



August 4, 2023

Dear Middle School Students and Families,

We are excited about your return! As hard as it may be to believe, we will return to the swing of school in a few weeks, beginning with our Middle School Jump-Off!

For the first three days of school, MS teachers lead Jump-Off activities; **Wednesday, August 23 -Friday, August 25**, will be devoted to welcoming new students and establishing our community life. We will discuss the next steps for summer assignments; engage students in diversity, inclusion, and equity work; begin our query process; and build a profound sense of community. As we move closer to the start of school, teachers will release a detailed Jump-Off schedule. We hope that students find joy in participating in these activities the teachers work hard to plan to build community life at school.

Monday, August 28, will mark the beginning of our first quarter of academic classes. The official start time for school is 8:30 a.m., following the schedule listed below.

Monday/ Tuesday/ Thursday/ Friday	Class Period	Wednesday	Class Period
8:00-8:25	Arrival	8:00-8:25	Arrival
8:30-8:45	Morning Meeting	8:30-8:40	Morning Meeting
8:50-9:35	Period 1	8:45-9:25	Period 1
9:40-10:25	Period 2	9:30-10:10	Period 2
10:30-11:15	Period 3	10:15-10:55	Period 3
11:200-12:00.	Mon/Fri- FLEX Tue/Thu- PE	11:00-11:40	Period 4
12:00-1:00	Lunch/Recess	11:45-12:15	Quaker Meeting
1:05-1:50	Period 4	12:20-1:15	Lunch/Recess
1:55-2:40	Period 5	1:20-3:00	Flex
2:45-3:30	Period 6		

Student Schedules: Families will receive student schedules on Monday, August 14. Please contact [Lisa Bates-Glass](#), Director of Information Technology, if you have any questions.

<p>Arrival Arrive 8-8:25 a.m.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Turn into the <u>main entrance</u>.• Make a right turn to loop around in front of building A.	<p>Dismissal Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri. - 3:30 p.m.; Wed 3:00 p.m.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Turn into the <u>main entrance</u>.• Form 2 car lanes upon entering so no cars are stopped on Pleasant Ridge Road.• Take turns forming a single line when approaching the front of the school.• Pull your vehicle as far forward as you can each time; please don't stop in front of the covered area if there is room to pull forward.• Exit out the main entrance. Watch for cars from Upper School using the same exit.
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Summer Reading Reminder: Be sure you are working on completing your summer assignment! Please [click here](#) for the detailed assignment that went out earlier this summer.

Middle School Supply List

- Pencils/Erasers
- Pens
- Pencil box/bag
- Earbuds that fit in pencil pouch
- Reusable water bottle of your choice, with spill-proof caps (plastic or metal bottle, no glass)
- Any size sketchbook (if enrolled in Art)
- Metronome for at-home practice (if enrolled in Ensemble)
- PE (Physical Education): athletic T-shirt, athletic shorts or pants, and sneakers

Cell Phones & Devices with Cellular Service: Cell phones and devices with cellular service will be turned off and safely stored in the advisor's room. Students can retrieve the device at the end of their school day.

Lunch Option: New Garden Friends School partners with My Hot Lunchbox to provide a secure, fast, and easy online system that allows parents to view the lunch menu, order, and pay. This optional lunch program is open to all students from preschool-grade 12. See the [Back to School page](#) for more information and directions for creating an account and placing orders.

Student Key Cards: Key cards are distributed within the first three days of school. If you did not return your key card at the end of last year, you will not receive a keycard. If you have an NGFS keycard in your possession, bring your card and present it to your advisor, who will arrange with Hanna to reactivate your card. For a replacement key card, there is a fee of \$5.

NGFS Athletics: Middle Division sports are offered for students in grades 5-8. Junior Varsity/Varsity sports are offered for students in grades 7-12. Please visit the [NGFS Athletics webpage](#) to learn more about the sports that are offered and the requirements for participating, including required forms.

If you have any questions, please contact the Athletics Department at athletics@ngfs.org

Athletics Program Interest Meeting: Tuesday, Aug. 22, 7-7:30 p.m.

This meeting is for parents/guardians and students and is part of Welcome Night (Aug. 22, 6-7:30 p.m.). If you are interested in participating in any sport this year, please attend the Interest Meeting.

Important Upcoming Dates

- Tuesday, Aug. 22, 6-7:30 p.m. - Middle and Upper School Welcome Night and Walk the Schedule
 - Tuesday, Aug. 22, 7-7:30 p.m. - Athletics Interest Meeting
- Wednesday, Aug. 23 - First Day of School
- Friday, Aug. 25, 8:30-9:30 a.m. - New Parent Orientation
- Friday, Sept. 1 - Hopes and Dreams Conferences; No School for students
- Monday, Sept. 4 - Labor Day; School is closed
- Thursday, Sept. 14, 6-7 p.m. - Middle School Parent Meeting

For the list of Middle School Advising Groups, please see the Welcome Letter email, sent on 8/4/23 from Tanisha Jones, Head of Middle and Upper School, tjones@ngfs.org.

Please contact your student's advisor if you have additional questions. We look forward to an amazing school year!

In peace,

Tanisha Jones
Head of Middle & Upper School