

Frequently Asked Questions from our Normal Park Museum Magnet Families

- What should I expect on the first day of school?
 - We understand that the first day of school can be a very nervous time for both adults & students. It is our goal to make this transition as smooth as possible for everyone involved.
 - We highly encourage families to attend the Meet and Greet that occurs a few days before school begins. This is a wonderful opportunity for the family to view classrooms, meet teachers and room parents and drop off school supplies.
 - On the first day of school, if you choose to walk your child into the building, we encourage students in Grades 1-3 to be dropped off in the auditorium. There, they will be seated with other students in their grade and then teachers will retrieve them by classroom from the auditorium when the bell rings. Students in Pre-K must always be signed in to their classrooms by an adult. K students may be walked to their classrooms during phase-in days which occur during the first week of school. After phase-in is complete, we ask that ALL students in grades K-3 report either to the cafeteria for breakfast or the auditorium until the bell rings for dismissal to classrooms.
 - We recognize that hugs & pictures from the first day of school are a tradition. We encourage you to take pictures outside the building as the dinosaur on the front lawn makes a great photo opportunity! Hugs on the front steps or right outside the auditorium doors are a great idea. We do ask that you please not congregate outside the auditorium doors as the hallways become very congested as teachers are trying to escort their students to the classrooms.

- What is the best way to get my student to class each morning?
 - The car rider line is a wonderfully efficient way to get your child to school each morning. Teachers & staff are on hand to help your student out of the car with a smile and help guide them to either the cafeteria or auditorium until the bell rings.
 - Since we are a neighborhood school, we do realize that many families take advantage of walking to campus. This is great exercise! We do ask that you please escort your student to either the cafeteria or auditorium and not directly to the classroom.
 - The mornings are a busy time for everyone in the building, especially the teachers. They are working quickly to get set up for the day, so that they can provide a wonderful day of learning for your student. Unless you have pre-arranged an appointment with your teacher, please do not enter the classroom in the mornings or try to have a conference with the teacher as students are arriving. In the event that your student's teacher needs to be given an urgent message, please come to the front office and check in with the school secretary who will assist you in getting that information to the teacher.

- What is the best way to pick up my student in the afternoon?
 - The car rider line is a quick and efficient way to pick up your child in the afternoon! Teachers & staff are on hand to help your student into your vehicle safely for the ride home. While the line does look long at times, please know that it does move very quickly.
 - For families wanting to take advantage of walking their student home from school, we have a walker dismissal available on the front steps of the school at 3:10pm. Parents should line up so that students can be dismissed by staff on a first come, first called basis.
 - For students who need to stay at school after dismissal, we have School Age Child Care (SACC) on site in the cafeteria. You must register for this program ahead of time, in order to utilize it. The registration forms and fee schedule can be found by clicking [here](#).

- Where is my child's classroom or related arts classroom located in the building?
 - Attending the Meet and Greet event, before the first day of school, is a great way to see where classrooms are located in the building. If in doubt, please call or stop by the front office and we will be happy to assist you!

- What happens if my child has lice?
 - If your student is found to have live lice, we ask that your child go home for treatment. There are many treatment options available that can be purchased over the counter. Some of the brands that we have heard parents speak highly of are Rid and Fairy Tales. It is important to treat the live bugs and then remove all nits from the hair shafts. Pay close attention to hair around the ears and at the nape of the neck. Nits attach to the hair close to the root near the scalp. They are very small and will either be somewhat opaque or clear, dependant on if the egg has hatched. Unlike dry scalp, nits will not fall off the hair shaft when touched. They must be slid off with fingernails or a very fine-toothed comb. It's very important to vacuum all car seats, bedding, furniture and other items that your student comes in contact with, if it cannot be washed and dried or treated with lice spray. Your student must be re-checked in the office before returning to class after treatment. It is also very important to re-treat your student's hair in 7 days after the first treatment. This will help ensure that any missed hatched nits are eradicated. To avoid lice, spraying your student's hair and backpack with tea tree oil, eucalyptus oil or another over the counter product will deter lice from attaching. We also discourage the sharing of coats, hats, scarves and backpacks among students.

- How do I turn in my volunteer hours?
 - If you are attending a PTA meeting, scheduled weekend Work Day or other event that supplies a sign in sheet for volunteers, your volunteer hours will be recorded from those sheets. For ALL OTHER types of volunteer opportunities, including classroom work (on site & take home),

donations for various events and other things, please fill out the “Record of Magnet School Parent Service Hours” form. These forms can be found on the table outside the auditorium doors, in the Parent Volunteer Coordinator’s office and in some classrooms. Once you fill out the form, please send it to school in your student’s folder or drop it off in the Parent Volunteer Coordinator’s mailbox in the front office. Forms are approved and processed once they reach the Volunteer Coordinator’s office.

- What can I do to earn volunteer hours?
 - There are MANY different ways that you can earn volunteer hours for your family! Please check out the [ABC’s of Volunteering](#) information to get some ideas on how you would best like to volunteer.

- Am I allowed to eat lunch with my student?
 - Yes! We ask that you please contact our cafeteria manager at 423-209-5902 and make a reservation, if you plan to eat from the cafeteria food. We want to be sure that is enough food for everyone. If you have a question about what time your student eats lunch, please contact the front office at 423-209-5900.