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July 8, 2019,

COUGAR Students and Parents:

Welcome to the 2019-2020 school year at Zebulon Gifted & Talented Magnet Middle School (ZGTMMS)! We are excited about the coming year and we are looking forward to working with you! We want to make sure you are aware of some important information and dates. We will host our 6th Grade "Cougar Camp" for our 6th grade students August 22 8:30am-12:30pm. Middle school offers many new challenges for students coming from elementary school so we offer this opportunity for students to spend time acclimating themselves to our school. We will also host our 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade "Meet the Teacher" for parents and students August 22 12:30pm-6:30pm. This event will give students and parents the opportunity to visit the Parent Resource Center and meet your teachers in order to create connections, build open communication, and share expectations for the school year. All students must be accompanied by a parent/guardian. Please note that general school supply information for all grade levels is posted on the ZGTMMS website <http://www.wcpss.net/zebulonms>. All beginning of the year forms enclosed should be completed prior to August 22, 2019.

6th Grade COUGAR CAMP August 22 8:30am-12:30pm (Students ONLY)

During this time students will get the opportunity to meet administration, their teachers, counselors, and receive vital information that will guide them through the first day and beyond. We want students to feel comfortable in their new surroundings while creating new friendships. Our Cougar Camp gives teachers the opportunity to address normal back-to-school formalities that help focus on learning. There is no fee for this camp and lunch will be provided for students. Please go to our school website at <http://www.wcpss.net/zebulonms> and register for this wonderful event. At 12:30, parents may connect with students in the cafeteria, turn in forms, and pick up the student schedule in preparation for "Meet the Teacher".

6th, 7th, 8th Grade MEET THE TEACHER August 22 12:30pm-6:30pm

Parent/guardian with the student can retrieve the student schedule at a registration table located at the entrance of the grade level building. We ask that you turn in the beginning of the year forms completed and signed. Parents and students will follow the student schedule to meet their teachers. Each teacher will discuss curriculum, student expectations, and parent partnerships. You will rotate through each teacher session and gain the information necessary to ensure that students start off the year knowing what is needed in order to be academically successful. Please note that parent/guardian must accompany the student during "Meet the Teacher".

Parent Resource Center (Media Center)

The following information stations will also be available for parents and students August 22 12:30pm-6:30pm to assist you or answer questions that you may have: PowerSchool Parent Portal registration, PTA, WCPSS Transportation, Cafeteria, volunteer opportunities, North Carolina State University Educational Talent Search Program etc.

We hope you enjoy the remainder of your summer and are excited about the new school year.

Respectfully,

Candis N. Jones
Principal, Zebulon Gifted & Talented Magnet Middle School

ZGTMMMS FAQ GENERAL SCHOOL INFORMATION 2019-2020

Arrival and Dismissal:

School hours are from 8:15am until 3:00pm. A copy of the ZGTMMMS bell schedule is posted on the website along with other school information at www.wcpss.net/zebulonms. Students are not allowed to be dropped off on campus prior to 7:45am and must be picked up from school no later than 3:30pm.

Bus Transportation:

The south parking lot (in front of the gymnasium) is the bus arrival and dismissal area. Therefore, it will not be open to school traffic from 7:45am until 8:15am in the morning and from 2:30pm until 3:30pm in the afternoon. The bus transportation area is located in the front of the building and should not be impeded due to pedestrian or car traffic. To register for bus transportation, please log onto <http://www.wcpss.net/busrider>. **Here Comes the Bus** translates GPS data into an easy to use customizable map that works on a computer, tablet or smartphone. The app allows you to see where the bus is and how close it is to your stop. Get started with **Here Comes the Bus** at <https://herecomesthebus.com/getting-started/>. You will need the district code and your student's ID number to sign up. The WCPSS school code is 67500. For your smartphone or tablet, download the **Here Comes the Bus** app from the [App Store](#) or [Google Play](#). All other questions regarding transportation can be answered here <https://www.wcpss.net/transportation>

Car Transportation:

If you drive your child to school, you should utilize the parking lot for drop-off and pick-up located in the back of the school building. Students will not be allowed to cross the street for parent pick-up. Please follow all traffic patterns to maintain safety while on campus. Please do not drive between buses or cut in front of buses. During the times of **7:45-8:15 and 2:30-3:30 cars should not enter or exit through the front parking lot driveway, parking lot, or any other area that the buses will utilize.**

Cafeteria:

Meals may be purchased in person. However, you may also purchase meals online. With a MySchool Bucks account paying for school meals is easy. Go to www.MySchoolBucks.com or call (855) 832-5226 to enroll. You'll need your child's NCWISE ID number. Once your account is established you may: Securely deposit funds to your child's account, Check balances, Set spending limits. To apply for free or reduced-price meals, you need to complete an original application packet, which is mailed to all households with registered students in Wake County public schools and is also available at your school. October 8 the 18-19 benefits will expire. CNS Information located here: <https://www.wcpss.net/Page/1852>

Early Check-Out:

If it is necessary for a student to leave school during the day, the parent/guardian must sign the student out in the office before he/she may leave campus. If the student returns to complete the school day, he/she must report to the office and be signed back in with the parent/guardian before returning to class. All requests for transportation changes must be completed prior to 2:30pm. ALL CHECK-OUTS should be completed prior to 2:30pm.

Immunizations REQUIRED:

The North Carolina General Statutes (G.S. 130A-155) requires immunizations for every child attending public school in this state. Every parent or guardian is responsible for ensuring that their child(ren) receive required immunizations. The T-dap and the Meningococcal vaccine are requirements for ALL 7th graders.

Medications:

School staff may administer medication to students only when the Parent and Physician Order for Medication form (Form 1702) is completed by the parent and physician and present at the school. [Form 1702](#) is also available from the school. More information can be found here about Student Health <https://www.wcpss.net/Page/167>

Parent Teacher Conferences:

Please contact your child's teachers in order to set up parent teacher conferences. You may also reach out to our counselors to assist you in that process. PTC's will be held throughout the year. We have also designated three days for the school year once report cards are sent home for additional times to meet with teachers. Those dates are below and located on our school calendar.

Powerschool/Homebase:

Home Base gives parents and students access to real-time information including attendance, grades and assignments. With Home Base, powered by PowerSchool application, everyone stays connected: Students stay on top of assignments, parents are able to participate in their child's progress, and teachers can instantly share information from their gradebook

with parents and students. Families with multiple students can also set up their accounts to view all of their students at one time, with one login. All information can be here <https://www.wcpss.net/student-information>

PTA Parent Teacher Association:

One of the goals of the Zebulon GT Magnet Middle School PTA is to attain 100% membership during the 2019-2020 school year. We look forward to you joining and becoming an active participant in the association. Please contact the PTA representative at zmspta@gmail.com for questions.

School Messenger:

We send a weekly update to all parents via text or email. Please ensure that on your PowerSchools account and your data verification form that your correct email and phone numbers are listed. In addition, if you would like to receive text messages please text **YES** to the number 67587.

Volunteers:

All volunteers are required to register on the Wake County site to become a volunteer. All continuing volunteers must reactivate as a volunteer no later than October 31, 2019. You may go to any WCPSS School to register.

RESOURCE LINKS:

WCPSS Homework Resources Grades 6-8 Math <https://www.wcpss.net/Page/35763>

EL Education Parent Videos and Handouts -

- [EL Education Overview video](#)
- EL Parent Handout ([Spanish](#), [English](#))
- [WCPSS Curriculum Plan 6-8](#)

Open Up Parent Videos and Handout

- [New resource for Middle School Mathematics](#)
- [Acceleration Video for Middle School Mathematics](#)
- [Parent letter regarding new MS Math resource](#)

DATES TO REMEMBER 2019-2020

2019

August 26.....First Day of School
 September 2.....Holiday
 September 30.....No School
 October 1 - 2.....Progress Reports
 October 9.....No School
 October 17.....Parent Engagement Night
 October 30.....End of Quarter 1
 October 31.....No School
 October 31.....Parent Conferences
 November 1.....No School
 November 8.....Report Cards
 November 11.....Holiday
 November 27-29.....Thanksgiving break
 December 9 - 10.....Progress Reports
 December 20 - January 3.....Holiday Break

March 2 - 3.....Progress Reports
 March 9.....No School
 April 3.....End of Quarter 3
 April 6 – 13.....Spring Break
 April 13.....Parent Conferences
 April 16.....Parent Engagement Night
 April 17.....Report Cards
 May 1.....No School
 May 4 - 5Progress Reports
 May 25.....Holiday
 June 1.....EOG Testing Begins
 June 8.....NCFE Testing Begins
 June 12.....Last Day of School

2020

January 20.....Holiday
 January 21 - 27.....NCFE Testing Begins
 January 27.....End of Quarter 2
 January 29.....No School
 January 29.....Parent Conferences
 January 30.....Parent Engagement Night
 February 7.....Report Cards
 February 17.....No School
 February 18.....No School

