



NGMS



BULLDOG



SURVIVAL



GUIDE



2009-10



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WELCOME

Ah, the new school year is finally here. If no one has already told you, let me be the first; Welcome to North Tapps Middle School. I know what you're thinking, the crowded hallways and hordes of students don't seem very welcoming at all. Don't be afraid! The students at NTMS are friendly, even if they do look a little intimidating. This year, like every other year at North Tapps, the calendar is packed full to the brim with great opportunities to learn and have fun. For after school activities, there is a wide variety of choices from which to choose. Whether it's sports, the talent show, drama productions or our many clubs, you can be guaranteed you'll never be bored. In the classroom, the teachers at NTMS are always eager to help you whenever you need help. In my first year at North Tapps, the year just flew by. All I had to do was blink and it was already summer vacation. I hope your days at North Tapps are as exciting as mine are. Hey, who knows, maybe I will be seeing you at ASB meetings if you are elected representative for your class. Remember; don't be afraid to talk to me or your Dean of Students, Mrs. Kelly. I will always be happy to help you in a time of need.

Your friend and ASB President,
Megan Lucchesi

ACADEMICS

Being a good student is important to you and to your school. It is one of the most important reasons we come to school. The staff instructs, helps, encourages, corrects, and rewards all students. If you do well in class, you receive recognition, awards, and Bulldog points. The number of points you earn depends on your quarter grade point average (G.P.A.).

All A's	4.0	100 points	3.16	50 points
	3.83	90 points	3.0	40 points
	3.66	80 points	2.83	30 points
	3.5	70 points	2.66	20 points
	3.33	60 points	2.5	10 points

ACTIVITY BUS

Students may ride the activity bus home after school activities each Wednesday. To ride the activity bus, students report to the loading area when the bell rings at 4:10. The bus will leave the parking lot at 4:15.





ALL STARS

There are many opportunities at N.T.M.S. for you. One of them is to stay an All Star. You remain an All Star by not getting a blue slip. At the beginning of each quarter everyone is an All Star.

You probably think, "So what if I'm not an All Star," but it's worth it. You get to go on field trips, and sometimes you even get to miss school and there is no homework for that day! Last year first quarter All Stars went roller skating so you get to spend your morning with your friends. Second quarter All Stars went to a Seattle Thunderbirds hockey game. Third quarter we attended a Rainiers game. The fourth quarter All Stars had a great time at school when the staff had a game night for the All Stars.

We hope that you will remain an All Star.

ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance is important for your success at school. If you have perfect attendance each quarter, you will receive 45 Bulldog points. If you have one excused absence, you will earn 25 Bulldog points.

Remind your parents that if you are:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Sick at home..... | Parent should call school office at 862-2776 and student should call a responsible friend to get makeup assignments and/or check class assignment sheets |
| Sick at school..... | Tell your teacher |
| Sick at home for 3 days... | Have your parents call and get your homework |
| Returning to school..... | Bring a note if your parents did not contact school by phone |
| Going on vacation..... | Have your parents contact Mr. Keaton for advanced permission |
| Tardy for 1 st period..... | Report to office. Excused tardies are given only for medical or dental appointments; otherwise you should ride the bus to ensure you will arrive at school on time. All tardies are recorded on a per quarter basis. |

Students who do not arrive on time will be subject to the following disciplinary steps each quarter. Here is what happens each quarter if you are tardy:

- | | |
|---------------|---------------------------------|
| First tardy: | Warning |
| Second tardy: | Warning/letter home |
| Third tardy: | Blue slip and detention |
| Fourth Tardy: | Blue slip and detention |
| Fifth Tardy: | Office referral/Honor Level III |

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

At grade level assemblies, pep assemblies, sports and club award ceremonies and at graduation students are recognized for academic achievement, sports achievement, service, and good citizenship.

BLUE SLIPS

Blue slips are part of the discipline system that is used at N.T.M.S. They are given to a student by a teacher or staff member for breaking a school wide rule. There are different parts of a blue slip. Some parts are more serious than others.

One demerit: **MODERATE TROUBLE**

A. Arrive to class on time

Three demerits: **TROUBLE**

B. Follow posted school-wide rules

C. Follow posted lunchtime rules

D. Walk through the building in an orderly manner

Five demerits **DEEP TROUBLE**

E. Respect school property and the property of others

F. Use appropriate language

G. Treat staff members with respect

H. Respect fellow students' rights and feelings

Before you are given a blue slip by the staff, you will usually be reminded that you are bothering others. If you do not change your behavior or make appropriate choices after the warning, then you will receive a blue slip.

BULLDOG POINTS

Bulldog points are earned by N.T.M.S. students by getting involved in school activities, academic achievement, good citizenship, attendance, and service to others. Each quarter your Bulldog points are totaled by the office and posted for you to see. Certificates are presented to students at the end of each year. In addition, students who earn the Ruggles G. Larson Gold Cup are recognized at graduation if they meet the following criteria:

<u>Years</u>	<u>Points Needed</u>
1 year at NTMS	1250 points
2 years at NTMS	2500 points
3 years at NTMS	3500 points

Winning the Gold Cup at graduation is a big honor!

COMPUTER LAB

The NTMS Computer Lab is open to students after school once or twice a week. The time is from 2:17 - 4:10 for student homework. All are invited to come and use the facility for a variety of computing needs. For more information contact: Mrs. Snow – lsnow@dieringer.wednet.edu

DEAN OF STUDENTS

Need to talk over a problem? Are you having a conflict with your friends? Are you having trouble making friends? Are poor grades troubling you? Do you have questions about The Standards of Excellence? Mrs. Kelly is here to serve your educational, vocational, social, and personal needs. Just fill out a “Request To See The Dean” form and turn it in to the office. Forms are located in the office, library, computer lab, and every classroom. For more information contact: Mrs. Kelly – lkelly@dieringer.wednet.edu

GOLD CUP AWARDS

At graduation students who earn a preset number of Bulldog points are awarded a much sought after graduation award, the Gold Cup Award. See Bulldog points for more information.

SCHOOL SPIRIT DAY

It can be hard to decide what to wear to school. Make it easy, wear N.T.M.S. T-shirts or sweat shirts. N.T.M.S. sells Bulldog spirit wear throughout the 1st semester. We encourage everyone to wear the spirit wear or school colors of red, black, and white, especially on Fridays.



SERVICE ABOVE SELF AWARD

The Service Above Self Award is sponsored by the Sumner Rotary. This award recognizes N.T.M.S. eighth grade students who do outstanding deeds in our school or community. Students nominate other students for this award. Staff members then select the monthly winners from the nominations. The monthly winners are invited to an awards ceremony and luncheon sponsored by the Rotary. A permanent plaque with the names of all winners is given to the school by the Rotary. Fifty Bulldog points are awarded to Service Above Self winners.

ACTIVITY	GRADE	DATES	SESSIONS	POINTS
Art Workshop	6,7,8	Sept.-Jan.	After school	10/ sessions
A.S.B Cabinet	6,7,8	All year	60	125 quarter
A.S.B Rep.	6,7,8	All year	Tuesday	Up to 100 semester
Athletics	6	All year	varies	50/ season
Athletics	7,8	All year	varies	100/ season
Band (Jazz)	6,7,8	Sept– June	8 concerts – up to	100 quarter
Destination Imagination	6,7,8	Jan.– March	varies	100 2nd q. 100 3rd q. 25 regional 50 state 50 world
Drama Club	6,7,8	Varies	Varies	50-evening perf.
Science Club	6,7,8	Oct.- March	Tuesdays Before school	Up to 100
Knowledge Bowl	7,8	Nov.– March	Varies/ After school	100 2nd q.
Math Club	6,7,8	Nov.– May	Mondays	50 2nd q. 50 3rd q. 25 4th q.
Math Relay	6	June	Field trip	25
Red Peppers	8	all year	Fridays	100 quarter
Technology Club	6,7,8	Sept– Mar.	Fridays Before school	
Veterans' Day Speech	6,7,8	Oct.– March	Assembly	50 (plus 1st=50 2nd=25 3rd=10)
Year Book	8	Sept.– Mar.	Varies	100 quarter

ART WORKSHOP

After school Art Workshop is a time to learn different art techniques and to have fun. In this art program kids get to learn how to use different materials. In Art Workshop you can make clay "death masks," paint pictures, make blockprints, clay sculptures, and more!

Art Workshop is held in room 118 and is supervised by Mrs. Lakin, the art teacher. You need to listen to the announcements but normally workshops are scheduled for one day every other week from 2:20-4:10. Workshops start in September and end in December. Mrs. Lakin has to buy supplies so Art Workshop costs \$5.00 a session. You sign up for each session separately. So if you enjoy art, come join us. For more information contact: Mrs. Lakin – dlakin@dieringer.wednet.edu



ASSOCIATED STUDENT BODY

Dear New NTMS Student,

A.S.B. is your student government. Want to voice your opinion on school activities? Here's your place to get involved. A.S.B. is a way to meet new people from every grade and become more involved with school activities. It is also vital for raising the money to allow our sports and clubs to run.

You can start off your career at North Tapps by being a class representative. In order to do this you must be elected by your social studies class. If elected, you represent your class for one semester at Student Council meetings. This means getting up earlier and actually being awake and ready to think at 7:15 every other Tuesday. After each A.S.B. meeting you go back to your social studies class and report! Each grade level also elects a class senator.

If you would like to run for an office in seventh grade, you will need ten service hours, never be on honor level 3 or suspended, demonstrate an attitude of helpfulness and leadership, meet the 3.0 grade point requirement, and purchase an A.S.B. card by the spring elections. You will also need to show that you have demonstrated leadership and helpfulness by willingly doing things like lunchroom or campus clean-up. Don't worry. It may seem like a lot of work, but it comes pretty easy.

For more information contact: Mrs. Clifford – sclifford@dieringer.wednet.edu or Mrs. Tesch - vburns@dieringer.wednet.edu

BAND

By joining band you meet lots of new kids, learn more about music, have fun, and earn Bulldog points! There are two bands: the Cadet Band for sixth graders and the Concert Band for seventh and eighth graders. They play several concerts a year. The Concert Band competes in contests with other schools and takes extra trips. Band students may arrange time before and after school with Mr. Winterfeld to receive additional help. For more information contact: Mr. Winterfeld - dwinterfeld@dieringer.wednet.edu

DANCES

Instead of having classroom parties, we have school dances. The dances are in the Commons the last two periods of the day, and the cost is \$3.00 with an A.S.B. card and \$4.00 without a card.

If you don't want to go to the dance you may go to open gym or a quiet study room at no cost. Also, at the end of the year there will be a graduation dance for the eighth graders. For more information contact: Mrs. Burns—vburns@dieringer.wednet.edu or Mrs. Clifford - sc Clifford@dieringer.wednet.edu



DESTINATION IMAGINATION

Destination Imagination is a very exciting club open to all grades. When you go to competitions you have a short-term problem and a long-term problem. The short-term problem is called an instant challenge. You are asked questions like, "What are the different things you can do with a ping-pong paddle?" There are various building, acting, and improvisation problems in the long-term competition. In recent years NTMS has gone to state competitions and the world competition. Oh yeah, if the judges are wearing big, hot pink hats or paper bags over their heads, don't worry. That's normal! For more information contact: Mr. Buck – mbuck@dieringer.wednet.edu

DRAMA CLUB

Besides our drama class, there is an opportunity for anyone in the school to try out for a play each year. The practices are held after school. So if you'd like to sharpen your dramatic talent, then listen for the announcements for play try-outs later this year. For more information contact: Mrs. MacKenzie – amackenzie@dieringer.wednet.edu

FUTURE SCIENTISTS

Future Scientists Club is an activity where you get to work on all sorts of interesting science projects just for the fun of it! Mrs. Pritchett and Mr. France will help you build and learn all kinds of cool stuff that you wouldn't normally get to do in class. We meet one day per week and the advisors have big new plans

for this year so join and have fun! Science geeks are cooler than you think!
For more information contact: Mrs. Pritchett or Mr. France -
ipritchett@dieringer.wednet.edu or jfrance@dieringer.wednet.edu

KNOWLEDGE BOWL

Do you like Jeopardy? Is your head filled with bits of trivia? Then you are going to love Knowledge Bowl! In this club you play a game like Jeopardy using trivia questions published by the Knowledge Bowl directors. You try to be the first to buzz in the correct answer for your team.

There are usually two teams, varsity and junior varsity. Competition is with teams from other schools. If you join Knowledge Bowl you earn Bulldog points and have fun. For more information contact: Mr. Rooney -
brooney@dieringer.wednet.edu

MATH CLUB

Math Club is a fun way to challenge your math skills. We play games, have thinking contests and problem solve real life situations. The club usually meets on Monday mornings at 7:00 am from November to May. It is held by Mrs. Haley and Mr. Loeber in their classroom. All grade levels are welcome. For more information contact: Mrs. Haley or Mr. Loeber bhaley@dieringer.wednet.edu or lloeber@dieringer.wednet.edu

MATH RELAY

Sixth graders only! N.T.M.S. sends two teams, 20 girls and 20 boys, to compete against many other sixth grade teams from other schools. Try-outs are based on your speed through an obstacle course and speed with basic multiplication and division facts. Your time through the obstacle course usually needs to be under a minute to qualify. It's held each spring and is a lot of fun! For more information contact: Mrs. Madden or Mrs. Rooney:
jmadden@dieringer.wednet.edu
Or esharar@dieringer.wednet.edu

RED PEPPERS

Red Peppers is our 8th grade service club. It is made up of 8th grade students who earned 750 Bulldog points and at least 10 service hours by the end of their seventh grade. To become a Red Pepper you must also have demonstrated an attitude of helpfulness and cooperation by willingly doing things like lunch room or campus clean-up and you should not have been on Honor Level III or had an office referral. Red Peppers organize and run our pep assemblies, the talent show and hold a Halloween Haunted House for the community and numerous other activities and services for N.T.M.S. For more information contact:

Mrs. Marez – kmarez@dieringer.wednet.edu

SPORTS

North Tapps Middle School offers sports at the sixth, seventh and eighth grade levels. The games are held against other schools in our area and they are played at home or away. Students may stay after to watch their friends play and cheer them on. Seventh and eighth graders may participate in: soccer (boys and girls), basketball (boys and girls), girls' volleyball, girls' fastpitch, boys' baseball, and boys' and girls' track. Football, wrestling and gymnastics are offered through the Auburn School District. Sixth graders can participate in basketball, volleyball and track at NTMS and sometimes gymnastics and wrestling at Mt. Baker Middle School. To participate in sports you must have a physical, complete all the necessary athletic paperwork and purchase an ASB card. Athletic papers are available in the office.

For more information contact: Individual coaches

SPORTS' MANAGERS AND STATISTICIANS

Students of any grade can be a sports manager and help with the teams during their regular seasons. The job that you do depends upon the coach and the sport. As a team manager or statistician you travel with the team to away games. As a manager you may fill water bottles and help with the equipment. The statistician helps with the scoring and record keeping. Managing is hard work and takes a lot of time. You may not return home from some away games until 7:00 p.m. Statisticians earn 25 bulldog points.

Being a manager has its advantages. You earn 50 Bulldog points for the season. You get to know the players and the coach. Some managers like their job very much and would like to do it again. Others can't wait to try out for the team. Managing is a lot of work, but it is fun if you "love the game." If you are interested, check with the individual coaches before the season starts.

For more information contact: Individual coaches

TECHNOLOGY CLUB

Would you like to increase your technology skills? All students are invited to join our Technology Club which meets once a week on Friday mornings in the computer lab. Students will explore many software and hardware activities that will be fun and helpful skills. Extra functions in Word and Publisher will be covered, along with video and video editing skills. Listen to announcements for Tech Club and learn something new every week. For more information contact: Mrs. Clifford - sclifford@dieringer.wednet.edu

EXPANDING YOUR HORIZONS (EYH)

Are you a seventh or eighth grade girl interested in learning more about exciting career opportunities? The annual EYH workshop gives NTMS girls the opportunity to hear from successful women involved in a wide variety of challenging jobs. Students leave school around lunchtime and travel by district transportation to this workshop held at Highline CC. For more info contact Mrs. Kelley - lkelly@dieringer.wednet.edu

WOOD SHOP AFTER SCHOOL

After school wood shop will be offered beginning 2nd quarter. The activities will include making a variety of wood projects. There will be a fee charged and the cost will depend on the project. Typical projects may include outdoor furniture, CD racks, chess boards etc. After school woodshop will be open to all students who have passed the required safety tests. The times and projects will be determined before the beginning of 2nd quarter. Contact Mr. Idso—didso@dieringer.wednet.edu

VETERANS' DAY SPEECH CONTEST

Honor our country's veterans, improve your public speaking skills, and earn Bulldog points. This contest is a great way to increase your confidence in speaking in front of a group. Students compete in two categories: Division A, the experienced speaker category and Division B, the first-time contestant category. Winners are awarded first, second, and third place in each of the categories. So listen for the sign-up announcements in October in the daily bulletin. For more information contact: Mr. Rooney – brooney@dieringer.wednet.edu

YEARBOOK

If your talents include writing and creativity, the yearbook staff is the place for you! Being on the yearbook staff is fun, but hard work. You gather ideas, take pictures, and design layouts for the annual. It takes about forty meetings to complete the yearbook that will be treasured forever!

If you are interested in joining the yearbook staff, see Mrs. Lakin for an application packet in June. The yearbook advisors select the staff for next year's yearbook from the top applicants this spring. Those not selected to join the staff will be put on a waiting list and are still encouraged to check out a camera and take photographs. For more information contact: Mrs. Lakin – dlakin@dieringer.wednet.edu

CONCLUSION

This booklet was written to help sixth graders and new students entering North Tapps Middle School. Please discuss this information with your parents so they can help guide you in making good choices at school. Remember, research shows that students involved in extra-curricular activities not only gain from those experiences, but usually do better in their academics, also.

Revised 8/28/09



