

The Windsor High School 9th Grade Parent's Survival Guide

So, you're about to become the parent of a freshman. You're probably nervous about the whole thing. After all, it seems only yesterday that you were dropping your little one off for the first day of kindergarten. It feels like that day all over again, doesn't it? Well, there is little to worry about. Everything will work out. We have put together this guide to alleviate some of your anxiety and answer questions you may have. It doesn't have ALL the answers, but it does have most.

What is the school website address?

Most information about Windsor High School can be found at www.whs.weldre4.k12.co.us

Where do I get information about athletics?

Visit www.windsorwizards.org for all athletic schedules, forms, and coaches' information

When does school begin?

8 am (the building opens at 7:15 am)

When does school end?

School ends at 3:10 each day. For car riders, the pickup area is in front of the building – the same as the drop off spot. Bus riders report to the south side of the building – follow sidewalk to area between high school and district office.

How do I pay for lunch?

For the first few weeks of school, Free and Reduced lunch students are extended the same discounts as they received last school year. The application for F&R meals must be renewed every year. Forms are available at each campus location, through the district office and online at www.applyforlunch.com.

Online payments at www.myschoolbucks.com – you will need to set up a username and password then you will be able to view your child's accounts, make payments and set low balance alerts. It is recommended that you create an account even if you choose not to make payments online. The student's ID number is required in order to set up an online account. There is a \$2.00 service fee per deposit.

Families can also send checks, payable to: Weld RE-4 Nutrition Services or cash.

Lunch - \$3.00 for paid students; \$0.40 for reduced students (Subject to change)

Breakfast - \$1.60 for paid students, Free for reduced students (Subject to change)

Maroon and Gold Schedule

We operate on a modified alternating block schedule. Mondays and Thursdays are Maroon Days and have four 90 minute classes per day. Tuesdays and Fridays are Gold Days and have four 90 minute classes per day. Wizard Wednesdays are a

combination of Maroon and Gold Days and have all eight classes per day. These classes are 43 minutes. We will be posting the bell schedule on our website this summer. When we have a shortened school week, Wizard Wednesdays are eliminated, with the week always beginning with a Maroon Day.

What will the first day look like?

Freshmen (only) will attend school in the morning on the first day of school. Our staff will be waiting outside to welcome your child. They will report to the auditorium for an introduction/welcome from Mrs. Scallon and, then participate in a 9th grade "boot camp." Students will have an opportunity to practice opening their lockers, get a campus tour, a classroom scavenger hunt and an introduction to other students facilitated by our staff. In the afternoon, all students will report and we will run through a Wizard Day (all 8 classes). Students will spend 20 minutes in each class. We try to help alleviate anxiety by having all freshmen know how to get their lockers open and know where their classes are located. We do not count freshmen tardy the first week of school.

What school supplies will I need to buy?

High School is different from Middle School where they have a standard school supply list. We suggest bringing a notebook and writing utensil on the first day. Every teacher will have his/her own supply list, but, of course, everyone will need supplies such as pencils, pens, paper and notebooks. Helpful tip: Many student have two backpacks. One for maroon days and one for gold days.

Where can I purchase a PE shirt?

Physical Education shirts can be purchased at K & W Printing (212 Main Street) or Huston Graphics (700 Automation Drive). Cost is \$6. All students are required to wear a PE shirt. Shirts will be available for purchase at our Summer Check In/Registration.

Will my child be issued a planner?

Each student is issued a free planner during the first week of school. This is a great tool for students to write down assignments, homework and testing days. We encourage parents to monitor your child's planner throughout the year.

Does my child need a school ID?

Yes! Students need to have their school id badges in their possession while at school. They are required for checking out books, picking up items at the front desk (that you drop off) and checking in at the attendance desk. **Helpful hint:** Have your child take a picture of their id on their cell phone. It seems that they NEVER forget to bring their cell phones. ☺ The id will scan from a picture on their cell phones.

Who do I contact if my child is failing a class or missing assignments?

The teacher should always be your first contact. It is strongly recommended that you use email for the initial contact. To speak with a teacher, call the main school number at 970-686-8100. Teachers don't always have a lot of time during the day to check voicemails and an email serves as a visual reminder of your request. All email addresses are located on the school website.

What is the STAR acronym I see posted around the school?

STAR is our code of expectation for students and staff at WHS. It stands for Strength, Trust, Accountability and Respect. Staff members send out positive postcards to students who are "caught" demonstrating these qualities.

How can I get involved?

The Parent Teacher Advisory Committee (PTAC) welcomes your participation in our monthly meetings, held the first Monday of each month. Meetings are in the Media Center from 5:30 – 6:30 pm. Please check our website as some dates may change due to holidays and breaks. You may also volunteer for the After Prom committee or the various Booster organizations on campus.

How can my child get involved?

WHS offers many opportunities to our students. There are numerous sports, clubs and activities for your child to choose from. Research shows that students who are involved have better attendance, grades and are more likely to graduate on time.

I'm worried about bullying at school. How is bullying handled at WHS?

Unfortunately, bullying does happen. If you know or suspect that your child is being bullied, please encourage them to report it immediately to their counselor or a school administrator. Keeping quiet about bullying only leads to more and, the sooner it is addressed, the better. We take bullying seriously and investigate all reports.

How can I help my child understand the school rules?

The student handbook is located on the website. It covers all of the operating procedures your child needs to know in order to be successful at Windsor High. Dress code is included. Please advise your student that we monitor and enforce the dress code. All freshmen are required to take a class called Health 101 (formerly Wizard 101). Students learn about the history of WHS, how to succeed in high school, study skills and other important high school transition strategies.

The Course Description Handbook is on our website. It contains all courses offered at WHS.

Can my child bring their phone to school?

Yes. We are a BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) school and welcome technology. Teachers will give expectations for technology use. Students and parents will have

an opportunity to sign a Technology Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) in the spring of their eighth grade year and will be held to those guidelines. A copy of the AUP may be found on our website.

What if my child has an appointment or needs to miss school?

Parents/guardians need to call the attendance line at 686-8105. If they will miss the entire day, you need to excuse them. If you will be picking them up, they will be issued a blue pass. Helpful tip: Call early. It can take up to an hour to process a blue pass. If your child will be absent from school for a pre-arranged even they will need to fill out a form which may be found at the attendance desk.

What type of security do you have on campus?

WHS has approximately 30 security cameras, a full time campus monitor and an assigned School Liaison Police Officer. In addition, our Police and Fire Departments are our next door neighbors.

What if my child has to take a medication or inhaler during school hours?

Students taking medication, prescribed or over the counter, during school hours must have a written order from their physician. All medications must be kept in the Health Room. Students who are ill must report to the Health Room **before** being excused to go home.

How do I know what bus my child is supposed to ride?

Call transportation at 686-8060

"Who you gonna call????"

Schedule Concerns: Your child's counselor

Schedule a parent/teacher conference: Your child's teacher

Student Discipline Issue: Administrators

Attendance Issues: Attendance Line 686-8105

Health or Medication Questions: Health Clerk 686-8112

**All important phone numbers are listed on the WHS fridge magnet you received today.