

VALLEY SOUTHWOODS FRESHMAN HIGH SCHOOL

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www.wdmcs.org/schools/valley-southwoods/

PLEASE READ THIS LETTER IN ITS ENTIRETY



Very Important Dates

Open House

- August 19th
3:30 – 5:30 p.m.

First Day of School

- August 23rd

Picture Retake Day

- September 30th

Dear Parents:

Welcome to Valley Southwoods Freshman High School and to the 2019-2020 school year! The purpose of this letter is to provide information to parents of incoming 9th grade students. We hope that this will provide you with several items of information, which are pertinent to the opening of this school year. If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact school personnel by calling 633-4500.

TIGER ENROLLMENT

Enrollment will be done online this year, instead of coming in to the school. The following things need to be done before school starts:

- Enroll online through Infinite Campus **PARENT** portal (this cannot be done logging in on your students Infinite Campus)
- Turn in dental form to office (faxed, dropped off, or mailed)
- Pay optional and required fees online or mail in fee statement with check

INFINITE CAMPUS PARENT PORTAL

In order to enroll this year online, you must have a PARENT portal account set up in Infinite Campus. If you have not set an account up, feel free to call the Southwoods office, during our summer hours, to get help.

TIGER ACCESS - PAYING FEES

Required and optional fees can be paid online at <http://ia-westdesmoines.intouchrecepting.com> (both required and optional fees) starting July 1, 2019, or you may mail in the fee statement with check attached to the VSW office.

SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM

You may mail in a check for lunches, with “lunch” marked in the memo of the check, or you may deposit money online through the district website, <http://ia-westdesmoines.intouchrecepting.com>. Families that wish to apply or re-apply for free and/or reduced meals will need to complete the application form. That form is available at www.wdmcs.org/departments/nutrition/free-and-reduced-lunch/. Free and reduced lunches and fees must be re-applied for every year.

BASIC SUPPLY LIST

- 2 boxes facial tissues
- 1" or 2" binder – one for each academic class
- Divider tabs for each binder
- Lined notebook paper
- Pens (blue, black, red)
- 3x5 index cards
- #2 pencils – will need to be restocked throughout the year
- Colored pencils (12 count)
- Ruler (standard and metric)
- Highlighter (several colors)
- Sticky notes
- Calculator (TI-30XIIS recommended)
- **To Kill A Mockingbird** by Harper Lee

These supplies will fulfill the basic needs of our students. There will be some specific needs based on teachers. Those items will be made known on the students first day of class. Please let a counselor know if you need help with supplies.

TRANSPORTATION

Bus passes will be mailed for those who registered for transportation. Any questions, please contact the transportation department at 633-4902. To register for busing, please go to <http://www.wdmcs.org/departments/transportation/>. Please register for transportation early, to ensure you receive your bus pass before school begins.

HEALTH OFFICE FORMS

Health updates will be done online during the online registration process.

DENTAL FORMS

All 9th grade students are required to provide proof of a dental screening, per the State of Iowa. The form is included in this packet. Dental forms can be faxed, dropped off, or mailed into the Valley Southwoods office.

COUNSELOR CORNER

Any course request for changes will need to be made on this form by going to: <http://bit.ly/CourseRequestForm>. Receipt of the automated email of your Course Change Request Form response signifies that we received your Course Change request. These will be processed as they come in and will be reflected on schedules in Infinite Campus.

STUDENT SCHEDULES:

Schedules will be available to students on Infinite Campus starting August 7th, 2019. It is strongly advised to print an updated schedule the evening of August 22nd, 2019 to ensure your student is getting the most updated schedule. Schedules will not be printed for students, so make sure students have either printed the most current schedule before the 1st day of school or have it pulled up on their smart phone. Please see Counselor's Corner in this letter, if changes need to be made to a student's schedule.

ATHLETIC FORMS/REGISTRATION

Students wanting to participate in a sport must register on Family ID at the following link: <https://www.familyid.com/valley-high-school-athletics>. **Forms are no longer turned in to the office.** Once the information on Family ID is filled out completely, and the physical examination is uploaded, the student will be placed on the roster for the sport in which they designate they want to participate. If you need a hard copy of the physical form to take to the doctor, you can find the form on the VSW website under athletics or obtain the form in our main office. If you have any questions, please contact Becky Bennett at bennettb@wdmcs.org.

OPEN HOUSE

We will hold our Open House on August 19th. This is an informal open house where parents and students can meet their student's teachers, walk their student schedule, practice opening lockers, etc. We look forward to seeing you! The office will be open during open house and counselors and administrators will be available if you have any questions.

TIGER LAUNCH - SCHOOL PICTURES/STUDENT PLANNERS/STUDENT ID's/CHROMEBOOKS

School Pictures will be taken the first day of school. Student IDs, planners, and Chromebooks will be distributed the first day of school. You no longer need to send money in with your student the day pictures are taken. When the picture proofs come back, we will deliver them to your student for them to bring home, and pictures can be ordered online at <https://my.lifetouch.com/mylifetouch/#/>. Picture retake day will be September 30, 2019.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

The Valley Southwoods office will be open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. during the summer for anyone needing to stop by to pick up or turn paperwork in, or to use computers to complete registration and pay fees.

PRINCIPAL'S COMMENTS

We are looking forward to the 2019-2020 school year. We anticipate an outstanding year. We are expecting an enrollment of approximately 700 students. If you ever have any questions, please contact our office.