



Dear Middle School Families,

We are busily preparing for the start of school in August, and we cannot wait for you to arrive on campus! We want to share useful information and generate excitement in your household about the upcoming school year. If you have any questions after reviewing the information below, we encourage you to explore the [Back-to-School page](#) of the Heathwood website. Please stay tuned for more mailings about important topics, like the launch of the online bookstore, in the coming weeks. We are happy to field any questions or concerns you have, so please reach out if you would like to schedule some time to chat.

We are looking forward to a great 2025-2026 school year!

Sincerely,

Glenn DeLaney
Middle School Head

Information for New to Heathwood Families

How can my child get to know some classmates over the summer?

- Contact information for new students was shared with the parents of returning students serving as student ambassadors the first week of June. **Student Ambassadors** in grades 6th - 8th are current Heathwood students who will reach out to new students over the summer to help facilitate social interactions, nurture friendships, and answer questions.
- Since all **5th graders** are new to the Middle School, we host a special orientation for all 5th graders and their parents in August.

When is orientation for new students? When can my child set up his/her locker?

- **Save the date! Orientation and locker set-up for ALL 5th-grade students and their parents** (both new and returning families) will be held on **Monday, August 11th from 1:00-3:00pm** in the 2nd-floor Commons Area of the Nord Middle School building. We will share more information as the date approaches.
- **Orientation and locker set-up for ALL new-to-Heathwood 6th-8th grade students and their parents** will be held on **Tuesday, August 12th, from 8:30-10:30am** in the 1st-floor Commons Area of the Nord Middle School building.

How do I find out information about my child's schedule?

- **Schedules for new students** will be shared at orientation. All Middle School students will receive a note from their advisor before orientation and locker set-up.
- **Class schedules** are created for each student based in part on math placement and world language choices.
- **No electives need to be chosen for 5th-6th Grade students**; all students rotate through all related arts classes.
- **7th Grade and 8th Grade** students have already chosen their year-long performing arts courses. They will also rotate through PE, Strength & Conditioning (8th Grade), Religion (7th Grade), MakerSpace, Visual Art, and PEAK classes. Students will have yearlong study halls.

Information for All Middle School Families

Where do we locate summer reading, math packets, supply lists, and the Handbook?

- **All items** related to summer reading requirements, math packet assignments, supply lists, etc. are posted on the [Back-to-School page](#).
- The updated Student/Parent Handbook and the Middle School Curriculum Guide will be published later in the summer.

How do students sign up for and try out for athletics?

- To participate in **athletics**, students must register on [Family ID](#).
- Once registered, students will receive information about **summer practices**.

How do I know my child's schedule?

- **Class schedules** are created for each student based in part on math placement and world language choices.
- **Returning Middle School** students in grades 6-8 will receive a copy of their schedule on the first day of school and be able to access an electronic version of their schedule on PlusPortals after the eCampus bookstore opens later this summer.

When is the locker set-up time for returning students?

- Locker set-up for **all returning students in grades 6-8** will be on Tuesday, August 12th, from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. (drop-in). Please do not arrive after 3:30pm.

How do we order our books?

- The **Virtual Bookstore** is what families use to purchase consumables and rent textbooks for the school year. The Virtual Bookstore will be populated with the specific textbooks, workbooks, and novels that your child will need based on his or her schedule. The target date for the bookstore going live is July 1, and you will receive more information and instructions later this month.

First Day of School and Advisory

- Faculty will **mail notes to students in their Advisory** during the first week of August welcoming them to the upcoming new school year. **School begins on Wednesday, August 13 at 8:10 am and dismisses at 12:00 pm.**
- School will operate during normal hours from 8:10 am to 3:05 pm on Thursday and Friday, August 14-15. Middle School students will follow special altered schedules on those days to facilitate orientation activities and introductory sessions of all of their classes.
- The first day of the normal rotating daily schedule will be on Monday, August 18.

Dress Code Information & Plaid Peddler Summer Hours

- Please review the [Middle School Dress Code](#) and take note of any updates. We appreciate your assistance in supporting our efforts to establish a school environment that supports teaching and learning. In particular, please see the section regarding outerwear. We ask that students do not wear any hoodie, sweatshirt, or sweater that is not a Heathwood logo garment. We do not consider these garments outerwear.
- **Uniforms** can be purchased on campus at the Plaid Peddler or from the Heathwood uniform section on the Land's End website. Keep an eye out for more information about our Used Uniform Sale as the school year approaches.
- The summer hours for **The Plaid Peddler** are as follows: June 1st - July 18th - open 9:00 am-1:00 pm and by appointment in the afternoon until 4:00 pm. Starting July 21st the store will return to its regular hours of 8:00 am - 4:00 pm Monday - Friday. You may also purchase items at www.squareup.com/store/hh-plaid-peddler. Any items purchased from the online store may be picked up during business hours at the Plaid Peddler.