



Kouts Middle/High School

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TO: Middle School Students and Parents/Guardians
FROM: Thomas Stoner, Principal
DATE: July 8, 2019

Ready or not, the school year will begin on Wednesday, August 14 at 7:45 AM. This will be a full day of instruction from 7:45-2:45. On the first day of school, all middle school students are to report to the PAR gym at 7:45.

REGISTRATION: Online registration will be open from July 15-August 1 to register returning students and to pay book rental/fees. Parents/guardians are to log in to their Skyward account to complete the online portion. Any returning student whose online registration is **not** completed by August 1 will need to have a parent/guardian register them on a school computer **by August 6. Registration at the school will be held on July 31 and August 1 from 12:00-4:00 and 5:30-7:30.** Students are encouraged to set up their lockers and practice their combinations during registration times. No students will be allowed in the building on August 12-13 except for supervised athletic activities.

MEDICAL INFORMATION: A [Medication Administration at School](#) form is needed for each student each year. The [Student Health Information](#) form is only required for the following: all 6th graders, all new students, and students whose information has changed since submitting last year's form. We will need a copy of any new immunizations received. If your student is not vaccinated, please complete the [Objection to Immunization](#) form. Return forms to the office.

PE UNIFORMS: All students are required to wear a Kouts School gym uniform for physical education classes. Those who need to purchase a uniform should order online no later than August 1 at <http://teamblythes.com> or you may purchase a uniform directly at Blythe's Team Sports in Valparaiso. The uniform fee is \$10 for shorts and \$6 for t-shirts plus tax. The fee must be paid for when ordering—state assistance will not cover the cost of the uniform. Uniforms will be delivered to the school for a nominal fee or you may pick up your order at Blythe's at no additional charge. Uniforms delivered to the school will be distributed to students during the first week of classes. Students are to wear school-appropriate shorts and t-shirts to gym class until their uniforms arrive.

BOOK RENTAL & LUNCH ACCOUNTS: Please be prepared to pay at least a portion of your book rental/fees when you register. **Corporation policy states that textbook rental/fees are due within three weeks of the first day of attendance for each family.** Families who cannot comply with this deadline **must contact the principal or bookkeeper** to establish an individual payment plan. Applications for assistance with book rental and/or lunches for families whose income is at or below standards published by EPCSC are available in Skyward during online registration and are also available in the office. The price for school lunch this year will be \$2.75 (checks are payable to **EPCSC**). Please monitor your student's lunch account in Skyward and have payment brought to the office at the beginning of the week, or you may add money to the account online in Skyward (for an additional fee).

ATHLETICS: Along with book rental, a fee for athletic transportation will be applied for students participating in sports and cheerleading. The fee will be \$15 for the entire year (unlimited sports) with the fee capped at \$45 for the entire year for a family with more than three children. The transportation fee must be paid before students can participate in away games. *All students who plan on participating in athletics must have physical, concussion, and athletic rules forms completed and on file in the Athletic Director's office before they can participate.* These forms are available on the school's website on the athletic page, at the corporation office this summer, and in the office during the school year. It is also recommended that students have a physical examination by their family physician prior to participating in physical education class.

RANDOM DRUG TESTING: The EPCSC has a \$6.00 charge to book rental/fees for participation in the random drug testing program. Participation in this program is required for students in grades 7-12 who participate in extra-curricular activities as well as in band or choir. If you filled out a [Random Drug Testing](#) form last year, you do not need to fill out another one this year, but you do need to pay the fee.

ORIENTATION: Orientation for 6th graders as well as new middle school students to Kouts School will be held on August 9 from 9:00-11:00 AM with lunch following. Drop off and pick up will be at door #4.

SUMMER BAND: The summer band program is an opportunity for band students entering 6th-8th grade to participate in like-instrument instruction to help students further develop their musical skills and prepare them for band once the school year begins. Attendance is not required but is highly recommended. Students will need to make sure they have the *Tradition in Excellence* book (red book for 6th grade, blue book for 7th & 8th grade—available at Quinlan & Fabish in Valparaiso). Summer band practices will be combined with Morgan and Washington and will be team taught by the Kouts, Morgan and Washington Twp. directors in the Washington Twp. band room July 29-Aug. 8, Monday- Thursday as follows:

9:00-10:00 – 6th grade Kouts and Washington Woodwinds (Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Oboe)
10:05-11:05 – 6th grade Kouts and Washington Brass (Trumpet, Trombone, Baritone, Tuba, French Horn)
11:10-12:10 – 6th grade Kouts and Washington Percussion
12:15-1:15 – 7th and 8th grade -Kouts, Morgan and Washington Summer Fun Ensemble

ATHLETIC PRACTICES:

7th & 8th Grade Girls Volleyball –
Aug. 8-9 from 2:00-4:00 (main gym), beginning Aug. 14 3:30-5:30 (PAR gym)

Cross Country – beginning Aug. 14 at 3:00 PM

Baseball - Middle school baseball is for 7th and 8th graders but 6th graders can practice with them as well, just not play in games. Text the code @koutsmi to the number 81010 to get enrolled in the Remind group for schedule updates.

SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST: [Click here](#) for a list of school supplies you will need.

Once again, I would like to welcome you to the new school year at Kouts Middle School! It is one of our goals at KMS to help you bridge the gap between elementary and high school. It is a time of your life when a great deal of personal development takes place. Teams of teachers will be working with your class to help with this development. Hopefully, this structure will result in more of an identity for you and your classmates. If you or your parents/guardians have any questions, please do not hesitate to call us.