

EDS Middle School Program - Parent and Student Handbook

The philosophy of EDS is to have as many parents volunteering in the classrooms as possible in the hope of creating a learning environment that is developmental and provides multiple learning opportunities to each student at their level of need. It is an expectation that this continues through a student's entire education, Kindergarten through Eighth Grade, while enrolled at EDS.

EDS Middle School Students have a seven period day beginning with an Advisory Period. Because of the size of the program and the focus on integration of curriculum across subject areas, students will often spend more than one period with the same teacher. The following classes are required for all students:

Reading Mathematics Language Arts Science Social Studies Physical Education *Elective

***Electives:**

Students may choose either a year-long elective or are placed in a trimester elective wheel. Priority for selecting electives is given to 8th graders first, followed by seventh and then sixth graders. Electives meet every day each week. To ensure all students are progressing, a student may be pulled out of their elective class for targeted instruction addressing content needing to be reviewed.

Elective choices for the 2016-2017 School Year include:

Band (full year)	Yearbook (full year)
Orchestra (full year)	STEAM Wheel
Spanish A and B (full year)	AVID (full year – 8 th only)

ADVISORY PERIOD: Students will be placed in multi-grade advisory groups with the same teacher for all of 6th, 7th, and 8th grade at EDS. The advisory curriculum will include support for students in the areas of time and task management, study habits and skills, conflict management, leadership, community service, etc. Advisory is a credit/no credit period. The community service requirement is a large part of the advisory curriculum and time served is documented by the advisory teacher. **In addition, the community service requirement in advisory needs to be met in order to qualify for participation in all honor roll activities.**

P. E. INFORMATION:

All students are required to dress out every day, except those with physical disabilities or a doctor's excuse. The uniform consists of a shirt, shorts, athletic shoes and socks and will be available for purchase during the first week of school. Students are expected to clean up before changing back into school clothes and must provide their own combination lock and towel. Sweatshirts and sweatpants are optional.

Bell Schedule – M, T, TH, F

Advisory	8:15 – 8:25
Period 1	8:27 – 9:12
Period 2	9:14 – 9:59
Break	9:59 – 10:18
Period 3	10:18 – 11:03
Period 4	11:05 – 11:50
Lunch	11:50 – 12:30
Period 5	12:30 – 1:15
Period 6	1:17 – 2:03
Period 7	2:05 – 2:50

Shortened Wednesday Schedule

Advisory	8:15 – 8:25
Period 1	8:27 – 8:55
Period 2	8:57 – 9:25
Period 3	9:27 – 9:55
Break	9:55 – 10:10
Period 4	10:10 – 10:38
Period 5	10:40 – 11:08
Period 6	11:10 – 11:38
Lunch	11:38 – 12:18
Period 7	12:18 – 12:45

EDS HOMEWORK PLAN, HOMEWORK GUIDELINES AND PROMOTION REQUIREMENTS

EDS Homework guidelines are in line with the **Moreland School District homework policy**, and include:

- **Purpose:** EDS staff assigns students relevant, challenging, and meaningful homework assignments that reinforce class assignments and help them develop independent study skills.
- **Time Guidelines:** Students are expected to spend on average a total of 60-120 minutes per day on homework. Occasionally a major project may require more time. Actual time required to complete assignments will vary with each student's study habits, academic skills and selected course load. Teachers will coordinate projects, homework, tests and assignments to remain within the average daily homework time guidelines. Each teacher, or teaching team, will provide a class syllabus which states their individual homework expectations and grading policies. This will also be posted on each teacher's website.

- **Individualized Homework:** When appropriate, teachers will make every effort to differentiate homework assignments to meet the needs of an individual student.
- **Honor Roll:** At the end of first and second trimester all students earning a 3.25 G.P.A. (Grade Point Average) and have fulfilled their community service hours for each trimester are eligible for participation in the Honor Roll field trip. For the third trimester honor roll field trip student eligibility is based on a 3.25 G.P.A., in addition to an expedited completion of the community service hour requirement. Again, all community service hours must be accounted for and recorded with the advisory teacher to determine eligibility.
- **Accountability:** Students are accountable for turning in homework and notices that are to be read and signed by parents and returned to school. Each teacher’s classroom website will be updated regularly so students and parents can confirm homework assignments and check progress towards report card marks from home.
- **End of the Year Promotion Events:** 8th grade students must have at least a 2.0 grade point average their third trimester in order to be eligible to attend the end of the year events as related to promotion. In addition to this, they must exhibit appropriate behavior throughout the year and follow the Easterbrook Discovery guidelines for student conduct.

COMMUNITY SERVICE REQUIRMENT: All students are expected to participate in some kind of community service during each school year. **This requirement relates to activities students will experience in their advisory classes, in addition to being a requirement in terms of qualifying students for participation in Honor Roll and other events.** To complete this requirement, opportunities will be provided both on and off campus in a variety of service areas. Information regarding opportunities, timelines and requirements will be sent home early in the school year, in addition to being posted on the Community Service board.

	Trimester #1	Trimester #2	Trimester #3
6 th Grade	2 hrs	3 hrs	2hrs
7 th Grade	2 hrs	4 hrs	3 hrs
8 th Grade	3 hrs	6 hrs	4 hrs

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

Students are expected to follow the behavior expectations outlined in the **Middle School Behavior Contract** and to follow **all school rules and dress codes described in this handbook**. Students who do not follow these guidelines, **may receive one or more of the following consequences in no particular order:**

WARNING

TEACHER ACTION (such as a call home, changing seat, work duty during break, etc.)

REFERRAL TO THE OFFICE

DETENTION OR ISOLATION FROM OTHER STUDENTS

LOSS OF PRIVILEGES (such as dances, assemblies, field trips)

SUSPENSION FROM CLASS

SUSPENSION FROM SCHOOL

EXPULSION (Permanent removal from our school or district.)

Husky Pride: The EDS Staff has identified three school-wide behavior expectations for all students, K through 8th grade. All students are expected to behave in a **SAFE** manner, are expected to behave **RESPONSIBLY** and are expected to be **RESPECTFUL** towards all they interact with, including themselves.

EDS Tardy Policy: Students are expected to follow their school schedule in a timely manner. Instruction starts immediately at the beginning of each period so any missed time affects individual learning as well as the learning of others. If a student is not in their seat at 8:15 they will be marked tardy. Tardies to school are documented in a student’s permanent attendance record. For students who are tardy to and from class, any of the following consequences may or may not be put in place: student conference, parent contact, lunch detention assigned, or administrative intervention.

EDS Classroom Behavior Policy: Students are expected to follow school rules outlined in this handbook and communicated on the Husky Pride poster posted in each classroom and throughout the school. Classroom disruptions will not be tolerated as they disrupt learning for all. For students who choose to disrupt class, any of the following consequences may or may not be put in place: student conference, parent contact, lunch detention assigned, or administrative intervention.

EDS Dress Code: Students' clothing and general appearance must be clean, safe, and appropriate for school. Students must wear appropriate shoes at all times. We expect everyone to follow good taste; do not come to school in any clothing which is disruptive or may make it difficult for you OR others to learn. IF WE DETERMINE THAT CLOTHING IS INAPPROPRIATE, you may be sent home or required to change into clothing provided by the office. Clothing that is never permitted includes:

- Pajama pants or tops
- Halter, spaghetti, and strapless tops or belly shirts (straps on tank tops and dresses for girls must be two inches wide)
- Tanks tops or muscle shirts deeply cut under the arms
- Sagging pants (Wear a belt)
- Revealing, see-through clothes or low cut tops
- Short skirts or shorts (use the fingertip test: Skirts or shorts must be longer than the tips of your longest fingers when your arms are at your side.)

Remember: The dress code applies for all school activities including evening and weekend events.

MIDDLE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

After School Sports: This program is sponsored by the Moreland School District. There is an athletic fee for participating in after school sports that helps support league fees and district transportation to the sporting event. All students will take district buses to all sporting events under the supervision of the team coach, while parents are required to pick up after the event. In 2017-18, sports will include (but may not be limited to) Cross Country Running (co-ed, no cuts), Girls and Boys Basketball, Girls and Boys Soccer, Track and Field (co-ed, no cuts), and Girls and Boys Volleyball. All students on teams MUST have either private or school insurance. In addition to the above requirements, **all athletes must maintain a 2.0 G.P.A. in order to participate in athletic events.**

Dances: Student leaders and staff will work together to plan and put on Friday night dances periodically throughout the year. Dance tickets MUST be purchased **before the evening of the dance. All students must be in good behavior standing in order to attend dances. Any student suspended prior to a dance is ineligible for participation. Parents must park and check out students promptly when the dance ends. Students will not be released without an adult. Any student who is not picked up 15 minutes after the end time will not be eligible for the next dance.**

Student Leadership: It is our goal for every student to take on a leadership role of some kind during each year. Leadership opportunities may include student leadership teams, Advisory Rep. Council, Cornerstone, Big Buddy Peer Support Program, leading school events, leading community service activities, etc.

Clubs and Student Activities: Activities offered will be based on interest and availability of volunteers to facilitate these activities. Activities and club ideas may include Math Olympiad, Spanish Club, Drama Productions, Homework Club, Music Club, Film Club, Choir, and other enrichment activities.

Field Trips: All grades participate in curriculum-based field trips during the year. These curricular based fieldtrips **ARE NOT OPTIONAL** attendance as they fall within the school day. Students are expected to behave as responsible citizens while off campus and to take the learning objectives of the field experience seriously.

Spirit Days and Lunchtime Activities: Students will have opportunities to celebrate school spirit on fun Spirit Days throughout the year as well as participate in fun lunchtime activities led by staff and classmates.

All activities are privileges. In order to participate, students must maintain the behavior standards outlined in the Middle School Behavior Contract signed at the beginning of the year by students and their parents, not have any suspensions on their record and be in good behavior standing with all teachers.

Please review with your student and keep this handbook for your information throughout the year.

Go Huskies!