

New VMS Student/Parent Information

This information is intended to assist students and parents who are new to the Vermillion Middle School or the Vermillion School District. Those who have had children attend Vermillion Middle School may also find this information helpful.

1. **Absences** – Please contact the office at 677-7025 whenever your child is absent.
2. **Assignment Sheets** – Daily assignment sheets are located under the “Middle School” tab on the district website (website address is listed below).
3. **Athletics and P.E.** – School sponsored athletics do not begin until students are in the 7th grade so 6th graders do not need athletic physicals. All students will need to have a T-shirt, shorts, and tennis shoes for physical education. P.E. lockers will be assigned by the teacher.
4. **Band** – An orientation night will be scheduled approximately the third week of school.
5. **Bussing** – You can locate a copy of the bus schedule in the Broadcaster Press and the Equalizer in August. Copies are also available in the school offices and under the “Parents and Students” tab on the district homepage. Bus passes for in-town riders will cost \$50 per semester. There are reduced rates for free and reduced lunch students. Passes can be obtained at the Vermillion School District Office located at 17 Prospect Street.
6. **DDN Parent Portal** – You can access important information such as grades, attendance, and discipline by obtaining a user name and password. You can obtain your username and password from Technology Director Jason Gault at Jason.Gault@k12.sd.us. Access to the Parental Portal is located on the homepage of the school website.
7. **Discipline** – Vermillion Middle School utilizes the Boys Town Social Skills Model for discipline. All discipline will be handled with an educational component in order to instruct students on proper behavior. Respect and responsibility are hallmarks of our discipline program.
8. **Dress Code** – Students must follow the dress code which is located under the “Middle School” tab on the website or in the student handbook. We have included a copy with this letter.
9. **Electronic Report Cards** – Paper report cards are no longer issued. The Parental Portal allows you to see a report card and download a paper copy for your records.
10. **Food Service** – Lunch costs \$2.85 and breakfast is \$1.50. Tony Graham is the Food Service Director and he can be reached at 677-7032. During the school year students can place money on their accounts prior to 8:15 am. Previous balances from Jolley Elementary will automatically transfer to the middle school. Students new to the district should set up an account during registration. You can access your child’s account information and the monthly menu under the “District” tab located on the school website. Free and reduced lunch applications are mailed in late summer. You may also obtain this information at the district office located at 17 Prospect Street.
11. **Handbook** – All students will be given a school handbook containing more detailed rules, procedures and school board policies when they arrive on the first day of school. We suggest reviewing this information with your child. The handbook also serves as a daily planner to assist your child in keeping track of homework. Assignments can also be viewed on the school district website under the “Middle School” tab.
12. **Homework Study Hall** – If homework in any class is not completed by the specific date, a child may receive homework Study hall. The purpose of HSH is to prevent students from receiving a zero grade for missing assignments. If a child does not have homework done, they will be sent to the office and given an information sheet to be signed by the parent and returned. Subsequent incidents of missing assignments will result in the child staying after school to complete work. PARENTS WILL BE NOTIFIED when this occurs.
13. **Lockers** – We assign lockers over the summer. Changes will not be made unless there are special circumstances. Locker dimensions are 12’ wide, 14” deep and 36” tall. Locker shelves are recommended and can be purchased at any department store.

14. **Parent Teacher Conference and Open House** – Conferences are a great time to discuss your child’s performance with his/her teachers. Conferences will be held in late October and mid-February. 6th grade conferences are located in the designated 6th grade classrooms. Open house will be held on August 24th from 7:00 - 8:00 pm.
15. **Registration** – Registration will be held on August 10th and 11th from 9:00 -1:00 each day. Parents and students may come to the school to pick up a class schedule, tour the school. Place money on the lunch account, and organize their lockers. Please update any contact information during registration.
16. **School Calendar** – The calendar is online and paper copies are available in the school office.
17. **School Reach** – This is a free phone service that parents can receive. It will send an automated phone message to any number(s) you request in case of an early dismissal or late start due to weather. Other important information such as meeting dates and conferences are part of this service. You can sign up by contacting Technology Director Jason Gault at Jason.Gault@k12.sd.us
18. **School Safety** – every attempt is made to provide a secure campus. Visitors are required to “buzz” into the building during the regular school day. A school resource officer is onsite and cameras are located throughout the building.
19. **School Supplies** – Lists are online, in the Broadcaster and Equalizer, and located at various department stores.
20. **Teacher Directory and Email Addresses** – These are located under the “Our District” tab located on the website homepage.
21. **Website** – www.vermillion.k12.sd.us

6th Grade Team – The sixth grade team members are Kari Jensen – World Cultures, Audrey Job – science, Julie Lewison – reading, Cindy Lias – special education, Roxane Olson – language arts, Patty Schwasinger – Targeted Instruction, and Jodi Zeller – math.

Please call us if you have questions. Your child will participate in orientation activities during the first week of school. You can contact any 6th grade team member or the following people at the Vermillion Middle School by calling 605-677-7025. Email addresses are located in the staff directory under the “Our District” tab on the Vermillion School District website home page.

Pat Anderson, Principal
Marci Hovden, Administrative Assistant

Johanna Gregoire, Secretary
Betsy Hughes, Guidance