

# *Thomas Jefferson Middle School*

Change Begins with Just One

## Questions Frequently Asked by Students

### Lockers and Cell Phones

**Will I get to practice using my locker combination on the first day of school?** Absolutely! Your teachers will give you many opportunities to practice opening your locker during the first week of school. Your teacher will always be available to help you. **DO NOT** share your locker combination with anyone.

**When will I get to go to my locker during the school day?** Going to your locker after every class would not be efficient. During the first days of school your homeroom teacher will discuss when it is appropriate for you to use your locker based on your schedule. On average, sixth graders go to their lockers four to five times a day.

**Am I allowed to bring my cell phone to school?** Yes, students may carry cell phones to school. Phones are to be **TURNED OFF AND LEFT IN YOUR LOCKER** during the school day. Students who use cell phones during the school day will have disciplinary consequences.

### Study at Home

**What is the best way for me to approach my studies at home?** Each night you may have 60 minutes or more of homework. Teachers will outline homework expectations and requirements in each of your classes. You will be expected to record your assignments in a school-issued student agenda book that will be given to you on the first day of school. You are expected to utilize Dashboard for clarification on out-of-school work expectations as your teachers will post homework, project deadlines, and quiz and test dates there. Dashboard usernames for parents and students will be issued over the summer.

#### Study Tips:

- Set aside a regular time every day for studying at home.
- Take home all books, papers, and materials needed.
- Be sure to have a quiet, comfortable place at home to study and keep all school supplies handy.
- Planning and organization are the keys to successful completion of assignments.

## Breakfast

**Am I able to purchase breakfast in the cafeteria before school starts?** Each morning the “Breakfast Club” is held from 7:15 AM until 7:45 AM in the cafeteria. Students are not to enter the building before 7:15 AM and must remain in the cafeteria. Breakfast can be purchased for \$1.40.

## Lunch

**How will I know what is available for lunch?** You are assigned a half-hour lunch period in the cafeteria every day. Lunch may be brought from home or purchased in the cafeteria with cash or the Café Terminal Point of Sale System. You will be able to make payments to your lunch account through the guidance office. There is a box on Mrs. Wilkenson’s desk for your checks.

**NOTE NEW PROCEDURE:** Students may charge 3 meals for a total of -\$7.05. At that point, no further credit can be extended.

Monthly menus are posted on the JMS website, in the PTA newsletter and on cable Channel 19. The daily menu is also shared during the morning announcements in homeroom.

## Forgotten Items

**What happens if I forget something I need for school at home?** From time to time everyone forgets things. Don’t panic! You may call home to have your item brought to the attendance office. You will be called on the PA system at the end of 1st, 4th, and 7th period or you may stop at your convenience.

## Safe Walking Procedures

**What should I think about when walking to and from school?** As a student attending JMS you are fortunate to be able to walk to and from school. As a walker you need to always make choices to stay safe. Take the most direct route home. Find a friend that lives near you and walk to and from school together. Remember...you must **never** talk to strangers or accept rides from individuals you do not know. Although you may be tempted to engage in rough play on your way to or from school, don’t! One strong push or shove could cause serious injury to another especially if you are near a street.

## After School

**What am I expected to do after school?** There are a host of events, clubs, and activities offered after school. We welcome your participation in them. You are, however, expected to leave school grounds **promptly** after school unless you are participating in an event, club or activity sponsored by a teacher. No loitering is permitted on school property.