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Dear Warrior Families:

We are so excited to send this letter out to you, as it means it is August, and the first day of the 2023-24 school year is a few weeks away! We are thrilled to welcome back our students, both returning and new, to what promises to be a year full of growth, learning, and opportunities. First and foremost, we want to express our gratitude for your continued trust and support in our school. It is with your involvement and dedication that we can create an enriching and nurturing environment for our students to thrive.

As we embark on this journey together, we want to assure you that we are committed to providing the best possible education and ensuring the safety and well-being of our students. Our faculty and staff have been working diligently over the summer to prepare engaging lesson plans, innovative learning experiences, and a welcoming campus for your children.

Throughout the school year, we will focus on fostering a culture fulfilling the Warrior Way of respectfulness, responsibility, and kindness. We will also focus on cultivating a culture of curiosity, critical thinking, and collaboration. Our aim is to empower students to become well-rounded individuals who are not only academically proficient but also compassionate and responsible citizens of the world.

Please read through the following information to help guide you and your student through the start of the school year.

Building Hours: The main entrance doors will open at 7:10 am.

Orientation:

Who: 7th grade students and parents/guardians When: Monday, August 14th, 2023, 5:30-6:30pm Where: JH/HS Cafeteria

Who: 9th grade students and parents/guardians When: Monday, August 14th, 2023, 7:00-8:00 pm Where: JH/HS Cafeteria

Parking Permit Pick-Ups:

SENIOR Parking permit distribution: Tuesday, August 15th, 6:00-8:00 am JUNIOR Parking permit distribution: Wednesday, August 16th, 6:00-8:00 am SOPHOMORE Parking permit distribution: Thursday, August 17th, 6:00-8:00 am **Any student in grades 10-12 who is unable to pick up their parking permits during their grade's scheduled time may pick up their permit during Open House or from 7:00 am-2:00 pm daily until the start of the school year.

Student Schedule Pick-Up/Open House:

Student schedules may be picked up from 4:30-6:30 pm on Thursday, August 17th. Open House will be from 4:30-6:30 pm on Thursday, August 17th.

Back to School Forms: All students are required to have their Back to School forms filled out by a parent/guardian. These forms can be found on the <u>OneView Portal</u> under Parent Resources on the Northwestern Local Schools website.

Agenda:

Students in grades 7th-8th are required to purchase a hard-copy of the agenda for \$9.00. Students in grades 9th-12th have the option to purchase an agenda from the front office for \$7.00. ALL student agendas will be posted on the school's website and in Google Classroom for easy access to all students.

Breakfast/Lunch:

Breakfast will be served in the cafeteria this year from 7:10-7:25 am.

Breakfast prices remain unchanged from last year at \$1.65

Lunch prices have increased marginally to: \$3.10

Money may be added to your student's account through your <u>PaySchools</u> account. Applications for Free-Reduced Meals are also available online. If you would like to apply for a fee waiver, please indicate that on the application when prompted. If you need assistance, please contact 937-964-1318 ext. 3500.

Counseling Department:

Ms. Poynter (A-K):(937) 964-1324, ext. 2140Mrs. Fraker (L-Z):(937) 964-1324, ext. 2141

poynterr@nwlschools.org frakera@nwlschools.org

*People wanting to meet with a counselor are strongly encouraged to make an appointment prior to coming to the junior/senior high school building.

Dress:

As many of you will be "Back to School" shopping for the upcoming school year, we want to remind the students of our dress code in the student handbook, which is shared below. A common question we get is about midriffs. The expectation at Northwestern Jr./Sr. High School is when a student is standing, their shirt should meet the waistline of their pants/shorts, leaving no skin exposed. This will be shared with students at the start of the school year and will be enforced. Hopefully this provides clarity to the expectation at Northwestern with regard to this portion of the dress code.

Dress Code Standards:

<u>Hats and Head coverings:</u> Hats, hoods, head coverings, and sunglasses are not to be worn inside the building to avoid disrupting the educational program. Students may not wear any device that conceals their identity. Additionally, students may not wear a flag or flag-like apparel (for example: over shoulders or around the body).

<u>Footwear</u>: Appropriate footwear must be worn to provide for the health and safety of the student and others in the school. Please refer to individual teacher classroom expectations/rules for class/lab safety regarding footwear.

<u>Shirts</u>. Tops and Jackets: The following guidelines are established to avoid situations where shirts, tops and/or jackets materially interfere with school work, create disorder, or disrupt the educational program. The upper garment must have straps. It must also cover the entire area from armpit to armpit. The bottom of the upper garment must meet the top of the lower garment. See through or mesh garments must not be worn without coverage underneath. This is to serve as a general guideline. However, when considering whether attire creates disorder or disrupts the educational program, administrators will make a judgment on the appropriateness of attire.

Pants and Other Lower Garments: The following guidelines are established to avoid situations where pants and/or lower garments materially interfere with school work, create disorder, or disrupt the educational program. Lower garments are to be worn at the appropriate level; they should not allow any portion of the buttocks or undergarments to be exposed when the student sits, stands, raises his/her hand, or bends over. This is to serve as a general guideline. However, when considering whether attire creates disorder or disrupts the educational program, administrators will make a judgment on the appropriateness of attire.

<u>Items containing obscene, illicit or offensive writing or images:</u> A student's clothing and other personal items that include writing or images that are obscene, sexual, derogatory, discriminatory, double meaning, promote tobacco, alcohol, drugs, violence/weapons, or that could potentially interfere with school work, create disorder, or disrupt the educational program are prohibited. Suggestive phrases, designs, markings, or profanities are also prohibited this includes racially motivated phrases. Items containing the image of the confederate flag are strictly forbidden. Jewelry and Chains: Exposed chains or chains on wallets, jewelry, and other articles that present a hazard to the safety of the student or to others in the school, and are prohibited.

<u>Makeup and Hairstyles</u>: Excessive or extreme makeup, hair colorings or hair styles that interfere with school work, create disorder, or disrupt the educational program are prohibited.

Exceptions: Exceptions to the above dress code will be considered to provide for special events and to promote school spirit. Students and/or sponsors must have permission from the principal prior to the activity. **Consequences for dress code violations and/or insubordination regarding the dress code will range from minor to major in conjunction with PBIS guidelines.

We eagerly await the start of the new academic year, knowing that together, we will create a memorable and successful journey for our students. Thank you once again for entrusting us with your child's education. We look forward to a year filled with accomplishments and shared successes.

Enjoy the rest of your summer and GO WARRIORS!

Sincerely,

Rebecca Kleinhenz and Matthew Buchey

Rebecca Kleinhenz, Principal Matt Bushey, Assistant Principal