

The F.A.Q.

(Frequently Asked Questions)

About E.M.S.

(East Middle School)

A guide for
EMS parents

2009 - 2010

Dear Parents,

We welcome you and your child to East Middle School. It is our goal that you feel comfortable at EMS and will be an important part of this school..

Any new experience always brings questions. Here are answers to a few common questions that will help you as a parent of an EMS student.

I'm confident we all have similar expectations for your children; to be safe in a school that provides every opportunity for them to be successful in their academic, social, emotional and physical development.

Again, we are glad you are here and look forward to working with you.

Mr. Tom Peterson
Principal

What if school dismisses early in case of an emergency or weather?

* All emergency dismissals will be announced on local radio and television stations, or can be found on the link to school closings at:

www.siouxcityschools.org

* Parent Link, the district's calling system, will alert you.

* Busses will run their usual routes.

* Have a plan in place so your child knows where he/she should go after school in case of an early dismissal.

Are there school spirit and fundraising sales during the year?

* Yes. Our only school-wide fundraiser is the Magazine Sale in the fall. We also sell yearbooks and EMS shirts and sweatshirts

* Different organizations and teams also raise funds for many community service projects.

How can I check to find out my child's grades?

* Mid-quarter grades are given to students each grading period.

* Report cards are given to students at the end of each grading period.

* These dates will be announced in the monthly newsletter.

* If you do not receive your child's grade report, call East Middle for a duplicate copy.

* Current grades for you child may be accessed through EMS web site. Look for "Parent's Grade book":

When does school begin and end?

- * The school day begins at 7:45am. Students arriving between 7:46 and 9:45 are considered tardy.
- * Students are dismissed at 2:45 Tuesday
- * Friday, and at 1:45 every Monday.

What if my child is ill?

- * Call the attendance desk at 274-4030 before 8:15 A.M..
- * You can also call this number and leave a message at any hour of the day or night.

If my child is not at school can I get his/her homework?

- * Yes, requests need to be made by 9:00 a.m.
- * Homework may be picked up at the student center after school.

Where do I drop off and pick up my child before and after school?

- * There is one entrance for parents on Lorraine.
- * There is one exit for parents from our parking lot to Olive.
- * Follow the signs and directions of our staff for the safety of all.

Where can I get bussing information?

Call the school district's bussing department at 279-6743.



What is the best way to communicate with East Middle?

- * **Assignment books:** Expect your child to bring home his/her assignment book every day. Parents are free to write to teachers and will receive a response. Teachers use this as well to communicate with parents.
- * **Telephone:** Call 274-4030. Every teacher has a classroom phone and voice mail. Your call will be returned as soon as possible.
- * **Email:** All teacher's email addresses can be found on our school website: www.ems.sioux-city.k12.ia.us.
- * **Team Meetings:** Your child's core teachers have a common meeting time. If you would like to visit with them, call your child's teacher or counselor to schedule a time.
- * **Newsletter:** A newsletter is mailed to parents and posted on our EMS website, each month to update you on school events and other topics.

Can students leave the building during the school day?

- * Students may leave only with written or verbal parent permission. We allow students to leave for appointments with parents or an adult listed on their emergency card.
- * All students stay at school for lunch. They eat hot lunch or a bag lunch in the school lunchroom.

What are the rules at EMS regarding electronics?

- * Cell Phones, iPods, MP3 players and electronic games must be turned off and placed in the owner's book bag before entering the building and locked in his/her locker. School officials will confiscate any electronic device if it is seen in the school building. Parents may pick up the device in the student center at their convenience.

Can students bring skate boards or roller blades to school?

- * NO Skate boards, roller blades and roller shoes are allowed in the building.

Can I send over-the-counter and prescribed medications to school with my child?

All medications are required to be stored in the nurse's office. The procedure to follow is found in the Student Handbook.

Is there a dress code at EMS?

- * Physical Education requires all students to wear a white Tee Shirt, black shorts, tennis shoes and socks.
- * All students are expected to dress in a safe and modest manner that is conducive to learning.

