

Winnisquam Regional High School
Freshman Year Transition
Frequently Asked Questions

When may I expect to receive my student's class schedule?

Freshmen will receive their schedules at the Ninth Grade Orientation in August. If your child is unable to attend Orientation, he/she will receive a schedule the first day of school.

What do I do if I feel there is an error with my student's schedule?

An appointment should be made with your student's guidance counselor, as soon as possible, in order to correct any errors or make a change. Please note that it may not be possible to satisfy all requests.

Who will be my student's guidance counselor? What is the role of the counselor?

Guidance Counselors are assigned to students and your child will learn their assignment at the beginning of the year. Dr. Mark Dotter is our school crisis counselor. Guidance counselors serve an essential and multifaceted role within our school. Your student's counselor should be the first person you contact when you have a question or concern regarding your student's program, classes, or any educational concern. Additionally, the counselor is there for you and your student should there ever be any social or emotional concerns. Even if your counselor is unable to directly provide assistance, he/she will be able to point you in the right direction. In every case, problems are handled with sensitivity. Guidance counselors also provide college counseling by providing vital assistance throughout the entire planning, application and acceptance process.

Do parents attend Freshmen Orientation?

No. The orientation is intended for students only. Parents are welcome to attend the lunch from 11:30 – 12:00.

When do freshmen students get their locker assignments?

Freshmen students will receive their locker number at freshman orientation. Students may rent a school issued combination lock for a \$5.00 fee. Each student is encouraged to locate his/her locker following the orientation. ***For safety and security reasons, students must use the locker assigned to them and see the Main Office personnel to have a lock on their locker.***

Are freshmen segregated into their own classes?

It depends. Many classes in the high school, especially mathematics, electives, and lunch are composed of students from different grade levels. Others, such as ninth grade English, Science and Social Studies, are exclusively for those specific grades. Physical Education classes are grouped by freshmen only.

When is lunch?

There are three lunch periods beginning with the fifth period. Your student may be assigned to any of these lunches. Students who wish to buy lunch should turn payment in to the cafeteria in the correct envelope by 9am to be used that day for lunch. Student who wish to apply for free and reduced lunch should fill out the appropriate forms handed out on first day of school.

May freshmen students leave school grounds during the school day?

Freshmen are not permitted to leave school grounds during the school day.

Is there a forum for my student to participate in sports if they do not have the skills for a varsity or junior varsity team?

Some intramural sports have been offered in the past based on interest. The Pines Community Center offers a variety of programs as well. Contact the Pines for more information.

Are the sports seasons the same in the high school as in the middle school?

No. While both the middle and the high schools have three seasons, the high school seasons usually start earlier & end later. Importantly, the fall season starts BEFORE school opens in September. Some sport schedules include practices or games on weekends or during school vacations. Please have your student check with his/her coach to avoid conflicts.

What time do students typically get home after sports?

Depending on the sport, there will be practice daily until about 5:30 PM and Games may go later during the fall and spring. In the winter months practices can be till 8:30 9:00pm at night. Please check with your student's coach to verify anticipated dismissal times. **Students that miss school due to sports are responsible for getting their work prior to their dismissal.**

Parent/Guardian Information Sheet

What are the initial requirements for my students to play sports?

Students will need to have had a physical prior to May to play sports. They will also need proof of the physical when signing up for sports. Students also must follow all NHIAA rules and be passing 4 units/ Classes in order to participate in sports. Incoming freshman will have their first midterm grade account for them to stay on their fall teams.

I have further questions about my son/daughter's sport team?

All sports related questions should be directed toward Jeff Cloos the Athletic/Activities Director at 286-4531 X186 or by email jcloos@wrsdsau59.org.

How can students learn about, choose, and join clubs?

A listing of clubs/service activities is provided at Freshmen Orientation. Additionally it is also in the Student Handbook (given to freshmen at Freshmen Orientation, and to the other grades on the first day of class). Announcements of club schedules are made over the announcement system, and signs are posted throughout the school highlighting club meeting times.

When is "extra help"?

Extra help is scheduled individually by each teacher.

Are absence and late notes required?

Yes. A parent or guardian should telephone the Attendance Office the morning of an absence or lateness. Additionally, when the student returns to school, the parent should provide an absence note. If the parent did not telephone the school when the absence occurred, the Attendance Office will also call the parent to verify the legitimacy of the note. Students wishing to get their absence excused need to provide written documentation by a doctor of court to be granted excused. Please refer to the Handbook or contact the Main Office with further questions. **Note: Students are allowed a maximum of 8 absences for semester courses / 16 absences for yearlong courses; more absences may result in a loss of credit.**

How do I sign out my student from school early?

Parents are required to personally sign his/her student out of school if early dismissal is required. If you need to sign your student out of school before the end of the regular school day, please send a note with your student to school in the morning so they can turn it in to the Main Office and receive a dismissal pass. All students are to be signed in and out at the Main Office.

Is the library open after school school?

Yes. The high school library is open till 3:30. The Hall memorial library in Northfield is open Monday and Thursday 10-8, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 10-6 and Saturdays 10-2.

How will I know how my student is doing in school?

Providing your email address will be a crucial part to communication with our new online software. We will also have progress reports which are given to students at approximately the mid-point of each quarter and report cards are sent home quarterly. Additionally, parents are encouraged to contact the teacher or guidance counselor to check on progress.

Whom do I contact if my student has a problem?

If your student has a class related problem, the student should first speak with that teacher. If the problem is not resolved, the parent should contact the teacher. In almost all cases issues are resolved at this fundamental level. Your student's guidance counselor would serve as an excellent resource in addressing problems or concerns. In addition you should feel free to contact the building principal or the assistant principal. We make the strong commitment to respond quickly to your inquiries or expressions of concern.

Is the grade reporting system the same as in the Middle School?

The online grade book system is the same Refer to the WRHS Student Handbook and individual course syllabi for more specific information.

What do students do during their "Study Halls"?

During free periods, students are assigned to study halls. While there, they are to remain quiet and use the time to study. They may also go to the library, get extra help, or provide in-school community service.

When will my student get an ID card?

ID cards are a key part to safety at the high school all students are required to have a picture take in September so the high school can issue an ID card which students will need to attend events throughout the school year and to purchase lunches.