



Tomah Middle School



August/September 2023 Newsletter

Dear Parents/Guardians:

I'm happy to be the first to welcome you and your child with great anticipation as we look to begin the 2023-24 school year at TMS! The summer has flown by, as it always does, and we at TMS are eager for the return of your child. I hope the summer provided you and your family many fun experiences and memories and opportunities to learn and grow. If not, summer is not over yet.

Keeping our parents/guardians and students informed is one of our priorities. Our newsletter and school website will always contain dates/times of important events that will be occurring for you and your child. In addition, TMS has its own Facebook page for those of you who use this resource. Please review the information in our newsletter and visit our website (for any additional information) so you are prepared as the school year begins.

The safety of our students is our most important priority. We, at Tomah Middle School, do all we can proactively and reactively ensuring your child has a safe and enjoyable learning environment. Even with the vigilance of our staff, we also rely on the insights of our students and parents. Please help reinforce this message with your child. Should they ever feel unsafe due to bully behaviors or other situations involving situations at school, please encourage them to speak with an adult at school. I assure you we will investigate and respond to all situations. Again, there is nothing more important to us than providing a safe and enjoyable learning environment and experience for your child. Thank you for your assistance.

One of the most important dates mentioned in this newsletter is August 10th, the date set for our Fall Rally. Paperwork can be accessed on the TASD website.

Thursday, August 10th:

Fall Rally: 11:00 am - 5:00 pm in the middle school gymnasium

Immunization Clinic: 11:00 am - 5:00 pm in the middle school cafeteria

Wednesday, August 16th:

New Family Orientation (Parents/Guardians ONLY) 5:00-6:00 pm

Tuesday, August 29th:

6th Grade Orientation @ TMS (Students ONLY) 7:55 am – 1:20 pm

We worked hard last year to create the TMS mission and vision, as well as the teachers who diligently created a list of collective commitments and our core values. Collective commitments, as shown on the following page, are the statements of the values and behaviors we, as the adults, will commit to ensure our mission and vision is achieved. We have some amazing new ways for students to show success and for teachers to guide your student in their educational journey. We are excited to share more as the year continues.

Enjoy the rest of the summer as it will be gone before we know it. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us. We'll see you at the Fall Rally, and let's get ready for a great 2023-2024 school year.

Sincerely,

Amy Langner - Principal 609-374-7884

Amy King – Assistant Principal 608-374-7883

Jared Sasada – Dean of Students 608-374-7927



TMS Mission:

High quality student learning. every child, every day.

TMS Vision Statement:

We at Tomah Middle School, with community stakeholders, aim to motivate and empower all students to succeed both academically and socially, by providing a guaranteed and viable curriculum through a strong multi-levelled system of supports. TMS will provide a nurturing and safe environment that fosters and encourages all students to become responsible and productive learners.

TMS Collective Commitments:

We commit to...

- > working interdependently in collaborative teams to ensure high quality learning for all.
- > implementing a guaranteed and viable curriculum.
- > developing and administering common assessments that accurately communicate student learning.
- > analyzing data and using best practices to monitor student growth and success.
- > providing necessary interventions in order to ensure student learning.
- > enriching and extending learning for students who are highly proficient.
- > engaging positively with our parents/guardians and our community.
- > taking responsibility for the social, emotional, and academic learning of all students.
- > creating and sustaining a supportive school atmosphere where everyone feels emotionally, physically, and intellectually safe.
- > conducting ourselves in a professional manner with integrity and honesty.
- > fostering positive relationships with all students.
- > continuing to learn and improve as professionals.

TMS Values:

- ✓ **Interdependence**
- ✓ **Integrity**
- ✓ **Compassion**
- ✓ **Inclusiveness**
- ✓ **Perseverance**



STUDENT DRESS CODE EXPECTATIONS

DRESS CODE

The Board recognizes that each student's mode of dress, clothing, and grooming is a manifestation of personal style and individual preference. The Board will not interfere with the right of students and their parents to make decisions regarding their appearance, except when their choices interfere with the educational program of the schools.

Accordingly, the Board prohibits student dress, clothing, or grooming practices which:

- » present a hazard to the health or safety of the student or to others in the school;
- » materially interfere with school activities, or substantially disrupt the educational environment; or
- » prevent students from achieving educational objectives because of blocked vision or restricted movement.

The principal or designee shall serve as the initial arbiter of student dress, clothing, and grooming.

Dress, clothing or grooming constitutes expressive speech if the individual wearing or displaying the dress, clothing, or grooming intends to convey a particularized message through the wearing or display and the likelihood was great that the message would be understood by those who viewed it. This standard shall apply whether the message is conveyed by depiction, words, or a combination of the two. If the dress, clothing, or grooming does not constitute expressive speech, it can be regulated by school officials.

Expressive speech in the form of dress, clothing, or grooming will be regulated consistent with applicable legal principles.

Expressive speech in the form of dress, clothing, or grooming prohibited if such speech is not protected by the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, such as dress, clothing or grooming that constitutes:

- » Obscenity;
- » Language or depictions intended to incite violence or incite the viewer to an immediate breach of the peace;
- » Defamation; or
- » A true threat.

Consistent with the legal parameters established under the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

School officials can also regulate and prohibit dress, clothing, or grooming containing otherwise expressive speech if the dress, clothing, or grooming:

- » Can reasonably be viewed as promoting illegal drug use; or
- » Is vulgar, lewd, indecent, or plainly offensive.

Additionally, school officials can regulate dress, clothing or grooming if they can reasonably forecast that it will materially interfere with or substantially disrupt a school activity, such an interference or disruption actually occurs, or if the expression intrudes on the rights of other students. Such prohibited dress, clothing or grooming may include dress, clothing, or grooming that includes the use of , discriminatory language including racial or ethnic slurs, or negative stereotypes, Under this standard, the wearing or display of the Confederate flag during the school day and on school property is prohibited.

No protected speech may be prohibited on the basis of disagreement by school officials with the specific point of view expressed if the topic is otherwise permitted by this policy (e.g. permitting depictions of support for one political party, but prohibiting depictions of support for the other).

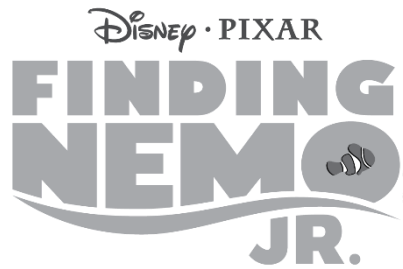
The District administration may establish the dress, clothing or grooming requirements for members of the athletic teams, bands, and other school groups when representing the District at a public event or within the context of school-sponsored and controlled curriculum or activities. Where appropriate, a uniform or specific dress, clothing, or grooming requirement shall be used for students when representing the District as described.

Students who violate the foregoing rules will not be admitted to class and may be subject to additional consequences.

If the dress, clothing, or grooming cannot be removed or concealed, the student may be sent home after contact is made with the student's parent/guardian.

[View Policy 5511](#)

Announcing.....TMS Fall Musical



20 years ago, Finding Nemo the Disney/Pixar movie came out in theatres and was loved by many. This musical adaptation of the movie is based on Disney's theatre production shows from their theme parks. Now this wonderful story of family and bravery is being brought to the stage in our schools!

Signup to audition for this year's musical at Fall Rally Day, August 10th or when school starts.

Auditions will be held on Wednesday, September 6th and Thursday, September 7th from 3:30 to 6pm. Audition signup sheets will be posted outside of the band and choir room doors. Students will audition in groups of 6 and will be expected to sing a song of their choice as well as read a portion of the script during their audition.

Cast will be posted on Friday, September 8th after school. The first rehearsal is mandatory and will be on Monday, September 11th from 3:30-6pm. We will do go over expectations, read through the full show and hand out the rehearsal schedule as well as discuss building characters, costumes, set design and props needed for the show.

We look forward to exploring the Great Barrier Reef with Nemo, Marlin, Dory, Bruce the Shark, Crush the Turtle, the Tank Gang and all the rest of the Sea Chorus. It's a great Big Blue World out there just waiting for us. If you have any questions about the audition process, feel free to call me anytime.

Lisa McCormick
TMS Musical Director
608-377-3765

Beginning Band Lessons

August 14th – 18th, 2023

Summer Band Lessons are required for all beginning band students. The first four days of lessons, students will meet in classes of like instruments. During these sessions, they will learn the basics: putting the instrument together, tone production, note-reading, and instrument care and maintenance. On the last day of lessons, all beginning band students will meet in a large group rehearsal for an introduction to what band class will be like during the school year. There is no fee for these lessons.

Attendance at these lessons is required in order to be registered for band class at Tomah Middle School.

Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday (August 14th – 17th)

8:00-9:00am	Flute Class
9:00-10:00 am	Clarinet Class
10:00-11:00am	Saxophone Class
12:00-1:00 pm	Trumpet Class
1:00-2:00 pm	Trombone Class
2:00-3:00 pm	Euphonium/Tuba/French Horn Class
3:00-4:00 pm	Percussion Class

Friday, August 18th

All students meet from 10:00am-11:00am for a large group rehearsal.

All summer band lessons will be held in the
Tomah Middle School Band Room.

If you cannot attend summer band lessons, please contact Ms. Prihoda ASAP to set up a time for her to meet with your beginning band student.

7th & 8th Grade Marching Band Camp

August 21st – 24th, 2023

Every fall, all 7th and 8th grade band students participate in marching band performances. To prepare for these performances, all 7th and 8th grade band students will need to attend the TMS Summer Marching Band Camp on the following days:

Monday, August 21st

5:30pm – 6:00pm: Percussion Rehearsal
6:00pm – 8:00pm: Full Band Rehearsal

Tuesday, August 22nd

5:30pm – 6:00pm: Percussion Rehearsal
6:00pm – 8:00pm: Full Band Rehearsal

Wednesday, August 23rd

5:30pm – 6:00pm: Percussion Rehearsal
6:00pm – 8:00pm: Full Band Rehearsal

Thursday, August 24th

5:30pm – 6:00pm: Percussion Rehearsal
6:00pm – 8:00pm: Full Band Rehearsal

Please bring your instrument and EE Book to all rehearsals. Come to rehearsal wearing tennis shoes, a water bottle (if you need it), and ready to march! If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us. Have a great summer, and we'll see you on August 21st!

Ms. Prihoda
katherineprihoda@tomah.education
(608) 374-7931

Ms. Schraufnagel
jenniferschraufnagel@tomah.education
(608) 374-1715



Tomah Area School District

Pupil Services

1310 Townline Road

Tomah, Wisconsin 54660

(608) 374-7011 Fax: (608) 374-8710

www.tomah.education

Dear Parent or Guardian:

As school nurse for the Tomah school district, I am writing to inform you about the dangers of meningococcal disease, commonly known as bacterial meningitis, a rare but potentially fatal infection that can occur among teenagers and college students. While meningococcal disease is rare and difficult to contract, it is very serious. There is now a vaccine that may help to prevent this infection.

Meningococcal bacteria can potentially be transmitted through close contact with an infected person through direct contact with respiratory and/or oral secretions from an infected person (for example, through sharing drinking containers or kissing). Teenagers and college students are at increased risk for meningococcal disease compared to the general population, accounting for nearly 30 percent of all U.S. cases every year. Meningococcal disease can be misdiagnosed as something less serious, because early symptoms like high fever, severe headache, nausea, vomiting and stiff neck, are similar to those of common viral illnesses. The disease can progress rapidly and can cause death or permanent disability within 48 hours of initial symptoms.

Up to 83 percent of all cases among teens and college students may potentially be prevented through immunization, the most effective way to prevent this disease. A meningococcal vaccine is available that protects against four out of five strains of bacterium that cause meningococcal disease in the U.S.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other leading medical organizations recommends that all 11-12 year old children should be vaccinated with meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV4). A booster shot is recommended for teens at age 16 to continue providing protection when their risk for meningococcal disease is highest. Teens who received MCV4 for the first time at age 13 through 15 years will need a one-time booster dose at 16 through 18 years of age. If a teenager missed getting the vaccine altogether, they should ask the doctor about getting it now, especially if they are about to move into a college dorm or military barracks.

For more information about meningococcal disease and immunization, please feel free to contact me directly at 608-374-7015 or visit the following websites to learn more about meningococcal disease, vaccine information, and public health resources.

- <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/vis/vis-statements/mening.pdf>
- <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/invasive-bacteria/meningitisviralbacterial.htm>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/meningitis/index.html>
- <https://musa.org/>
- <https://www.nmaus.org/>

Sincerely,

Kara Lorenz RN, school nurse

TOMAH MIDDLE SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST for the 2023-24 School Year

Note: Other materials or minor fees may be necessary based on experiences throughout the year. Your child will be notified in advance when these are needed. Many supplies like pencils, markers, glue sticks and Kleenex will need to be replenished at various times during the school year.

<u>6th GRADE</u>	
8 Spiral notebooks (one subject 3 hole punches)	1 Package of loose leaf paper
8 pocket folders (with 3 hole punches)	Kleenex (3 large boxes)
Pencils/erasers	2 Boxes of pencils for Team use
1 Pack colored pencils	Wireless mouse (strongly encouraged)
Pencil case (with 3 hole punch)	Hand held pencil sharpeners (optional)
Highlighter - non toxic	Water Bottle (must be clear or see-through)
Head phones or 2 pairs of ear buds	Binder (at least 2 ½ inches deep)
<u>7th GRADE</u>	
Spiral notebooks (one per subject)	Highlighters
Pocket folders (one per subject)	Wireless mouse (strongly encouraged)
Head phones or 2 pairs of ear buds	Glue stick
4 Packs of pencils	4-Pack of dry erase markers (for team use)
1 Pack of colored pencils	1 Composition notebook
1 pack of black or blue pens, 1 pack of red pens	Kleenex (3 large boxes for team use)
	Water Bottle (must be clear or see-through)
Organization device (of the student's choosing) such as a large binder, 8-pocket folder, trapper keeper, accordion file, etc. to help your child to organize themselves	
<u>8th GRADE</u>	
Spiral notebooks (one per subject)	Highlighters
Pocket folders (one per subject)	Kleenex (3 large boxes)
Head phones or two pairs of earbuds	TI-30 Scientific calculator (recomended)
2 Composition notebooks	3 Dry erase markers (black)
Wireless mouse (strongly encouraged)	Water Bottle (must be clear or see-through)
Pens and Pencils	Quest Art students should have a sketchbook
<u>ESS (P.E.) UNIFORM FOR ALL STUDENTS</u>	
<u>Clothing:</u> Crew neck T-shirts or sweatshirts (no sleeveless, low cut or v-neck shirts), shorts or sweat pants (no jeans shorts or pants), tennis shoes and socks; all items must meet school dress code policy	
<u>Colors:</u> Gold, black, gray or white	

* All Art students should bring an extra box of pencils to keep in the Art room.*

We often receive requests from parents wanting to donate supplies. If you wish to, we could always use your assistance for the basic supplies such as folders, notebooks, pencils, and pens or any items on this list.

Thank you!

August/September 2023 Events

Note: Please verify dates and times for sporting events on the website as they are subject to change.

Thursday, August 10 **TMS Fall Rally 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

Monday, August 14

Fall Sports Parent/Player Meeting

5:30 p.m. 7th-8th grade Football
5:45 p.m. 6th-8th grade Cross Country
5:45 p.m. 6th & 8th grade Golf
5:45 p.m. 6th-8th grade Girls' Tennis
6:00 p.m. 7th & 8th grade Volleyball

Monday, August 28

Football Practice Begins 3:30 p.m.
8th grade Football Baseline Concussion Testing – TMS 4:30 p.m.
Equipment Issued - TMS 4:30 p.m.
7th grade Football Baseline Concussion Testing – TMS 4:30 p.m.
Equipment Issued – TMS 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, August 29

8th grade Football Baseline Concussion Testing – TMS - 3:30 p.m.
Equipment Issued – TMS - 3:30 p.m.
7th grade Football Baseline Concussion Testing – TMS - 3:30 p.m.
Equipment Issued – TMS - 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, August 30

First Day of School 😊

Practice Begins:

Cross Country – TMS 3:30 p.m.
Golf 3:30 p.m.
Girls' Tennis 3:30 p.m.
Volleyball 7th & 8th grade 3:30 p.m.

Monday, September 4

No School – Labor Day

Thursday, September 7

Girls' Tennis @Onalaska Middle School 4:30 p.m.

Monday, September 11

Golf @Coulee Golf Bowl 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday, September 12

Cross Country @Sparta Meadowview 4:30 p.m.
Girls' Tennis vs. Aquinas - THS 4:30 p.m.

Thursday, September 14

7th grade Football Scrimmage vs. Onalaska – McKean Field 4:00 p.m.
8th grade Football Scrimmage @West Salem High School 4:30 p.m.
Golf vs. Onalaska - @Hiawatha Golf Club 4:00 p.m.
8th grade Volleyball vs. Sparta - TMS 4:15 p.m.
7th grade Volleyball vs. Sparta – La Grange 4:15 p.m.
Girls' Tennis vs. Logan @Forest Hills Tennis Courts 4:30 p.m.

Monday, September 18
Golf @River Run Golf Course 4:00 p.m.
Girls' Tennis vs. Longfellow – THS 4:30 p.m.
8th grade Volleyball @Holmen Middle School 4:30 p.m.
7th grade Volleyball @Holmen Middle School 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, September 19
Cross Country @West Salem High School 4:15 p.m.
8th grade Volleyball @Winona Middle School 4:45 p.m.
7th grade Volleyball @Winona Middle School 4:45 p.m.

Thursday, September 21
Early Dismissal 1:18 p.m.
8th grade Football vs. Sparta – Mc Kean Field 4:00 p.m.

Friday, September 22

No School – Cranfest



Monday, September 25

Golf @Hiawatha Golf Club 4:00 p.m.
8th grade Volleyball vs. West Salem – TMS 4:15 p.m.
7th grade Volleyball vs. West Salem – La Grange 4:15 p.m.
Girls' Tennis vs. Onalaska – THS 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, September 26

8th grade Football vs. Onalaska – Mc Kean Field 4:00 p.m.
7th grade Football @Sparta Meadowview 4:00 p.m.
Cross Country @Pettibone Park 4:30 p.m.

Thursday, September 28

8th grade Volleyball @Westby High School 4:30 p.m.
7th grade Volleyball @Westby High School 4:30 p.m.

Lunch Account Information

- Breakfast \$1.90 – Lunch \$3.35
- The September menu is available on the school website.