



Welcome Back Students!

August 2021

OUR MISSION

To educate and inspire a diverse community of K-12 learners by engaging them in rigorous real-world learning experiences which prioritize intellectual, social and emotional growth.

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL, MRS. LEE

Dear Middle School Families and Caregivers,

Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year! I hope this summer is going well and everyone is remaining safe and healthy. Although this year will continue to bring challenges, safety of our students remains our priority and we have developed a back to school plan that safely welcomes **all students back into the building Monday-Friday for an instructional day from 8:00-2:33**. This transition back to 100% in person instruction will bring a transition and our instructional staff is looking forward to reconnecting and embracing the opportunities that having students back in the building will bring. The impact of the teacher-student relationships on student achievement as well as the student-student relationships within school are vital to a child's development and growth. We are looking forward to working with you in making your child's academic journey the most rewarding it can be in the middle school grades.

For some of our students it will be the first time back in the building in over 18 months and for some of our 5th and 6th graders, this is the first time they are walking into the middle school building. To ease the transition for both students and staff we will be starting the school year by supporting the SEL and academic needs of our students. The first week of school will be spent within crews. Students will get acclimated to the middle school building, schedule, policies and procedures and staff. Relationship building and feeling comfortable and safe back at school is the goal of this week. We are also planning for all students to participate in team building activities on and off campus.

Please review the information below to help prepare you and your child for returning back to school. As always, our office staff is ready to support you. Please reach out to us with questions or concerns at 332-0755.

See you on September 2nd for Meet Your Crew and all students for the first day of school on September 7th!

Mrs. Lindsay Lee - Principal

Upcoming Important Dates

- ◆ **Thursday, September 2: Meet Your Crew/Supply Drop off/Tech Pick Up**
- ◆ **Tuesday, September 7: First Day of School, 5-8**
- ◆ **Thursday, September 23: Back to School Night, 5-8 (Virtual)**
- ◆ **Friday, October 8-Monday, October 11: No School, Professional Development & Indigenous People's Day**
- ◆ **Tuesday, November 2: Picture Day, 5-8**

Check out the website for the 2021-2022 calendar, supply lists and summer reading assignments.

MEET YOUR CREW: THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

Crew will be a vital component of our reopening plan in the Middle School. Your child's Crew Leader will be the main source of information and communication within the middle school. **Your child's crew leader will be contacting you earlier in the week of Monday, August 30th-Wednesday, September 1st to set up a time to Meet Your Child's Crew Leader on Thursday, September 2nd.**

A parent or guardian should accompany their student to tech pick up in order to sign for the laptop and an insurance application form. **Due to our visitor policy, only up to 2 adults may accompany your child to the Meet and Greet appointment.**

During the Meet and Greet you will:

- Meet your child's crew leader!
- Pick up technology and insurance application form: All students will receive a computer and should bring their devices charged to school everyday. If the borrowed hardware/software is damaged, you will be responsible for reimbursing Tapestry Charter School an amount up to \$300 based on the replacement cost for the device. Insurance through Tapestry Charter School can be purchased for \$25 by completing the application and including either a check or credit card information. Insurance policies will be effective upon receipt of payment for the duration of the 2021-2022 school year. This would cover any incurred expenses if the hardware/software is damaged and includes up to two insurance claims per school year (please note- this does not cover lost or stolen devices). **Insurance can only be purchased between September 2nd and October 15th, and all applications should be turned into the main office.** **If your child never returned their computer for cleaning and updates at the end of 2020-21 school year, they will be assigned the same computer. Insurance can be purchased, but the laptop has to be turned in prior to purchasing.*
- Drop off supplies
- Students will be able to see their locker, get a lock and place school supplies in their locker.
- Receive a 2021-2022 Agenda
- Sign 2021-2022 Permission Slip and waivers for the first week of school field work.
- Sign for the Student and Family Handbook
- Sign up for Pik My Kid app for dismissal

FOOD SERVICE

Breakfast and lunch as usual, both will be served within the cafe space, following 3 feet social distancing at tables. Students will only remove their masks while seated and eating. **Breakfast will be waiting for students to eat when they come to school and can be eaten between 7:30-7:50**, prior to crew. **Lunch will be served by half of a grade level (about 44 students) at a time in a 23 minute block of time** and is opposite a mid-day recess.

Free school lunches will be available again for all students across New York State. We are still requesting that families complete a free and reduced lunch application which is enclosed in this mailing.

ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

Doors open Monday - Friday at 7:30

- Breakfast will be served Monday - Friday
- Students will be dismissed starting at 2:33.
- Students will be dismissed using the PikMyKid app, just as previously done last year. Families will receive a special card during the first week of school for pick up. If families are picking their student up, the front parking lot loop will be used and staff will be outside to assist.
- Parents who pick up their children should do so in the front loop in front of the building. Please note, all 5th-12th grade students are dismissed at the same time and pickup can be quite busy
- Students must leave the building unless they are participating in an after school activity.
- After school clubs will begin in the second quarter and will run on Wednesdays-Fridays.
- The **YMCA is offering a before (6:30-7:30) and after school program (2:33-6:00) to Tapestry students.** The program will be located at the lower school at 111 Great Arrow. Students aged 5-15 are able to attend. More information is available at 716-875-1283. If middle school students are attending, they will walk to and from the program.

STUDENT ACTIVITY FEE & FIELD WORK

Tapestry Charter School prides itself on its ability to provide students with enriching experiences that enhance a student's educational experience and make the curriculum come alive. This includes the use of field work, guest experts and other special events throughout the year. These activities are directly related to the curriculum and are necessary for students to gain a deeper understanding of the content they are learning.

After being unable to provide these enriching experiences last year due to the COVID 19 pandemic, we are very excited to once again provide these for your child for the 2021-2022 school year. As such, every student at Tapestry Charter School is expected to pay a yearly activity fee of \$20 to offset these costs.

Payments can be made by check or cash and given to the main office of your child's school. It is through this activity fee that we will be able to continue to provide your child with these memorable experiences. Should you have any questions, please contact the main office.

CONTACT INFORMATION

65 Great Arrow Avenue
Phone Number: 716.332.0755 | Fax Number: 716.332.0758 Website: www.tapestryschool.org



Tapestry Charter School is an arts-integrated, K-12 Expeditionary Learning, tuition-free, public school located in the city of Buffalo, NY. Founded by passionate individuals who shared a commitment to choice, accountability, and excellence, Tapestry received approval from the State University of New York Board of Trustees to open in September 2001.
