

Frequently Asked Questions

I look forward to seeing each of you on Tuesday, September 6th and I hope the following information answers a few of your first-day questions. If you have any others, please do not hesitate to ask: JGfroerer@valleycatholic.org.

May my parent escort me to class the first day? Do parents do this at middle school?

The answer to this question varies depending on the individual parent and child. Usually half of the parents escort their children to their homerooms (where their lockers are located).

I would recommend that if you are nervous (or maybe mom and dad are nervous), ask your parents to escort you to your locker first thing in the morning. The room where you will begin your day on Tuesday, September 6th will be posted prior to that time.

What is the procedure for dropping off/picking up? Information specific to the new school will be available starting in mid-August.

What time may I drop off my child?

The school building opens at 7:20 a.m. and the middle school classrooms/homerooms open at 7:30 a.m. Information specific to the new school will be available starting in mid-August.

What happens if I do not pick up my child until 3:20 or later? Information specific to the new school will be available starting in mid-August. However, we will be offering a supervised study hall until 4:30 p.m. daily. Specific information TBA.

What time does school start and end?

School starts at 7:50 a.m. everyday, starting on the first day of school Tuesday, September 6th. Most days, school dismisses at 3:10. Please check the schedule/calendar for specific dismissal times.

Where do I go on the first day of school?

You should go to your first orientation class. The orientation schedule and room assignments will be available by Registration and Book Buying Day Thursday, September 1st, 2011.

What should I wear on the first day?

Uniforms are required the first day of school. You may choose any combination of uniform items but all items, including uniform jackets (if you plan to wear your jacket during the school day – including lunch), socks, shoes, hair, make-up, etc. must follow the uniform dress code.

What should I bring on the first day? In general, you should bring:

- Items from your supply list that need to be left at school
- Emergency packet
- Textbooks
- Snacks or money to purchase a snack
- Items to decorate your locker (optional)

All items should have your name written on them in permanent marker. **Please label all uniform clothing as well, including shoes!**

Music: All students will receive their music class assignment, including instrument choice by Friday, September 9th. If you are in band or orchestra, you will not need your instrument on the first day but plan to bring it on Monday, September 19th.

PE Clothes: You will not need your PE clothes the first week. You may choose to bring them and place them in your PE locker/basket. **BE SURE TO MARK ALL ITEMS - SHOES INCLUDED!!**

Are snacks and lunch sold?

The cafeteria staff prepares well balanced foods for both the morning break and for lunch. Vending machines in the cafeteria and athletic center are also available at all times of the day. Many students use the vending machines, as they are a novelty to the new students. We do not supervise the students eating choices. I would encourage families to make a “meal plan” in which the student and parent discuss fun food vs. healthy food. I would also encourage families to limit spending on the vending machines.

Morning Break: Middle school has a 15-minute break period after their third class of the day (10:15 a.m. on regular schedule). This break period is shared by both the middle and high school students. During this time the cafeteria staff sells breakfast items such as bagels, muffins, juice, and fruit. Other items vary and a menu is available in the front office.

Lunch: Middle school lunch is 30 minutes long and occurs after the fourth class (3rd period) of the day (11:15 a.m. on a regular schedule). The cafeteria staff sells a main item, listed on the monthly menu, along with daily staples such as salad, white rice, soup and chili, fruit, dessert, juice, soda, and water.

Afternoon break: Middle school has a five-minute break after the sixth class (5th period) of the day (1:20 p.m. on a regular schedule). There is no cafeteria food available.

How to buy lunch tickets:

Lunch tickets and Tri-Met bus passes are sold in the front office. Lunch tickets are punch cards that are sold for \$20.00 each. Children may also pay cash in the cafeteria.