all students may purchase. Opportunities to pre-purchase these books occur in the fall. This is the best way to guarantee that a yearbook is available for each student. When the yearbooks arrive toward the end of the school year, there are only a few available to purchase on a first-come, first-served basis.

### **PARENT AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

#### **School Website**

- [www.fcps.org](http://www.fcps.org)
  - Click on "schools" tab
  - Scroll down
  - Click on NMMS website

#### **Find Out First**

- Electronic announcements, updates, and information sent directly to your e-mail account
- Receive current, up-to-the-minute information from FCPS and NMMS
- Weekly newsletters and announcements are shared
- Register on Find Out First by accessing the FCPS and NMMS websites

#### **Schoology**

- On-line teacher grade books that allow parents and students to access grades in real-time
- Can be accessed through the FCPS and NMMS websites
- Students and parents will receive login information for both sites at the beginning of the school year

#### **E-mail**

- All teachers have e-mail accounts and check them regularly throughout the day
- Teachers' e-mail addresses can be accessed through the NMMS website

#### **Weekly Newsletter**

- A weekly newsletter containing important information about NMMS via Find Out First and NMMS website

#### **Volunteer Opportunities**

- Guest Speakers
  - NMMS welcomes guest speakers during class time and during ELT
- Tutors
  - NMMS welcomes tutors who are willing to share expertise with individual students and/or small groups
- Chaperones
  - NMMS welcomes parents to chaperone fieldtrips, dances, and other school functions
- Clerical
  - NMMS welcomes parents to assist teachers and other staff with the clerical functions that are required to support student learning

Contact the PTSA Parent Volunteer Coordinator for more information.

#### **NMMS PTSA**

- The PTSA's mission is to "support and work on behalf of children and youth in schools, in the community, and before government bodies and other organizations that make decisions affecting children."
- The PTSA provides many opportunities for members to be active and participate at NMMS
  - General meetings to gain and share input and insight
  - Informative newsletters and announcements
  - Fundraising
  - Informational, educational, and other special events and evenings for parents
  - Volunteerism
  - Don't forget to join the PTSA

### **Transforming Teaching and Learning (all NMMS students will be assigned a Chromebook) - Frequently Asked Questions**

#### **What are the benefits of a Chromebook?**

- Makes a 21st century classroom possible
- Fosters student ownership of their own learning

- Gives student access to real time information
- Provides smooth transition between home and school
- Supplements school resources and equipment

#### **How will my child be using the device during the school day?**

Students will use the assigned school Chromebook to complete activities in class, complete homework, collaborate in real time, research projects, access Web sites with curriculum-related content, keep track of classroom assignments or record journal entries and other approved instructional activities.

#### **What about security/theft/damage?**

Students are responsible for the device. Students are responsible for the security of the device. If not in use, students must keep their Chromebook in the provided case and in a locked locker. If the device is damaged or not working properly, go to the User Support Specialist located in the Media Center.

#### **What is the policy on charging devices while at school?**

Devices must be charged overnight to be able to be used throughout the instructional day.

#### **What applications/software will be used in the classroom?**

Classroom lessons will be tailored for the technology that all students can access.

#### **What happens if the Chromebook breaks while in school?**

The student will take the Chromebook to the User Support Specialist's office, located in the Media Center.

#### **Will the Chromebook be protected with Internet content filtering?**

To facilitate instruction and practice Internet safety, FCPS's Internet connection is protected by an Internet content filter. Cellular data plans do not use FCPS's Internet connection and, therefore, do not use FCPS's Internet content filter. Students should only use the FCPS WiFi Internet connection while on FCPS property.

### **NMMS Positive Behavior Pledge**

1. I will be a SAFE student.
2. I will be an HONEST student.
3. I will be an ACCOUNTABLE student.
4. I will be a RESPONSIBLE student.
5. I will be a PREPARED student.

I have read and fully understand my rights and responsibilities as a student as outlined in this document and in the *FCPS Calendar Handbook*. Because I come to school focused on learning and because I am a respectful member of the NMMS community, I am committed to helping create a welcoming, disciplined, and healthy school environment.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

2023-2024

# New Market Middle School

## Jr. Lancers

Every job is a self-portrait  
of the person who did it.  
Autograph your work with  
excellence.

- Jessica Guidobono

“We are what we repeatedly do; therefore  
Excellence is not an act but a habit.”

~ Aristotle