

**ENOSBURG FALLS MIDDLE SCHOOL
PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK
2016-2017 CALENDAR**

RESPECT

CONSISTENCY

COMMUNICATION

Mrs. Rachel Reynolds, Principal
P.O. Box 417
Enosburg Falls, VT 05450
802-933-5354 ext. 211; fax: 802-933-5013
ms.ehornets.org
rreynolds@enosburgk12.net

Important information to keep handy:

Website - ms.ehornets.org - Lots of important information, such as homework calendars, schedule of events, sports calendars, and much more.

Teacher e-mails and phone extensions:

Middle School Phone Number - 802-933-5354

Principal: Rachel Reynolds: rreynolds@enosburgk12.net - ext. 211

Administrative Assistant: Kelly Gervais - kgervais@enosburgk12.net - ext. 200

Guidance Counselor: Kimberly Thibodeau - kthibodeau@enosburgk12.net - ext. 233

Math: Samantha Fletcher: - sfletcher@enosburgk12.net - ext. 226

Social Studies: Kerry Flieger - kflieger@enosburgk12.net - ext. 225

Language Arts: Daniel Clarke - dclarke@enosburgk12.net - ext. 227

Science: Todd Rohlen - trohlen@enosburgk12.net - ext. 230

Reading: Keeli Garceau - kgarceau@enosburgk12.net - ext. 229

6th grade: Science, Math: Amber Farnham - afarnham@enosburgk12.net - ext. 231

6th grade: Social Studies, Language Arts: Randy Swainbank - rswainbank@enosburgk12.net - ext. 224

Special Education: Tom Kafka - tkafka@enosburgk12.net - ext 129

Nicole Howrigan-Fehr - nhowriganms@enosburgk12.net - ext 229

Karen Powers - Planning Room Coordinator - kpowers@enosburgk12.net - ext 128

If you would like to see our child's grades and attendance on-line please contact Kelly Gervais at 933-5354 or via e-mail.

Principal's Message to Parents & Students

August 2016

Dear Students and Parents/Guardians:

Welcome to a new year of learning and growing at Enosburg Falls Middle School! Welcome back to our returning 7th and 8th grade students, and welcome to our incoming 6th grade students!

We are going to have a great year here full of new challenges and opportunities. EFMS is proud to offer a unique middle school experience where students become known as individual learners and where they can develop their own personalities and abilities. As you may know, middle school is a time of great transition and growth. Students change outwardly in appearance, and that is matched by many internal changes in emotional and social development. It is a critical time in life where students begin to reflect on their identities, their learning styles, and their preferences. Because of these changes, students will often try out new ways of acting or behaving, and they may test boundaries as they work to learn who they are and where and how they fit into the world. At EFMS, we take great pride in our awareness and effort to nurture these transition years, to support students as necessary, and to help them develop positive habits and empowering views of themselves.

Students: Remember that you are responsible for your learning and your actions. The adults in your life are here to help guide and support you during these exciting middle school years, but you are ultimately in control of your own destiny. Be positive, open to new ideas and ways of thinking, respectful to yourself and others, and willing to learn. If you do, you are sure to have an outstanding school experience.

Parents/Guardians: Your involvement with your child is absolutely critical. At the middle level, students often start seeking more privacy and seeking greater independence. Respect this growth, as it will help them develop skills to become successful and independent, but do not forget that your involvement is still extremely important, as you are your child's first and most important teacher, and your influence sets the stage for all other things. Remember that you are a powerful role model and that they will do as you do and not always as you say. You can show your child your belief in their education by making sure your child is in school and ready to learn each day, is reading at home, and by setting up a specific homework routine. It is also important to keep lines of communication open with your child's teachers. Finally, remember that in these transition years, it is important not to over-schedule your child in activities. Sometimes less is more, and by prioritizing your activities, you will show what is most valued in the home.

Please feel free to contact teachers with any questions or concerns you might have. Our entire team wants to work with you to ensure your child's success. All teachers can be reached by calling (802) 933-5354, or by email. Staff emails are first initial, last name @enosburgk12.net. You can also contact me with questions or concerns at the same number, or by email at reynolds@enosburgk12.net. We are looking forward to a great 2015-2016 year--let's make it a success for everyone!

Rachel Reynolds
EFMS Principal

OVERVIEW OF THE ENOSBURG FALLS MIDDLE SCHOOL

Philosophy

We view the Middle school program as a developmental bridge between elementary school and high school, specifically focused on young adolescents, and their special learning, social, and personal needs.

Enosburg Falls Middle School programs and practices have been developed to enable students to become independent, responsible learners who can think critically and creatively. We believe this goal can best be accomplished through an educational partnership of parents, educators, students, and community members working together.

We strive to provide a relevant curriculum that meets the specific needs of young adolescents. Classroom practices in all subjects are

designed to reinforce skills in reading, writing, listening, speaking, research, problem solving, technology, and the arts. The core courses at Enosburg include Writing, Math, Science, Social Studies, and Reading.

In addition, middle school is a time to address personal and social needs that are important to students of this age. Health and physical education and co-curricular activities appropriate to the development of the adolescent and exploratory courses in art, home economics, industrial arts, computer skills, and career awareness are offered as well as other subjects of interest. By the time students leave middle school, they are well prepared for success in high school and as proactive citizens.

Mission Statement

The mission of Enosburg Schools is to create an environment conducive to the expansion of knowledge: the learning of technical, creative, and academic skills; and the appreciation of cultural diversity. This environment shall empower students to realize their potential in cooperation with peers, educators, parents, and the community.

Student Code of Conduct

- 1. I am responsible for my actions.**
- 2. I will respect others, their belongings, and myself.**
- 3. I will cooperate with others.**
- 4. I have the right to a safe pleasant learning environment AND the responsibility to contribute to a positive learning environment.**

OUR SCHOOL

The School is supported by community taxes. Please share the pride we feel and help keep our building looking its best at all times. All students are expected to conduct themselves as young women and men, in a manner that will not offend any other person.

ENOSBURGH SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

Lori Perley

Chad Lovelette

Michael Wright

Michael Howrigan II

Suzanne Hull-Parent

TEAMING IN THE MIDDLE SCHOOL

To help students adapt and develop, the middle school uses a team approach to instruction. The current teams consist of five teachers who share all of the 7th and 8th grade students and two teachers who share all 6th grade students. Middle school classes are taught in a specific part of the school building and the teachers share a common planning time. Through teaming, teachers are able to coordinate instruction in language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies, and to vary, as needed, the size of groups and the amount of time used for instruction. Teachers on a team may specialize in one or two subject areas, but also collaborate with other team members to better ensure student learning. We have teacher advisories that consist of 6th, 7th, & 8th grade students. These advisories allow students to feel a sense of belonging to their advisory. Parents have the opportunity to talk with all of their child's teachers during the team's planning time and/or during parent - teacher conference day.

The Enosburg Falls Middle School Community
Middle School Staff

Core Team Members

7/8 Language Arts Mr. Daniel Clarke

Mathematics Ms. Samantha Fletcher

6/7/8 Reading Ms. Keeli Garceau

Science Mr. Todd Rohlen

Social Studies Mrs. Kerry Flieger

Special Education Mr. Tom Kafka
Mrs. Nicole Howrigan-Fehr

6th grade Mr. Randy Swainbank
Language Arts & Social Studies

6th grade Mrs. Amber Farnham
Science and Math

Exploratory Teachers

Family & Consumer Sciences Mrs. Kaye Mehaffey

Physical Education Mr. Matt Luneau

Art Danielle Berg & Mrs. Carly Brossard

Chorus/Drama Ms. Rachel Sherman
Commuter Applications Mrs. Carly Brossard
Health Mrs. Jessica Leo

Guidance Mrs. Kimberly Thibodeau

Para-Educators Mrs. Cindy Dudley, Ms. Penny Lumbra

Mrs. Joanne Fuller, Mrs. Sonia Holmes,
Mrs. Kasey Ede

Nurse Mrs. Kelly Cota

Mrs. Dianne Tibbits

Administrative Assistant Mrs. Kelly Gervais

Planning Room Coordinator Ms. Karen Powers

Core Team Biographies

****My name is Rachel Reynolds and I grew up in Randolph, Vermont. I was an avid gymnast when I was growing up and I spent most of my time as a child and teen training and competing. I participated in gymnastics all throughout high school and part-way through college as well. After attending college at Saint Michael's College in Colchester, VT, I started my education career as a 9th grade ELA teacher at Champlain Valley Union HS. Following that experience, I taught 7th grade ELA for six years at Missisquoi Valley Union Middle School in Swanton, VT. When I'm not at school, I'm often outside. In the winter I ski and snowboard with my husband, and in the spring, summer, and fall, I like to hike, swim, and run. I also love to travel and read. I'm so excited to be coming back to EFMS for another great year with students and staff!**

****My name is Tom Kafka. I grew up in a small town in Massachusetts. I received my Masters degree from the University of Maine and have over thirty years of teaching experience. I have also taught skiing in Colorado, been a city parks foreman and city hall janitor, done landscaping and tree service work, and have years of dairy, fruit, and vegetable farm experience. I'm the very proud father of twin boys who are now in graduate schools. I have taught at the middle school level in Enosburg since 1988 and love encouraging kids to be the best that they can be! We have a great community here and I'm proud to be a part of it.**

****My name is Randy Swainbank. I have been teaching since 2003. I currently teach 6th grade social studies and language arts. I live in Enosburg with my wife and three children. I graduated from Champlain College with an Associates Degree in Law Enforcement and Johnson State College with a Bachelors Degree in Education. I have also coached varsity boy's soccer since 1993, and I have coached here in Enosburg since 1997.**

****My name is Kerry Flieger and I was born and raised in Sharon, Massachusetts. Ever since I was little, I wanted to be a teacher. My younger sister and I spent many hours in our basement playing school with our stuffed animals. In 1997, I graduated from St. Michael's College with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in History and Secondary Teaching License. I joined the Enosburg Falls Middle School faculty in 2000. My husband, Scott, and I live in Bakersfield with our 3 daughters, Sophie, Emily, Charlotte, and our dog, Bandit. Time is flying by and Sophie is now 10, Emily is 7, and Charlotte is 4. Needless to say, the Flieger household is a busy and happy place. I am excited for another school year and look forward to learning with you!**

****Hello! My name is Todd Rohlen and I have been teaching here at Enosburg since 2007. I have also taught in Winooski, Chicago, New York and did outdoor education in Maine for Outward Bound. I have a BS in forest biology with a wildlife biology minor from UVM and my Masters in teaching from National-Louis University in Chicago. I live down in Jeffersonville with my wife, Tracy, our daughter Neva and too many pets . I hope everyone had a great summer and is ready for another exciting year!**

****My name is Keeli Garceau and I am the Literacy Specialist at EFMS. I live in St. Albans with my husband Derrick and my daughters Vivien and Victoria. In the summer you can usually find me in my backyard, or on the lake playing in the sun. During the long winter months I enjoy skiing, sewing, or trying new recipes for my family and friends. Some of my favorite young adult books include The Outsiders, Nothing But the Truth, Flipped, and Tuck Everlasting. These are just a few books that I enjoy reading and discussing with my students. I'm looking forward to another great year at EFMS!**

****My name is Dan Clarke and I'm excited to return to EFMS for another year of teaching 7th and 8th grade Language Arts classes. Originally from a small town in central Massachusetts, I settled in Vermont after earning my Master's degree in English from UVM, and I currently live in Burlington. Before moving to Vermont, I earned my undergraduate degree in English from Clark University (no relation!), studied historical documentary filmmaking at George Washington University in Washington, D.C., and taught high school English for eight years back in my hometown. I've also taught at the university and community college levels. In my free time you can usually find me reading in downtown Burlington, hiking the mountain trails of this beautiful state, or sitting on my couch cheering for (OK...yelling at) the Boston sports teams. I think we have a really good thing going here at Enosburg Falls Middle School, and I'm proud to be a part of it!**

****My name is Samantha Fletcher (the old Ms. Corvino) and I am excited to be returning for my fifth year at Enosburg Falls Middle School. Although originally from NY, I graduated from Slippery Rock University in Pennsylvania and moved to VT shortly thereafter. Working the Afterschool program and teaching dance at Electric Youth Dance Company in St. Albans keeps me really busy outside of school hours. I also love to cook, bake, and play with my cat Timmy and my dog Tasha! This summer was the best summer yet having got married, traveling to Ohio, traveling to Aruba, and moving into our new house. Despite the best three months of my life, I eagerly anticipate the start of the new year and hope to learn as much from the kids as they will from me.**

****My name is Kim Thibodeau and I'm excited to join the Enosburg Falls Middle School team, this year, as your school counselor! I earned my M.Ed. in School Counseling from University of Massachusetts Boston and have counseled students in Texas, New York, Massachusetts, and Vermont. In my free time, I enjoy spending time with my friends and family, playing with my rescue pup Hudson, baking, kayaking/SUPing, and hiking the Green and White Mountains!**

****My name is Nicole Howrigan-Fehr. My husband and I are fortunate enough to have two amazing and beautiful little girls- Piper, 4, and Willa, who was just born in March. I love spending time with my family, gardening, sports, cooking, laughing, and crazy adventures with my girls! I have spent the last four years as a Special Educator at Bakersfield Elementary Middle School. I am looking forward to the year ahead here at EFMS.**

ENOSBURG FALLS MIDDLE SCHOOL: School-Wide Behavior Rubric

Administration reserves the right to modify consequences pending the severity of behavior.

(T)= Teacher Action

(A)= Administrative Action

(Tech)= Technology Department Action

SPECIFIC BEHAVIOR DESCRIPTION	1 ST CONSEQUENCE	2 ND CONSEQUENCE	3 RD CONSEQUENCE	4 TH CONSEQUENCE
AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR (A) Swearing/ Teasing/ Exclusion/Rude/Disrespectful Behavior	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written warning. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One silent lunch. • Student calls parent. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three silent lunches. • Student calls parent. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After three instances an individual plan is developed.
AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR (A) Aggressive Physical Contact/ Aggres- sive Horseplay/Throwing Objects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One silent lunch. • Student calls parent. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three silent lunches. • Student calls parent. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two days s. lunch, no snack, no before school. • Student calls parent. • One day detention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After three incidents an individual plan is developed.
AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR (A) Confirmed Bullying or Harassment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three silent lunches. • Student calls parent. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Silent lunch for one week. • Student calls parent. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two days s. lunch, no snack, no before school. • Student calls parent. • One day detention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After three incidents an individual plan is developed.
AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR (A) Fighting/ Severe Hitting/ Threats of Violence/ Severe Harassment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One day in-school suspension. • Three days no snack, s. lunch, and no before school activity. • Student calls parent. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two days in-school suspension. • Five days no snack, s. lunch, and no before school activity.. • Student calls parent. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-school suspension until individual plan is developed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-school suspension until individual plan is developed.
iPad Misplacement/ Inappropriate Care & Handling of the iPad. Or... Overly Distracted/ Off task use	§ Warning (write-up to Opportunity Room).	§ 1 Silent lunch (A) § Student notifies par-ents. (T)	§ 45 min after school detention (A) § Student notifies par-ents (A)	§ After three instances an individual plan is developed which may include suspended use of the iPad. (A,T,

SPECIFIC BEHAVIOR DESCRIPTION	1 ST CONSEQUENCE	2 ND CONSEQUENCE	3 RD CONSEQUENCE	4 TH CONSEQUENCE
				Tech)
iPad Emailing/ Chatting/ Texting During Class	§ Warning (write up to Opportunity Room)	§ Relevant apps are deleted, iPad level dropped one level (T) § Student notifies parents. (T)	§ 3 silent lunches (A) § iPad dropped a level (A) § Email closely monitored for one week. (A/ Tech)	§ After three instances an individual plan is developed which may include suspended use of the iPad. (A,T, Tech)
iPad Changing Priority Settings/ Adding Non-School Email Accounts/ Downloading Non-Authorized Apps	§ Warning (write up to Opportunity Room) § Student calls parent	§ Relevant apps are deleted (A) § iPad level dropped one level (A) § Student notifies parents.	§ 3 silent lunches, iPad dropped a level. (A) § iPad checked weekly for one quarter. (A, Tech)	§ After three instances an individual plan is developed which may include suspended use of the iPad. (A, Tech)
iPad Downloading Illegal Music/ Inappropriate Video/ Or Accessing Inappropriate Content	§ Warning (Pending Severity With Lesson on Legal/Appropriate Internet Usage. (T & Tech)	§ Relevant apps are deleted (T) § iPad level dropped one level (T) § Student notifies parents. (T)	§ 3 silent lunches (A) § iPad dropped a level (A) § iPad checked weekly for one quarter (A/ Tech) § Internet Restricted.)	§ After three instances an individual plan is developed which may include suspended use of the iPad. (A,T, Tech)

<p>Disrupting teaching or learning/ignoring school or classroom procedures or teacher directions, low-level vandalism. (after in-class interventions have been exhausted)</p>	<p>§ Warning (T)</p>	<p>§ In-class separate seating/removal (T) § 1 Silent lunch (A) § Student notifies parents. (T)</p>	<p>§ 45 min after school detention (A) § Student notifies parents (A)</p>	<p>§ Two 45 min detentions after school. (A) § Parent conference (A & T) § Behavior plan made (A & T) § Loss of school privileges (A)</p>
<p>Substantially late to school in the morning unexcused.</p>	<p>§ Warning (T)</p>	<p>§ 1 Silent lunch (A) § Student notifies parents (T)</p>	<p>§ 3 Silent lunches (A) § Student notifies parents. (A)</p>	<p>§ 1 in-school suspension (A) § Parent conference (A & T) § Behavior plan made (A & T) § Loss of school privileges (A)</p>
<p>Substantially late to class unexcused; traveling in building without pass/permission</p>	<p>§ Warning (T)</p>	<p>§ 1 Silent lunch (A) § Student notifies parents (T)</p>	<p>§ 3 Silent lunches (A) § Student notifies parents. (A)</p>	<p>§ 1 in-school suspension (A) § Parent conference (A & T) § Behavior plan made (A & T) § Loss of school privileges (A)</p>
<p>Cell phones or other electronic devices on used during class</p>	<p>§ Warning (T) § Item confiscated (T) § Student retrieves item at the end of the day (A)</p>	<p>§ Item confiscated (T) § Parent notified to pick up item in office (A)</p>	<p>§ Item confiscated (T/A) § Parent notified to pick up item in office (A) § 45 min detention (A)</p>	<p>§ Item confiscated (T/A) § Parent notified to pick up item in office (A) § Required “check-in” at start of school (A)</p>

<p>Plagiarism/Cheating (passing in work that is not your own, Copying another's homework), Lying or Forgery</p>	<p>§ Student notifies parents (T&A) § Lesson on plagiarism/lying/forgery(A) § Redo assignment for late credit (T)</p>	<p>§ 1 Silent lunch (A) § Student notifies parents (T) § No credit for assignment (T)</p>	<p>§ 3 Silent lunches (A) § No credit for assignment (T) § Parent conference (A&T) § Loss of school privileges (A)</p>	<p>§ 1 day in-school suspension (A) § Parent conference (A&T) § Behavior plan made (A&T) § No credit for assignment (T) § Loss of school privileges (A)</p>
<p>Possession and/or Use of Tobacco (A)</p>	<p>§ 3 silent lunches § Student notifies parents § Mandatory education with SAP</p>	<p>§ 1 day ISS § Parent conference</p>	<p>§ 2-days ISS § Parent conference § Individual Plan made</p>	
<p>Stealing (A)</p>	<p>§ Suspension with parent conference § Item replaced or restitution made</p>	<p>§ Multi-day suspension § Parent conference § Loss of school privileges</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">X</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">X</p>
<p>Severe Vandalism/Graffiti (A)</p>	<p>§ Suspension with parent conference § Restitution made § Community service</p>	<p>§ Multi-day suspension § Parent conference § Restitution made § Community service § Loss of school privileges</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">X</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">X</p>
<p>Possession of a Knife/Multi-Tool With a Blade. (A)</p>	<p>§ Item confiscated § Student notifies parents § Written warning issued</p>	<p>§ Item confiscated § 5 day out-of-school suspension (minimum) with parent conference</p>	<p>§ Item confiscated § Student suspended and brought before the school board for an expulsion hearing</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">X</p>

Behavior

1x

2x

3x

4+Terms:

A Days	B Days
8:15-9:10 (Exploratory) 55 minutes	8:15-8:45 (Intervention/SSR) 30 minutes
9:15-10:10 (C1) 55 minutes	8:45-9:40 (C4) 55 minutes
10:10-10:15 (Snack) 5 minutes	9:40-9:45 (Snack) 5 minutes
10:15-11:10 (C2) 55 minutes	9:45-10:40 (C3) 55 minutes
11:10-11:45 (Lunch) 30 minutes	10:40-11:10 (TA) 30 minutes
11:50-12:20 (Intervention/SSR) 30 minutes	11:10-11:45 (Lunch) 30 minutes
12:20-1:15 (C3) 55 minutes	11:50-12:40 (C2) 55 minutes
1:15-2:10 (C4) 55 minutes	12:45-1:45 (C1) 55 minutes
2:10-2:47 (TA) 37 minutes	1:50-2:40 (Exploratory) 50 minutes
	2:40-2:47 (TA) 7 minutes

Dress Code:

The following policy on clothing apparel and accessories will be enforced at EFMS. Students are expected to dress in a respectable fashion. While you and your family are generally free to determine your appearance in school, there are items of clothing and accessories that are unacceptable.

Examples of clothing considered to be unacceptable include:

- ❖ **Tank tops (with less than 2 inch wide straps)**
- ❖ **Tube Tops**
- ❖ **Tops baring midriffs, back area or cleavage**
- ❖ **Underclothing may not be exposed in any situation**
- ❖ **Shorts or skirts which are shorter than extended fingertips**
- ❖ **Clothing that exposes large areas of skin; ie, cutouts or holes in jeans or skirts, low cut tops, or low rise pants**
- ❖ **Clothing that advertises, promotes or depicts alcohol, tobacco, and/or illegal substances**
- ❖ **Items that display vulgar, offensive, or demeaning language**
- ❖ **Jewelry or accessories deemed potentially dangerous or disruptive**
- ❖ **Boys wearing sleeveless shirts must not have excessively low-cut sleeveless shirts**

Students must not be barefoot.

Students in violation will be given the choice to change their clothing and/or a phone call will be made to parents, and/or students will be sent home to change their clothing

*****Please Note: Students may wear steel toed boots provided they are being responsible when wearing them. Should a student damage or deface school or student property using steel-toed boots, that student will no longer be permitted to wear them in the Middle School.**

PARENT PARTICIPATION

The role of parents in the middle school philosophy is imperative for a successful student experience. We have decided upon the following beliefs that we have regarding our parents. We hope that you feel comfortable within the school community and find time to contribute your talents.

- We believe that all parents have areas of knowledge and expertise that will enrich the lives of our Middle School students.
- We hope parents will play an active role in what their children are doing and in what the school is doing for and with their children to promote a positive atmosphere for everyone.
- We hope parents will suggest ideas for activities and projects to include in Middle School programs.
- We believe that parents can be our best advocates in the community, and that their involvement will effectively inform the community about our school.
- We want to involve parents in all aspects of middle school life including curriculum, communication, vision, special events, fundraising, the arts, athletics, School-to-Work, facilities, and as classroom volunteers.
- We hope parents will attend conferences, meeting and other forums currently established to meet the educational needs of individual students.
- We believe that Middle School parents and community members should become involved in the Parent's Group, which is a great forum for developing greater parent involvement in the Middle School.
- We know that personal contact is an important component in helping people feel that they are part of the plan. We need to organize early parental contact from the teachers to the parents and from the parents to each other to bring everyone together in a way that makes each individual feel that he or she is an integral part of the process.
- We believe that parents themselves should help identify and define ways to participate in all aspects of our program.

Exploratory Classes

Exploratory is a cycle of elective classes that all students may experience during their middle school years. The courses are physical education, art, foods, sewing, band (including drums, jazz band, and music media), chorus, health, and guidance. The goal of each of these courses is to have students glimpse at other areas in which students could pursue careers. Certified teachers teach the courses and grades are awarded.

Library

Students will be using the library individually, as a class, or before and after school. Our library has a number of holdings for research such as periodicals, Internet connections, and resource materials. Every student who is enrolled in the school is permitted to check out certain materials. If a student does not responsibly care for materials or return them promptly, these privileges may be suspended.

We invite community members and parents to use the library as long as each individual checks in at the main office and with Angel Harris, our media specialist. The library is a quiet place. The emphasis is on learning in the library. This is accomplished by quiet research, study, or reading activities.

Guidance Services

The Guidance counselors assist students in their transition in to high school and out into the world of work. Mrs. Deuso who works half-time with the middle school, is available for assistance with everything from career and post high school planning to personal or family problems that may be affecting a student's ability to learn.

SPECIAL SERVICES

Extra Help

Teachers are available before and after school. Students are encouraged to see their teachers to take advantage of this opportunity. Teachers are also available to help students during study halls if schedules allow.

Special Education Services

Students with disabilities that prevent or limit success in the regular education programs are eligible under state and federal guidelines to receive special education services and accommodations. These students will receive extra help in remedial and regular education classrooms. Mr. Kafka and Mrs. Howrigan work with students in the middle school. Students receive assistance in reading, writing, math, and other core courses, as well as in study skills and organization. Students with behavior, hearing, and vision disabilities may also be eligible to receive help under this program.

Act 504

This is a Federal Civil Rights Law, which entitles people with disabilities to have necessary accommodations at jobs, in school, and in communities. These accommodations are intended to make all aspects of life accessible to all people. Act 504 is not the same as “special education” which provides specifically and individually designed supports in education. Mrs. Deuso is responsible for monitoring Act 504 provisions.

Act 230

This is Vermont Regular Education law, which requires schools to assist students who need a little extra support in order to succeed in school. Accommodations for students as well as an instructional support team can be established for students who are failing or at risk of failing. An Educational Support Team (EST) is made-up of the student’s teachers, parents, and usually, the student, to design a plan to help the student at risk of failing. Mrs. Reynolds is the Act 230 coordinator.

FERPA

Under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, or FERPA (Act 20), parents have the right to: inspect and review their children’s records, seek amendment of the record if it is inaccurate or misleading, consent to disclosure of personally identifiable student information (except as it is provided in C.F.R Section 99.31), and, if they believe the act has been violated, file a complaint with the Family Policy Compliance Office of the US Department of Education. School employees who can access a student’s record are those with “legitimate educational interests”. These people are typically the school administration, classroom teachers, special educators, and guidance counselors.

Other student directory information that is released is typically to celebrate students in our school. Honor Roll lists are published quarterly in the paper and on the website, as well as names of those students who are participating in school clubs, teams, or events. According to Act 20, “Parents/legal guardians have the right to refuse the release of particular or all directory information on their own children”. If you would like to refuse the release of some or all directory information for your child, please do so on or before 9/4/2015

Para-educators

These individuals work with students individually, in the classroom. The individual attention they can provide is invaluable. For many students, the patience and support of para-educators makes all the difference in their educational experience.

MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES

Parents are encouraged to contact teachers at any time. They can leave a message for any teacher at 933-5354. One conference time has been established for the school year. Conferences occur after school to accommodate parents. In addition, individual conferences will be scheduled to accommodate parents who so request. Every effort will be made to schedule parent meetings during common planning time.

Individual Education Program (IEP) and Education Support Team (EST) meetings are scheduled throughout the year to discuss students’ progress.

NEWSLETTER

The Middle School Team will help publish a newsletter to be mailed to parents with report cards and progress reports.

SCHOOL WEBSITE

The middle school has developed our school website as a resource for students, teachers, and parents alike. On our site we have links to teacher web pages, school policies, and homework calendars that are updated by teachers daily. You can also find general school announcements on our website, as well information about testing results and our progress in relation to “school improvement.” You can access the website at: ms.ehornets.org or by going to ehornets.org and clicking on the middle school banner in the middle of the page.

SCHOOL CLOSINGS

You will receive a phone call through our alert now system letting you know of school closings and delays. You can also be notified by the following radio and TV stations:

WOKO 98.9 FM

WEZF	92.9 FM
WLFE	102.3 FM
WWSR	1420 AM
WCAX	Channel 3
WPTZ	Channel 5

The Start and Finish of the Day

Classes for the middle school will begin at 8:10 this year. The day finishes with another bell at 2:47. At this time students leave their classes, go to their lockers, and leave the building. If students choose to remain after school for extra help, extra-curricular activities, or any other school sponsored activity, an adult must supervise them.

Each school day includes, one 10-minute break in the morning, and a 30-minute lunch period. There are two types of days: A & B. Each Middle School student will have 4 core classes: Math, Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies.

Arriving to School Late

If a student comes to school tardy, he/she should go immediately to the Middle School Office to receive a pass admitting him/her to class. Students requesting an early dismissal during the school day must present a written request to do so from a parent/guardian before period one begins. The request must indicate the reason and the date of the early dismissal request, and must be signed by a parent/guardian. If a student has 3 unexcused tardies they will have a lunch detention for each one thereafter.

Lockers

Students will be assigned a locker at the beginning of the year, and must respect the right of each student to have a safe, secure place to store books and other necessary items. Teachers will help incoming students learn to manipulate the locks on their lockers. Remember that lockers are school property and may be opened for safety reasons. Please note that students are liable for the cost of repair for any intentional damage to their locker.

Students will be able to go to their lockers only at designated times during the day.

The School Nurse

The Nurse and the Nurse's Assistant are available for all students throughout the day and offers assistance to students when they are injured or feeling ill. The Nurse is also available for information on a wide variety of teen-related topics such as depression, suicide, eating disorders, harassment, cleanliness, and more. The School Nurse will require a health permission form from each student at the beginning of the year. It is imperative that the form be returned to the school as soon as possible because it contains emergency contact information, medical complications information, and permission to administer over the counter medications through the nurse's office.

Dispensing of Medication to Students

The Prudential Committee will permit the distribution or dispensing of medical supplies or medication by approved personnel who are employees of the Supervisory Union on school property during the regular daily schedule. Those authorized by the Prudential Committee will be building principals or their specific designated representative for each occasion. The school's nurse shall be responsible for the general oversight of medication and health programs. The Nurse shall be the only person to give injection or supervise self-administered injections. The following procedures shall be used in the administration of this policy:

- Prescription medication and over the counter medicine will be dispensed to students.
- Written orders from a physician must be issued to the school stating: diagnosis, name of medication and dosage, time the medication is to be administered, date medication is to begin and end, adverse reactions that should be reported to the physician, and special instructions. For the administration of the drug, including storage, sterile conditions, etc.
- Written permission from the parent and/or guardian must accompany physician orders and medication.
- Medication is not to be taken without the above information.
- Advil and Tylenol will be given if emergency for is current.
- Medication must be sent to school in an original container appropriately labeled by a pharmacist or physician. Medication is not to be sent in tissue, plastic wrap, etc.
- Parents will furnish all prescription medication.
- The student is to bring the medication, physician orders and parent permission slip to the Health Office.
- The school nurse will check the authenticity of medication. If further clarification is needed, the parent will be contacted.
- All medication will remain in a locked cabinet in the nurse's office.
- It is the student's responsibility to report to the nurse's office when medication is due to be given.
- An adult must dispense all medication.
- Records will be kept on a medication sheet, which includes: date, time, student, medication, and initials of person dispensing medication.
- The student is not to take any medication without proper authorization from the nurse or office.
- Medication taken over a prolonged period should be sent to school with more than one dose. The orders and parents' note should explain this.
- Students taking prolonged medication will have their parents notified by the school when a refill is needed.

Homework

Homework is an essential element in a student's education. Homework is the display of understanding of the particular skill taught that day or during a unit. This meaningful homework will be assigned to students and will be recorded by teachers. It is the responsibility of the student to complete all homework assignments to the best of their ability. Assistance is available to students with homework questions and problems immediately after school upon request.. We also have a system which gives the students a mandatory homework session on Wednesdays. Parents will be notified each Tuesday afternoon via email and alert now phone message if their child is required to stay after.

Grading

Grades are assigned to help students and their parents measure progress in school. The Enosburg Falls Middle School uses a numeric system for reporting performance. The following scale is used:

A+ = 97 to 100	B = 83 to 86	C- = 70 to 72
A = 93 to 96	B- = 80 to 82	D+ = 67 to 69
A- = 90 to 92	C+ = 77 to 79	D = 63 to 66
B+ = 87 to 89	C = 73 to 76	D- = 62 to 60
		F = 59 and below

Lunch

Lunch is a thirty five minute period scheduled from 11:10AM - 11:45AM for middle school students every day. Parents and students do have the option of paying for many lunches at one time. Checks can be written to Enosburg Falls Food Service Program for the amount of lunches you would like to purchase. Students will be assigned a personal identification code, which they will enter when they buy lunch. The account is automatically credited for one lunch.

Bullying and Harassment

Here at EFMS our staff is committed to taking a strong stance against bullying and harassment in our school. We work very hard to create and maintain a positive learning environment, and recognize the negative impact bullying and harassment can have on student learning. We have multiple resources in place to help students who feel they have been the target of bullying or harassment, and encourage students to seek out our school counselor, opportunity room coordinator, principal, or their teachers when they have a concern. We offer opportunities throughout the year for students and parents to learn about more of these issues, and emphasize the development of positive peer relationships in our teacher advisory groups and in our middle school guidance classes. If parents have a concern that their child

has been the target of bullying or harassment in the school we encourage them to contact the planning room coordinator, guidance counselor, or principal at 933-5354.

Enosburg Falls Town Schools has an established policy for bullying and harassment. Parents and students are encouraged to view the entire policy which can be obtained in the main office of the school, or online at www.FNESU.net.

Students, Parents, and Staff

Student planner

Additional information about rules, regulations and expectations, as well as further information about daily life, can be found in the first 20 pages of the Student Planner. Each student will receive a copy of the Student Planner on the first day of school. We encourage all students and parents to thoroughly review the information contained in that document.

You will find the following information in the Student Planner:

3. A letter of welcome
4. The EFMHS Mission Statement
5. Student Rights and Responsibilities
6. Discipline: Behavior and Consequences
7. Extra Curricular Activities including Fundraising
8. Guidance Services
9. Academic Issues such as cheating, plagiarism, homework, etc.
10. Non-Discrimination Notice and School Board Policy
11. Procedures and Bus Misconduct

Since this information is extremely important for the maintenance of a balanced community, all parents/guardians are encouraged to discuss each of these topics with their Middle School student.