

August 2026

Dear Middle School Students and Families,

Happy August! We hope you're having a great summer so far. We are looking forward to seeing all of you when school begins. We're writing to you to get you started thinking about coming back to school (there is a lot of summer left, don't worry!) and to let you know what to expect.

A new face! We welcome Matt Foster to the Middle School team as our Science teacher, Games leader, and Math 8 co-teacher. Matt is a Virginia native, and an expert on outdoor experiences and education. Matt enjoys hiking, skiing, and is a trained falconer. He's also a new dad to an eight-month-old baby.

It's not too late to register for a math camp if you're feeling rusty!

August 10 - 14: Coding Camp, 9:00 – 12:00

Fraction Camp, 12:30 - 3:30

\$150 each, \$275 for both.

August 17 - 21: Probability Camp 12:30 - 3:30

\$150

First get-together as a class: Nelson Co. Food Pantry, Thursday, August 20, 10 am. We'll help until stocking is complete, usually between 11:30 – 11:45. Wear comfy shoes and bring a water bottle. The Food Pantry misses NBS middle schoolers during the summer!

Back to School Night: Tuesday, August 25 either from 4 - 5 pm or from 6 - 7 pm.

Meet our new team member, see the room, and ask questions about the school year. We'll have information for you about important dates, field trips, and classes, as well as reminders about everything you need to get started.

First day of school: Thursday, August 27

Drop off begins at 8:30 and homeroom starts at 8:50.

First Friday Fun: August 28

We'll meet at school as usual, then go to the Food Pantry as a whole class to help pack. Afterwards, we'll go to Vito's for lunch and then back to school for a special activity.

Some quick things students can do to get ready for the year:

Join the correct “Get More Math” math class online.

Math 7: <https://mygmm.app/TVXWFR>

Math 8: <https://mygmm.app/BGKVJN>

If you are itching for something to do, start on the practice skills already available on Get More Math. If you are coming to the “BTS Readiness” camp August 17 - 21, you’ll be able to ask questions as you work on these.

Join the correct Membean class online.

WW 7: <https://membean.com/enroll?t=NQSQEXT>

WW 8: <https://membean.com/enroll?t=NQSQA8B>

_(Your account data will stay with you as you join this new class.)

If anyone is unable to join these classes over the summer, they’ll be able to do that at school during our first few days--never fear!

Parents! Please help us make sure we have the best email address for you. We use email to give you information about field trips and class activities.

A reading reminder for students: If you haven’t written to us about your book choice for July, please do! We’ve really enjoyed hearing from you about what you’re reading.

Remember that in August, you should read *Island of the Blue Dolphins* by Scott O’Dell. Write to us when you finish. Tell us why you think we had you read it, and how it might connect to this year’s classes, as well as anything else about your experience of reading it. If you need help getting a copy, let us know!

Finally, **parents**, please take a minute to fill out [this Google Form](#). We appreciate your support, and we love having up-to-date information about your child’s needs.

If you have any questions about the year, please always feel free to email us.

We look forward to a great year!

Heather, Karina, Katrien, Matt, and Tim

HeatherW@nbsva.org, KarinaR@nbsva.org, KatrienV@nbsva.org, MattF@nbsva.org,
TimM@nbsva.org

Middle School Supply List – 2026 - 2027

Please email Heather (HeatherW@nbsva.org) if you have any questions.

Bring and leave at school

a camp chair labeled with student's name

mug labeled with the student's name

a container for writing supplies

pencils

highlighters in two or more colors

colored pencils and / or markers

erasers

CHOOSE ONE: a box of tissues or a roll of 13-gal trash bags to donate to the classroom

Folders and Spirals

5 pocket folders (1 blue, 1 purple, 1 green, 1 yellow, and 1 color or pattern of your choice)

2 spiral notebooks, wide ruled, 70-100 sheets (1 blue and 1 green)

1 3 ring binder, white, 1 – 1.5 inch, with 5 dividers, and lined notebook paper
(Students can also use last year's Spanish binder, if they still have it)

Math

Geometry Students: red 1 - 1.5 inch binder, pencil compass, small ruler, and a pouch to keep these supplies in your binder

Math 8 Students: red 1-1.5 inch binder

Math 7 Students: red 1-1.5 inch binder

Provided at School

assignment book, a Reader's Notebook, Friday Folder, ruler, calculator, tape, glue, scissors, markers, extra pencils, extra highlighters, lined paper, a pencil sharpener, and earbuds.

We have a classroom library.

Each student will also have a Chromebook at school that will be assigned only to them for the year.

Optional

Students may prefer to have higher quality earbuds or headphones. Students may also want to bring sketchbooks, Sharpies, other art supplies, and Independent Reading books. Please make sure you only bring items that the student can be responsible for and that are not irreplaceable.

Homework Location at Home

It's helpful if students set up a Homework Zone that is stocked and ready to go for focused homework-doing. Ideally, a Homework Zone is screen-free, somewhat quiet, and includes a flat surface, sharpened pencils, pens, scissors, tape, markers, erasers, glue, paper, and colored pencils. It is helpful if students have access to 8.5 x 11 notebook paper at home, either loose leaf or in a notebook. Homework should be turned in on clean lined paper, not on scraps, colored paper, or on the back of printed pages. It is also helpful if the Homework Zone includes a folder, tray, or other space where work-in-progress can be left undisturbed. We encourage students to choose a parking spot at home for backpacks, water bottles, shoes, assigned novels, and study materials so they are at hand when needed.

Please let us know if your student is traveling between more than one household and we can help your student plan strategies to minimize confusion.

Welcome Donations Throughout the Year

pencils, black Sharpies, 3x3 Post-It Notes, dry-erase pens, Method brand pink grapefruit disinfecting wipes, pouches of hot chocolate mix

Thank you for all you do to keep our classrooms stocked and your students prepared to learn!