



NPMS Student Handbook

2023-2024



Mission Statement of NPMS

Middle School Mission Statement:

The New Paltz Middle School is a community of students, parents, teachers, administrators, and support staff that creates a nurturing and supportive environment where learners feel safe to set goals, achieve success, and work towards fulfilling their potential. Ideals such as compassion, empathy, lasting friendships, academic achievement, and personal growth are encouraged daily within our learning community.



“STAR - Success through attitude and responsibility”



Who's Who

Principal: Mrs. Sheldon

Assistant Principal: Mrs. Miller

Office Staff: Ms. Tripp

Mr. Russo

Ms. Tansosch

Student Support Center Staff : Ms. D'Antuono

School Counselor (A-L): Mrs. Metzger

School Counselor (M-Z): Ms. Motzkin

Social Workers: Mr. Rosenfeld, Mrs. Brown, Ms. Perez

School Nurse: Ms. Bush



Emergency Procedures



Emergency Paperwork - we must have this information before any field trips

Safety Procedures in NPMS

Fire Drills - remain quiet and follow the direction of the adult in the room

LockDowns - remain quiet and follow the direction of the adult in the room

Door safety - do not let people in the building

Drop offs/pick ups/walkers/bike riders

You may enter the building at 7:30

Bikes should be parked at the rack and locked

Use crosswalks in the parking lot - always look for cars

Use sidewalks when available

Be extra careful when crossing the street

Walkers enter the ramp door - bus riders enter the Student Support Center door

6th/7th grade go to the gym

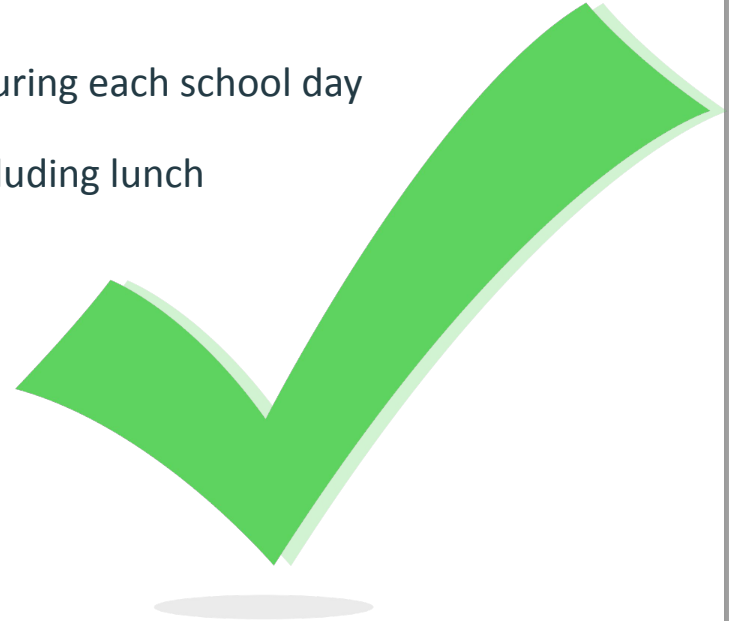
8th grade go to the auditorium



Attendance

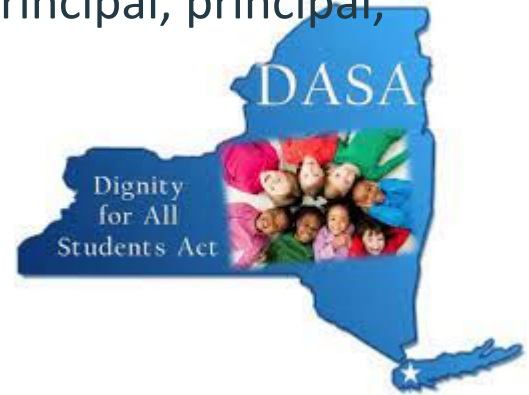
Students are expected to attend all scheduled classes during each school day

Students are expected to be on time to ALL classes - including lunch



DASA - Dignity for All Students Act

- Purpose - to provide a safe learning environment free of harassment, bullying, discrimination, etc
- What to do if you suspect bullying? - Tell someone AT SCHOOL (school counselor, social worker, teacher, assistant principal, principal, etc)
- Bullying vs a Conflict



Guidelines for NPMS

Hallways: Walk and remain on the right side of the hallways and staircases

Restrooms: Only one person is allowed in a single use bathroom or bathroom stall

Sunglasses are not permitted for indoor use, unless medically required

No Backpacks or their equivalent are permitted to be carried in the hallways or classrooms (Bags/purses that are large enough to carry an 8 ½ X 11 notebook or folder will be considered a backpack).

Water is the only beverage permitted outside the cafeteria (must be in an unbreakable and resealable container).

Water filling stations are provided.

Due to allergies, candy/gum is not permitted during the school day

Selling of items for personal profit is not permitted

Eating in classrooms is prohibited unless given permission by the staff member in charge

No Cell Phones or Personal Electronic Devices

Cell phones are put away as soon as you enter the building - in your backpack

Headphones and earbuds are to be removed upon entering the building

Once you get to your locker - Cell phones are turned off and in your locker



1st Offense – Oral Warning

2nd Offense – Cell phone (or other device) is confiscated and placed in the Main Office safe until the end of the day for the student to pick

Up

3rd Offense & beyond – cell phone confiscated, the parent contacted to pick up the cell phone

No Cell Phones on Field Trips

Cafeteria and Recess



1. Students will walk to the cafeteria, form a single file line, and arrive on time.
2. No food, beverage, or condiment may be taken out of the cafeteria.
3. Chromebooks are NOT permitted during lunch/recess and should be in your locker for safe keeping.
4. All garbage must be picked up from the table before the table is dismissed
5. Students will be dismissed from their tables when the adult in charge dismisses them.
6. Throwing of food is prohibited. Students will be responsible for cleaning up any mess that is made. Further disciplinary actions will also be taken.

Students are to go to designated areas during recess. Students found in areas off limits will face disciplinary action per the code of conduct

7. Students are not to engage in dangerous behavior and must follow the directions of the adults in charge.
8. Be respectful of each other and listen to the adults in charge

Assembly Behavior



Assemblies are valuable learning experiences and are provided as part of the school's educational and cultural program.

1. Classroom rules and regulations also apply during assembly programs. Those who attend assemblies are expected to be courteous to the performers, faculty and fellow students.
2. Students should leave books and other objects in their classrooms.
3. Students will leave their classrooms with their teachers in a quiet and orderly fashion.
4. Classes will go to their seats in a single file line and will sit with their teachers in the rows assigned to them.
5. Applause is acceptable when someone is introduced and when they have completed their portion of the program. Booing is never an acceptable response.
6. Exiting from the auditorium or gym will be done in an orderly manner. Classes should remain seated and quiet until told to exit.

*Disruptive students will be removed from the assembly and disciplinary action will be taken

Busses



Students on school buses are under the authority of the bus driver and must follow directions of the adult. School buses are an extension of school property. Therefore, all rules in effect during the school day are extended to students while riding the bus. Students may be suspended from the bus as deemed appropriate by the administrator in consultation with parties involved. If for any reason you need to take a different bus on a given day, a written note with guardian signature must be brought to the front desk in the morning for you to obtain a bus pass. A bus pass will not be issued based on verbal instructions over the phone. Once a student has boarded the bus, they are to remain on the bus and will not be allowed off without administrator approval.

Bus Passes - bring a signed note to school, give it to the front desk person, Mrs. Tansosch and you will pick up a bus pass at the end of the day in the main office.

Lockers

You are assigned to a locker

Do not share your locker with any other student

Do not share your combination with any other student

Do not store valuables in your locker

The locker is school property

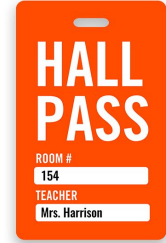
Your backpack is to be stored in your locker during the school day

You should not be going to your locker after every class - you do not have time - plan accordingly to your schedule. If you need help with organization, please ask

Do NOT shut bags in your locker - move things so they fit!



Passes



Your schedule assigns you to a definite class or area for each period of the day. If you have a legitimate reason for being elsewhere, the teacher in charge must provide you with a pass. First choice is to use your planner for this notation. Students without passes will be asked to return for a pass from the teacher who sent them out originally.

You should not be leaving classes daily or multiple times per day. Abuse of hall passes will result in pass restrictions

Code of Conduct

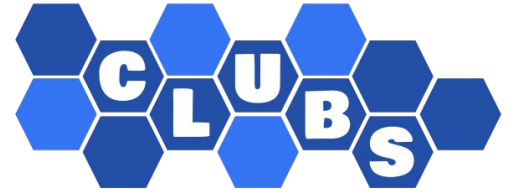
[Code of Conduct](#)

Code of Conduct



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After school clubs and athletics



Listen to announcements to hear when clubs will be meeting

All students are welcome to attend any club

7th/8th grade students can participate in sports teams

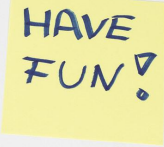
LATE BUS:

We offer a late bus everyday - you will receive a pass from the adult you were with after school

Once you leave the school campus - you cannot return and ride a late bus

There is no “hanging out” after school - you must be with an adult

Middle School Fun



Co-Recs	Skate Nights	Outdoor Movie Night	Field Day
Student Council Sponsored Events	Fun Projects and Presentations	Assemblies	Author Days
Spirit Days	Field Trips	Wellness Days	Start with Hello



Before you speak:

THINK

BE KIND

T = Is it True?

H = Is it Helpful?

I = Is it Inspiring?

N = Is it Necessary?

K = Is it Kind?

IN A
WORLD
WHERE YOU CAN BE
ANYTHING
BE KIND