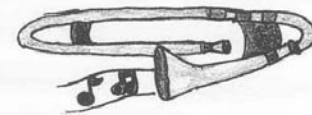




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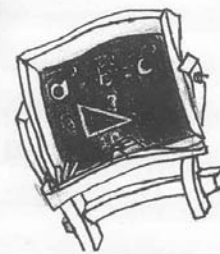
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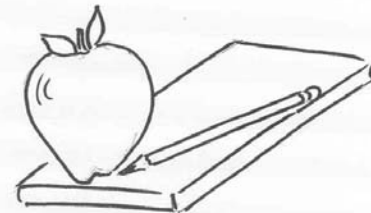
Italian



French

WEBER

MIDDLE SCHOOL



PARENT HANDBOOK

2008-2009

CARRIE PALMER WEBER MIDDLE SCHOOL
PORT WASHINGTON UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
PORT WASHINGTON, NEW YORK 11050

Telephone: 516-767-5505

Fax: 516-767-5507

MARILYN M. RODAHAN, *Principal*

MARIA R. DUBIE, *Assistant Principal*

BETH JAVELINE, *Assistant Principal*

MATTHEW W. SWINSON, *Assistant Principal*

September, 2008

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Weber Middle School. We are confident that your child's experiences and journey through the middle school will be filled with success, challenges and growth. A strong partnership between parents and school is vital to establishing a program that reflects the very highest standards and creates opportunities for all children.

This handbook represents the effort of the Weber Middle School Site-Based Team made up of parents, teachers, staff and administration. We endeavored to compose a guide to the middle school so that fundamental information would be available for all parents.

We hope that you will find it helpful in regard to the daily routines and practices at Weber. Your feedback is important, so if you have any questions or suggestions, they are most welcome.

On behalf of the entire staff of the Weber Middle School and the Weber Site-Based Team, I extend our best wishes for a rewarding school year.

Yours truly,

Marilyn M. Rodahan

Marilyn M. Rodahan
Principal

mmr:cah

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**Thank you to Gabrielle Guidice for the
cover artwork.**

ATTENDANCE

Attendance Procedures

Students are expected to attend school regularly. Parents are required to call the school each day their child is absent. Phone calls will be made home if the parents do not call.

Yellow House, 6 th Grade Blue	767-5520
Green House, 7 th Grade Blue	767-5530
Red House, 8 th Grade Blue	767-5510

Arrival

The school day begins at 8:00a.m. There is a warning bell prior to the start of homebase. Students must report to homebase on time. Students arriving after the start of homebase should report to homebase and will be marked late. Students arriving after the conclusion of homebase should report to the House Office.

Latenesses

Students who are late **three times** are called to the house assistant principal's office and issued a **warning**. The **fourth lateness and each subsequent lateness** will result in a phone call to the parents and an **after-school detention**. After ten latenesses, a letter is sent home and **an in-school suspension will be assigned**. The latenesses are accumulated from September thru January, and then February thru June. *A student must report to school by 11:30a.m. to be permitted to participate in any extra-curricular activity, including interscholastic sports, on that day.*

Dismissal from School

Students are dismissed from school at 3:10p.m. *Early dismissals require a written request from the parent or legal guardian, and it must be delivered to homebase teachers in the morning.* Without a note authorizing the student to leave the building, students cannot be dismissed. A parent or legal guardian must enter the school to sign their child out in the House Office.

Extended Absences/Homework Requests

Assignments are posted daily after 1:00p.m. on our homework website: www.portnet.k12.ny.us/weberhomework.html Absences of one or two days may also be handled by calling a classmate or friend for homework assignments. Encourage your child to have a homework buddy; it works very well.

If your child is **absent for three or more days**, you may request assignments through the house office by 9:00a.m.

Vacation Absences

Absences from school for vacations are (when school is in session) illegal as determined by the New York State Education Department. It is the child's responsibility to make arrangements with teachers if there is such an absence.

BACKPACKS

While students may wish to use backpacks to transport texts and materials to school, backpacks are not permitted to be used to and from classes. This is an issue of health and safety. Students have access to their lockers at the beginning of the school day, before and after lunch, and at the end of the day. **No wheeling backpacks are permitted in Weber Middle School.**

BOOKS

Textbooks, calculators, library books, lab manuals, and/or other items belonging to the School District are loaned to a student for his/her educational use. It is the student's responsibility to return them at the end of the use period in the same condition as loaned. The student will be charged for lost materials or fined for damages which include, but are not limited to, writing on pages, tearing of pages, or defacing school property. A copy of the procedure for charging students for lost or damaged textbooks is available from the main office. Throughout the year, students receive notification in homebase for outstanding debts and/or responsibilities (locks, overdue books, lab materials, damaged books, etc.).

Please Note: At the end of the year any student owing money will be given a slip indicating unpaid fines. A student must pay all fines by the end of the school year.

CLUBS

The club program is set up during the first weeks of school. The clubs offer your child the opportunity to meet new friends and to explore special interests. Listed below are examples of clubs and activities that may be available for participation. Activities are offered depending upon student interest, availability of faculty advisors, and sufficient district funding. Clubs marked by an asterisk require entrance standards.

Art Club	The Bucket Club	Chamber Choir *
Chamber Orchestra*	Drama Club	Global Thinkers
The “Green” Club	Human Relations	Jazz Band*
Jazz Workshop**	Literary Magazine	Newspaper Club
Peer Leadership	Science Olympiad	Student Government
Homework Clubs (6 th , 7 th & 8 th , ESL, Resource)	Yearbook Club	

* 7th & 8th Grade

** 6th Grade

COMMUNICATION PROTOCOL

If you wish to discuss school issues regarding your child, first contact your child's classroom teacher and/or counselor. If the issue requires further assistance, contact the department chairperson, then the house assistant principal. The principal should be contacted only after the previous avenues have been explored.

COUNSELING CENTER

Weber Middle School is staffed with four school counselors. They are assigned as follows:

Blue House	-	Ms. Sanchez
Green House	-	Ms. Fishman
Red House	-	Ms. Shirian
Yellow House	-	Ms. Zelman

The role of the school counselor is to assist your child in his/her transition to Weber, provide support over the three years, and facilitate the planning for high school.

Counselors are available to meet with students and parents by appointment. Counselors participate in team conferences. If you wish to arrange a team conference, please call the Counseling Center at 767-5540.

COURSE OF STUDY

During the three years your child will attend Weber Middle School, the following course requirements must be met:

CORE SUBJECTS

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Grade 6</u>	<u>Grade 7</u>	<u>Grade 8</u>
English	Full Year	Full Year	Full Year
Mathematics	Full Year	Full Year	Full Year
Science	Full Year	Full Year	Full Year
Social Studies	Full Year	Full Year	Full Year
World Language:			
French, Spanish, Latin, Italian	Full Year	Full Year	Full Year

ENCORE SUBJECTS

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Grade 6</u>	<u>Grade 7</u>	<u>Grade 8</u>
Music:			
Band, Chorus, Orchestra	Full Year*	Full Year*	Full Year*
General Music	10 weeks*	10 weeks*	10 weeks*
Art	10 weeks	10 weeks	10 weeks
Computer	5 weeks*	10 weeks*	10 weeks*
Health	5 weeks*	20 weeks	10 weeks*
Family & Consumer Sci.	10 weeks	10 weeks	10 weeks
Physical Education	Full Year*	Full Year*	Full Year*
Technology	20 weeks	-----	20 weeks

*Classes meet alternate days.

SPECIAL SUBJECTS

Special subject courses are designed to meet the specific needs of students. All of the following courses require meeting entrance standards.

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Grade 6</u>	<u>Grade 7</u>	<u>Grade 8</u>
Art	-----	-----	Studio Art – Full Year
	-----	-----	Accelerated Art –20 weeks
Math	-----	Accelerated	Integrated Algebra I
PEP	Full Year*	Full Year*	Full Year*
Science	-----	-----	Earth Science

*Classes meet alternate days

SUPPORT SUBJECTS

Support subjects are designed to bolster students whose academic performance or English language acquisition skills are in need of improvement.

	<u>Grade 6</u>	<u>Grade 7</u>	<u>Grade 8</u>
AIS Reading*	Full Year	Full Year	Full Year
AIS Math*	Full Year	Full Year	Full Year
Resource Room*	Full Year	Full Year	Full Year
ESL	Full Year	Full Year	Full Year

* classes meet alternate days.

STUDENT DRESS CODE

All students are expected to give proper attention to personal cleanliness and to dress appropriately for school and school functions. Students and their parents have the primary responsibility for acceptable student dress and appearance. Teachers and all other district personnel should exemplify and reinforce acceptable student dress and help students develop an understanding of appropriate appearance in the school setting.

The board of education requires students to attend school and school related activities in appropriate dress that meets health and safety standards and does not interfere with the learning process or cause a disturbance in school or district. Immodest clothing and shirts with messages or designs that are in poor taste are not permissible. Beachwear (tube/tank tops, halters, short-shorts, see-through garments), bare midriff shirts and tops resembling undergarments are not acceptable. All undergarments must be completely covered. Hats, visors, bandanas, and doo-rags may not be worn during the school day unless there is a reason for a religious or medical exemption. Students should not bring valuable jewelry or accessories to school. Attire bearing an expression or insignia which is obscene or libelous, or which advocates racial, ethnic, sexual or religious prejudice, or is disruptive, is forbidden. Physical Education classes require changing into sneakers, t-shirts, shorts or sweatpants. The board of education also requires students to wear appropriate protective gear in certain classes (i.e. Family & Consumer Sciences, Technology, and Physical Education).

District Policy States:

Further, students shall not wear or display any clothing, hats, head coverings, including but not limited to doo-rags, bandanas, or headbands, jewelry, emblems, badges, symbols, signs or other items that are commonly considered evidence of membership or affiliation in any fraternity, sorority or secret society (including gangs) which exists or seeks to perpetuate itself by taking in additional members

on the decision of the membership rather than on the free choice of the individual, if it disrupts or is likely to cause a disruption of or interference with the academic processes of school or of any individual student(s). If such items are worn, carried or shown, students will be regarded as insubordinate and appropriate disciplinary action will follow.

While students and parents are expected to use good judgment in this matter, the superintendent of schools, the building principal and other designated administrative personnel shall have the authority to require a student to change his/her attire should it be deemed inappropriate according to the above guidelines. If, after a few reminders, a student still continues to dress inappropriately, parents will be contacted and appropriate steps will be taken.

GRADES AND GRADING

Students attending Weber Middle School receive report cards four times a year.

The letter symbols A, B, C, D, F indicate academic achievement and progress.

The number symbols 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 indicate the attitude/effort grade.

Progress Reports are an interim notification of how a student is doing. It is mailed home midway through the marking period. A more comprehensive assessment is sent in the report card. You may contact an individual teacher or arrange a team conference at any time if you have concerns regarding your child's progress.

Mastery

95 – 100	A+
90 – 94	A
85 – 89	B+
80 – 84	B
75 – 79	C+
70 – 74	C
65 – 69	D
Below 65	F

Effort/Attitude

1. Works independently and shows initiative in going beyond assigned work.
2. Works independently and completes all assigned work.
3. Needs to be more consistent in completing assigned work with quality.
4. Requires constant reminders to complete assignments. Insufficient effort shown.
5. Shows little or no sense of responsibility in completing assigned work. Very little effort shown.

HEALTH SERVICES

1. Illness

Students who are ill should report to their class to obtain a pass BEFORE reporting to the health office. Students may go home ONLY after the school nurse has contacted a parent or guardian.

2. Emergency Form

An updated emergency contact form must be submitted each year. If there is a change of information during the school year, please call the house office immediately with the updated information.

3. Medication

Any student taking medication, including inhalers, that must be administered during school hours, must see the school nurse for dispensing. All medications require a doctor's order that must be on file in the health office.

4. Injuries

All injuries, no matter how slight, should be reported to the health office.

5. Physical Education Medical Excuse

All excuses are processed through the health office. Long term excuses require a doctor's note. Students who are excused from physical education cannot participate in interscholastic sports. They are required to attend their physical education class as an observer unless there is an unusual circumstance.

INSURANCE

The Board of Education provides coverage for all students in the school system and this coverage extends to students who are participating in intramurals and the summer recreation program. Coverage is provided through the Commercial Travelers' Mutual Insurance Company. This coverage is meant to supplement any other insurance policy which the parent may otherwise subscribe to. Where no other policy is in effect, this coverage will help to defray some of the expenses incurred.

INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE

The guidelines listed below govern the use of Weber resources. Students using computer resources must adhere to the guidelines listed below. Failure to appropriately use the computer resources may subject students to disciplinary action, beginning with suspension of use privileges. Should any infraction require action beyond a warning, that action will be imposed after consultation with the student's house administrator.

Our guidelines for use include the following:

- Material that may visually offend others or that promotes hate, racism, violence or intolerance is not permitted.
- Material obtained and/or used in a manner that violates copyright law is prohibited.
- All material obtained from the Internet must be properly cited.
- Students will not give out any personal information such as name, address, telephone number, social security number, credit card number, etc. Giving out this kind of information can be dangerous to the student and family.
- It is not acceptable for a student to enter the files of a staff member or another student.
- Students are not permitted to download music.
- Additional rules may apply to computer use in specific departments and areas.
- Students may not use the computer for personal messages (IM's).
- Students should not share their passwords.
- **Deleting the files of another student or staff member in shared folders is considered an act of vandalism.**
- **If brought to the school's attention, emails or IM's, even if written from home, which can be considered as harassing, disrupting of the educational process, offensive, intimidating, verbally assaulting, or jeopardizing the safety, morals, health or welfare of others may be handled by the school's authorities and/or police.**

INTRAMURALS

A variety of sports are offered for grades 6th-8th, October to May, from 7-8a.m. depending upon student interest. Students should contact their physical education teacher for information. Intramural participation does not require medical clearance.

INTER-SCHOLASTIC SPORTS (Boys and Girls in Grades 7 & 8 only):

Fall	September 4 – November 8, 2008: Boys - Soccer, Football-Nov.4 Girls - Soccer, Field Hockey, Tennis, Coed - Cross Country-Nov.4
Winter I	November 10 – January 17, 2009: Boys - Basketball Girls - Volleyball

Winter II	January 20 - March 21, 2009:
	Boys - Volleyball, Wrestling
	Girls - Basketball
Spring	March 30 – June 6, 2009:
	Boys - Tennis, Lacrosse, Baseball
	Girls - Softball, Lacrosse, Gymnastics
	Coed - Track & Field

Inter-scholastic sports are publicized in physical education classes, on bulletin boards, and during PA announcements.

Participation Policy

At the middle school level, all students in the 7th and 8th grades may sign up to participate in fall, winter, and spring sports. The number of teams fielded will depend upon student interest and the availability of coaches and playing fields. Participation in Winter I and II sports is limited by available space. Tryouts will be held for these sports at the start of each season. The school nurse must medically clear each interscholastic participant.

Sports Clearance

Before any student can participate, medical clearance is required. Physical exams are done in school, at no cost, in **May or June of each year. The dates are listed on the school calendar. They are also publicized in the newspaper and in daily PA announcements** as the dates get closer. A private physician, at the family's expense, may do the sports physical after June 1st. The results must be submitted on **specific forms obtained in the Health Office. No other physical forms will be accepted.** Forms completed by a private physician should be returned to the Weber Health Office.

Clearance for a sport requires the following:

1. A complete **sports physical** must be done in May or June of each year.
2. A signed **Interim Health Form**. These forms are available in the Health Office or from the Physical Education Office and **must be submitted at least two weeks prior to the start of the sports season.** A separate interim health form is required for each interscholastic sport played.
3. A completed **Emergency Contact Form**
4. A **Sports Permission Slip** dated and signed by the student and parent or guardian.
5. A **Sports Film Card**. The sports film is shown in school near the end of each academic year and before each sports season. The sports film card must be obtained only once in each academic year.

Before the start of the fall season, **the Interim Health Form, which can be found on the Weber website, must be returned to the District Athletic Office or mailed to the Weber Health Office before August 30, 2008.** For the winter and

spring season the student should **return the signed Interim Health Form directly to the Weber Health Office at least one week before the start of the season.** The student should check the sports clearance list posted outside of the Health Office for his/her name. If the name is not on the list, the student should come into the Health Office to find out which requirements may be missing.

Selection Classification

This is a clearance process for exceptional athletes to play on a varsity or junior varsity team at the high school. Students need to have a significant background in a particular sport. Both the student and parents need to be willing to make the commitment this level of sport requires. Interested athletes or their parents should contact the District Athletic Director at 767-5990 four weeks prior to the start of the high school season in which the athlete is interested.

Practice

Students who choose to participate will be expected to attend practices daily and on some Saturdays. Weekday practices are held from approximately 3:15p.m. until 5:30p.m. or 6:00p.m. Dismissal time may vary depending upon such factors as travel, equipment storage and weather. Participation will usually end later on days when there are competitions. Students will receive a calendar from the coaches at the start of the season.

Practices will be held throughout the District due to the limitations on space. At the end of practices, students will be transported from their practice sites to the Weber building for pickup.

Equipment

Equipment for playing is provided, (e.g. balls, safety clothing). Students will provide their own footwear, socks, and any items that cannot be reconditioned. Many students will purchase their own equipment (e.g. lacrosse sticks, tennis rackets, bats) since they have a preference for a specific brand, type or weight.

Questions

Any questions regarding your child's medical status for sports should be directed to the school nurse at 767-5550. Any other concerns should be addressed with the coach or the Middle School Athletic Coordinator, Mr. Kevin Baudo at 767-5573.

LIBRARY

The Weber Library is open from 8:00a.m. to 3:10p.m. Students wishing to use the library must secure a pass from a teacher. The student must remain in the library until the end of the period. If a student wants to return loaned material to the library, a pass must be issued from a teacher. Library materials are signed out for two weeks. *Students may not access new materials unless they have returned or paid for overdue materials.*

LOCKS/LOCKERS

Two lockers are assigned to each student for use during the school year. Students are assigned two combination locks: one for a corridor locker and another for a physical education locker. ***No other locks are permitted to be used.*** Lockers are provided for students and are owned by the district. While students may use the lockers, the school reserves the right to examine lockers and their contents as needed.

Lockers should be kept locked at all times. We strongly discourage students from sharing their lockers and/or combinations to their locks. Valuables and/or money should not be left in lockers; they can be held in the house office until needed.

The school cannot assume any responsibility for property that may be lost or stolen. Students should report lost or stolen locks to the House Office. There is a fee for replacement of a lock.

LUNCH PROGRAM

The lunch period is an important part of the day, both nutritionally and as a time to interact with peers. All students in a grade are scheduled for the same period:

6th grade Period 6 (12:10-12:55p.m.)

7th grade Period 4 (10:32-11:17p.m.)

8th grade Period 5 (11:21-12:06p.m.)

One-half of the lunch period is allocated for eating and one-half of the period may be spent in outdoor play, weather permitting. A supervised lunch time recess program will be in place.

A Complete Meal May Be Purchased for:

Breakfast - \$1.00

Lunch - \$2.00

The **Weber ID Card** can be used in the café to purchase breakfast and main meal lunches. It will operate much like a debit card. A check should be written to the PW School District which will be credited to your child's account. A suggested amount of \$40.00 would purchase 4 weeks of lunches. When the account is under \$10.00, your child will receive a reminder to replenish the account. You will be billed if the account is overdrawn. Snacks can **only** be purchased with cash.

Free Lunch Program

A letter and application is given to each child at the beginning of school explaining the program. It should be filled out and returned to the Health Office.

PASSES

A. Bus Passes

A bus pass will be sent to your home in August by the District Transportation Department. It will give you the time and place where your child will be picked up by the bus.

B. ID Cards/Bus Passes/Library Card/Lunch Card

An **IMPORTANT Weber ID card** is issued at the beginning of the school year. This card will include a photo of your child. The card is required to be carried by students during the school day. It will be used for identification as well as a bus pass, library card and lunch card. If this card is lost, it must be replaced by their house office for the cost of \$5.00.

C. Hall Passes

Except during scheduled period changes, students are required to have a pass issued by a staff member when moving from one area to another.

SCHOOL CLOSING

1. Emergency School Closing

Occasionally it may be necessary to close school. Announcements of such closings will be broadcast over the following radio stations:

WCBS 880AM	WINS 1010AM	WBAB1240AM
WBLI 106FM	WGBB 1240AM	WKJY 98.3FM
WOR 710AM	WHLI 1100AM	WALK 95.5FM and 1370AM

TV announcements will be on Channel 12.

2. Delayed Opening

In lieu of a decision to open or close schools for the full day, the Superintendent of Schools is empowered to call for a one or two hour delayed opening. A delayed school opening means that bus schedules will also be delayed one or two hours. These are also announced on the radio, television, or by the PTA phone chain.

Notices of school closings and delayed openings will be posted on our Web site at:

<http://schools.portnet.k12.ny.us/~emergencyclosing/>.

If you would like to join our emergency closing mailing list, visit

<http://www.portnet.k12.ny.us/maillist.html>

3. **Early Dismissal**

To avoid hazardous traveling conditions caused by heavy snowfalls or other severe weather conditions, school may be closed before the day would normally end and afternoon activities may be cancelled. Parents should provide the children with instructions as to what to do under these circumstances. In the event of an early dismissal, all Weber students will be sent home. Parents will be notified by our automated phone system, Connect Ed.

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

These principles represent an agreement between the students, teachers, administrators and parents. With everyone's continued cooperation, we can provide the best possible education for all the students in our building in a safe and healthy environment.

1. All students have the right to an education and no student may deprive others of their right to an education.
2. All individuals have the right to be respected and have the responsibility to respect others.
3. All individuals have the right to have their property respected and the responsibility to respect school property and the property of others.
4. All students have the right to learn in a safe and healthy environment and the responsibility to foster this environment.
5. All students have the right to attend school and not be physically or verbally threatened. All students have the responsibility to foster this principle.
6. All students who ride a school bus are entitled to a safe and orderly ride to and from school. All riders have the responsibility to foster this environment.
7. All students, in all disciplinary matters, are entitled to the opportunity to present their version of the facts and circumstances leading to the imposition of disciplinary sanctions to the professional staff member imposing such action.

TRANSPORTATION

By Bus

Students must present a valid transportation ID to board buses at either the assigned neighborhood stop or the Weber boarding sites. Bus assignments can be changed only by the Transportation Office.

All students are expected to behave in an appropriate manner at all times when they are a passenger on a school bus. **SAFETY IS OUR PRIMARY GOAL.**

The following rules must be followed:

- Obey driver directions immediately.
- Stay seated at all times, except when exiting.
- Keep heads, arms, legs inside bus at all times.
- Talk in a moderate tone of voice.
- Use only appropriate language.
- Students are permitted to ride ONLY their assigned bus and are to use ONLY their assigned stop.
- Eating, drinking and smoking are forbidden on school buses.
- Fighting, hitting, threatening, and vandalism are not acceptable.
- Serious or repeated violations and misuse of the bus pass may result in a suspension of bus privileges and/or an in-school suspension.

**FOR SECURITY AND SAFETY REASONS
NO STUDENT IS PERMITTED TO ENTER THE
BUILDING BEFORE 7:30AM UNLESS SPECIFICALLY
ATTENDING A CLUB OR SUPERVISED ACTIVITY.**

By Car

If you are driving your child to or from Weber, please note that the drop-off and pick-up zone is on Bogart Avenue and Orchard Street by the chains at the end of the lane which runs behind the school.

The **WEBER CIRCLE** and the **FLOWER HILL DRIVEWAY** are **CLOSED** to vehicles dropping off or picking up students between the hours of **7:00am to 8:30a.m. and 2:30p.m. to 4:30p.m.** These areas are for school bus traffic only during these times. **DO NOT** drop your child off at the bank next to the school, crossing the driveway is unsafe.

VISITORS

ALL VISITORS TO THE BUILDING, INCLUDING PARENTS, ***MUST REPORT TO THE RECEPTIONIST IN THE MAIN LOBBY OF WEBER*** TO RECEIVE A VISITOR'S PASS. PARENTS AND VISITORS ARE NOT PERMITTED TO GO DIRECTLY TO CLASSROOMS FOR ANY REASON. THEY WILL BE DIRECTED BY THE RECEPTIONIST TO THE APPROPRIATE OFFICE. PHOTO IDENTIFICATION IS CHECKED FOR SECURITY PURPOSES.

IN AN **EMERGENCY**, PARENTS MAY DROP OFF FORGOTTEN ITEMS THAT STUDENTS NEED (MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, BOOKS, LUNCHES)

IN THE MAIN LOBBY. **IT IS THE STUDENTS' RESPONSIBILITY TO CHECK THE DESK FOR THESE ITEMS.** Phone calls to classrooms are not permitted. Speak to your child about this so if they leave something at home they will check the front desk first and then use an office phone to inform you.

WHEN VISITING THE SCHOOL FOR AN EXHIBIT, MEETING OR PICKING UP YOUR CHILD, PLEASE PARK ON THE BOGART AVENUE OR THE SURROUNDING BLOCKS. **THERE ARE NO VISITORS' PARKING SPACES ON SCHOOL PROPERTY.** ALL PARKING SPOTS ARE ASSIGNED TO WEBER STAFF.

STUDENTS MAY NOT BRING VISITORS TO SCHOOL WITH THEM.

YEARBOOK

Portfolio is the Weber Middle School yearbook. Its pages not only contain exciting memories of the year's events, but also snapshots of students and staff who have shaped these positive experiences. See Mr. Grande with any questions regarding the yearbook.

H.S.A. EXECUTIVE BOARD:

The Weber Home School Association serves as a forum for communication between school and home.

Weber H. S. A. Executive Board for 2008-2009

Sr. Co-President	Chris Jenkinson	883-2713
Jr. Co-President	Karen Sambursky	767-0884
VP/Membership	Jane Buford	944-0928
VP/Communication:	Marianne Hart	944-7625
Recording VP	Lee Anne Vetrone-Timothy	883-4890
Corresponding VP	Emily Beys	883-8487
Treasurer	Kate Callahan	944-7090
President Emeritus	Paula Whitman	883-4009

IMPORTANT WEBER DATES...

HSA MEETING DATES:

7:30p.m., Library

September 17 (8:45am)

October 22

November 19

January 21

March 11

May 13 (Weber/Schreiber Budget Presentation)

June 1

CURRICULUM CONVERSATIONS:

8:30-10:00am, Library

October 15

January 14

March 18

May 13

PROGRESS REPORT DATES

All progress reports are mailed home

October 16

December 22

March 16

May 26

REPORT CARD DATES:

All report cards are mailed home

November 21

February 9

April 24

Week of July 6

CALENDAR DATES FOR WEBER 2008-2009

August

28th 6th Gr. Visitation w/parents 9:30 a.m.

September

3 rd	First day of school
3 rd	7 & 8 th Gr. Sports Meeting 3:15PM
10 th	Open House 7:30 PM
23&24 th	Picture Day
30 th	RECESS – No School

October

1 st & 9 th	RECESS – No school
13 th	Columbus Day – No School
16 th	Progress Reports Mailed

November

3 rd	Picture Retake Day
4 th	Superintendent's Conf. Day- No School
5 th	7 & 8 th Gr. Sports Meeting 3:15PM
10 th	Marking Period 1 Ends
11 th	Veteran's Day – No School
21 st	Report Cards Mailed
26-28 th	Thanksgiving RECESS

December

11 th	8 th Gr. Winter Concert #1
	7:30 PM
15 th	7 th Gr. Winter Concert #2
	7:30 PM
18 th	6 th Gr. Winter Concert #3
	7:30 PM
22 nd	Progress Reports Mailed
24-Jan. 2 nd	RECESS

January

14 th	7 & 8 th Gr. Sports Meeting 3:15 PM
19 th	Martin Luther King Day--No School
20 th	6 th Gr. Winter Art Exhibit- 7:00 PM
21 st	8 th Gr. Accel. Art Show- 7:00 PM
22 nd	8 th grade Parents Sports Mtg. 6:30 PM, Schreiber Café
28 th	Marking Period 2 Ends

February

2-6 th	Book Fair
6&7 th	Drama Production 7:30 PM
8 th	Drama Production 3:00 PM
9 th	Report Cards Mailed
16-20 th	RECESS – No School

March

16 th	Progress Reports Mailed
25 th	7 & 8 th Gr. Sports Meeting 3:15PM
27 th	8 th Grade Portraits

April

7 th	Marking Period 3 Ends
9-17 th	RECESS- No School
24 th	Report Cards Mailed

May

7 th	7 th Gr. Spring Concert #1
	7:30 PM
14 th	8 th Gr. Spring Concert #2
	7:30 PM
18 th	6 th Gr. Spring Concert #3
	7:30 PM
22-25 th	Memorial Day RECESS
26 th	Progress Reports Mailed

June

2 nd	6 th Gr. Spring Art Show- 7:00 PM
4-5 th	Sports Physicals
11 th	8 th Gr. Accel. Art Show- 7:00 PM
19 th	Marking Period 4 Ends
22 nd	Academic Awards Night 6:00 PM
25 th	Promotion and Promotion Party
26 th	Last Day of School

July

Week of 6th Report Cards Mailed –
Grades 6, 7, 8th

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS....

Main Office -	Ms. Rodahan, Principal	767-5503
Blue House -	6 th gr. Ms. Javeline, Asst. Principal	767-5520
	7 th gr. Mr. Swinson, Asst. Principal	767-5530
	8 th gr. Ms. Dubie, Asst. Principal	767-5510
Green House -	Mr. Swinson, Asst. Principal	767-5530
Red House -	Ms. Dubie, Asst. Principal	767-5510
Yellow House -	Ms. Javeline, Asst. Principal	767-5520
Health Office -	Ms. Reilly Ms. Schlesinger	767-5550
Counseling Center –	Blue House – Ms. Sanchez	767-5543
	Green House - Ms. Fishman	767-5542
	Red House – Ms. Shirian	767-5541
	Yellow House - Ms. Zelman	767-5545
Psychologist -	Dr. Sazer	767-5544
	Dr. Friedman	767-5516
Social Worker -	Ms. Escamilla	767-5619
Weber Athletic Coordinator –	Mr. Baudo	767-5573
Athletic Department Director –	Ms. Joannon	767-5990

STUDENT CONDUCT

<u>OFFENSE</u>	<u>BEHAVIORS</u>	<u>RANGE OF DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS</u>
<p>Harassment: Harassment is unlawful, discriminatory conduct based upon the race, gender, national origin, religion, age or disability that includes such actions as slurs, jokes, <u>bullying</u> or any other verbal or physical attack.</p> <p>Sexual Harassment: Sexual harassment is unwanted and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature which interferes with a student's right to learn, study, work, achieve, or participate in school activities in a comfortable and supportive atmosphere. Under federal and state laws and policies, sexual harassment is illegal and is prohibited in school settings. All such incidents reported shall be investigated. If it is found that harassment has taken place, disciplinary action will follow. In situations where a student feels that he/she is the victim of harassment, the student should report the situation to a teacher, social worker, school counselor, school psychologist or administrator.</p>	<p>Such Behavior:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Has the purpose or effect of an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment. (2) Has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's performance; or (3) Otherwise adversely affects an individual's opportunities or participation in the educational environment. (4) Making racially insensitive comment. <p>Sexual harassment can take many forms – it may be:</p> <p>Physical –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standing in someone's way, or standing too close • Bumping into someone or brushing against the person on purpose • Patting, hugging or kissing • Grabbing, touching or pinching <p>Verbal –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Threats • Insults • Comments about a person's body • Sexual jokes, suggestions or remarks • Sexual stories or rumors • Notes, letters or graffiti • Pressure to go out on a date • Whistles or rude noises <p>Non-Verbal –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staring at someone's body • Sexual pictures or drawings • Mimicking or pantomiming in an insulting way • Gestures or looks – winking, licking lips, or 	<p>Parent Contact T.O. ASD ISS OSS Referral to Superintendent</p> <p>Parent Contact T.O. ASD ISS OSS Referral to Superintendent</p>

<u>OFFENSE</u>	<u>BEHAVIORS</u>	<u>RANGE OF DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS</u>
Disruptive Conduct	suggestive body movements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disturbing/disrupting class • Creating havoc/chaos in cafeteria, recess area, etc. • Disrupting assemblies 	Parent Contact T.O. ASD ISS/OSS Counselor referral
Insubordination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Failure to comply/respond to the directions/request of teacher, administrator or staff member 	Parent contact T.O. ASD ISS/OSS Counselor Referral
Disrespectful/offensive language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language or gestures that are offensive and unacceptable • Possession/distribution of obscene materials • Writing/distributing text that is offensive and demeans the reputation of others 	Parent contact T.O. ASD ISS OSS Counselor referral
Use/possession of alcohol/controlled substances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possession, distribution, sale and use of alcoholic beverages, intoxicants, etc.. • Controlled substances • Drug paraphernalia 	Parent contact OSS Referral to Superintendent Report to police Counselor/Psychologist referral
Use/possession of weapons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possession/distribution/sale of a firearm, knife, “stink bombs”, dangerous chemicals, explosives, any object which is not necessary or required for school activities 	Parent contact Police report Referral to Superintendent OSS
Assault (Physical/Verbal) Directed at a staff member or student	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physically intimidating a staff member or student • Striking a staff member or student • Threatening a staff member or student 	Parent Contact OSS Police Report

<u>OFFENSE</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forcible, removable of another student's clothing <u>BEHAVIORS</u>	Referral to Superintendent <u>RANGE OF DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS</u>
Fighting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hitting another student • Rough play • Threatening to attack another • Physical retaliation • Instigating a fight or attack on another • Intentional witness to a fight 	Parent Contact ASD ISS OSS Counselor referral
Theft	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taking an item without permission • Possession of another's property • Entering another's locker • Demanding money or property of another • Deleting another student's file 	Parent contact ASD ISS OSS Restitution for missing property Counselor referral
Vandalism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defacement, destruction of school property • Graffiti, marking, carving, scratching, or marking of walls, tables, desks, books, etc. 	Parent contact Restitution ASD ISS OSS Counselor referral
Truancy/Tardiness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not reporting for class • Leaving school grounds • Not reporting to school without parent permission • Reporting late to class 	Parent contact ASD ISS Counselor referral
Gambling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Games that involve money, personal property, etc. • Orchestrating/organizing betting 	Parent Contact T.O. ASD ISS OSS Counselor referral

<u>OFFENSE</u>	<u>BEHAVIORS</u>	<u>RANGE OF DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS</u>
Use/possession of tobacco	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possession, distribution, sale of tobacco 	Parent Contact ASD ISS OSS Counselor referral
Use/possession of items not permitted in school: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matches, lighters, laser pens, aerosol materials • Radios, walkmans, discmans, beepers, cell phones, electronic games • Water pistols, water balloons, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possession, use, distribution of items 	ASD ISS OSS Electronic equipment will be returned after school on first occasion. Subsequent actions will result in item held until parent pickup
Engaging in unacceptable behaviors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Failure to report for ASD • Forgery of notes, passes, etc. • Copying another student's work* • Plagiarism* • Entering another's file • Use of skateboards, razor scooters, etc. on school property • Running in hallways, stairwells, etc. • Carrying a backpack to classes 	Warning Parent contact ASD ISS OSS *Failing/Zero test grade
Safety – Zero tolerance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arson, bomb threat & activation of false fire alarms are against the law 	OSS Police report Superintendent referral
Student Attire	Student dress should not be of such a nature that it is disruptive, distracting or potentially dangerous to an orderly educational process and environment. Slogans and/or symbols which are inappropriate are prohibited.	Student conference Call to parent/guardian Referral to school counselor Conference w/parent/guardian Removal from class/school Child may be asked to change clothes

QUESTIONS

Why does my child's team seem to get so much more (or less) homework than other teams?

You should expect about 20 minutes of homework per subject. However, if there is an extended project, the work load should be budgeted in the student planner. Check your child's planner periodically for a breakdown of assignments. Speak to the teacher if the amount of work seems excessive. In general, 1 ½-2 hours of homework per night is to be expected. Homework is posted on the Weber Web Page daily. (www.portnet.k12.ny.us/weberhomework.html).

Are there any middle school parent/teacher conference days?

Unlike the elementary school, there are no specific days set aside for conferences. However, you may request a conference at any time. The teachers are available by calling your child's counselor. Either you, the teacher, or counselor may initiate a parent team conference.

How can I get my child's standardized test scores?

You may obtain information regarding standardized test scores by calling your child's counselor.

What will my child be doing at lunchtime?

Your child will be eating for half of the period and the other half will be allowed to go outside and play or use the library. In inclement weather, students will go to the auditorium or all purpose room.

Whom should I speak to if there is a problem with the bus?

You should first speak to the House Assistant Principal about any bus problem. You may also call the Director of Transportation if the situation persists at 767-5030.

What should I do if my child is being harassed by another student?

You should first alert the subject area teacher if the problem exists in the classroom. In addition, you should also notify the guidance counselor and then the assistant principal who will work with you to resolve the situation.

How can I feel more involved in the school?

Parents are an integral part of the Weber community. The best way to be involved is by contacting the HSA Co-Presidents. Be sure to join the Active Parenting Workshops sponsored by our Counseling Department and watch for our Curriculum Conversations quarterly with the building principal, Ms. Rodahan, that deal with middle school issues and curriculum overviews for selected departments and/or grade levels. Read the bulletin from the HSA which will give you information and dates of upcoming events and meetings.

What should my child do with overdue library books?

Library books should be returned to the school library in a timely fashion. Your child's hombase teacher can give him/her a pass to return any overdue books or to see the librarian about lost books. The child's report card may be delayed if the books are not returned.

What is available in the area of curriculum enrichment?

Each subject area teacher provides enrichment opportunities within his/her own classroom for those children who wish to go above and beyond. We encourage students to enrich the academic experience by becoming involved in the clubs and other extra curricular activities at Weber. Your child's counselor, core teacher or House Assistant Principal can provide further information. Lunchtime challenge workshops are available for all students. Opportunities to explore topics such as robotics, Shakespeare, poetry, stage combat, paper engineering, etc., change approximately every four weeks.

What about extra help?

Extra help can be obtained during the study halls. Students are encouraged to see their core and encore teachers privately in order to set up a mutually agreeable time for extra help. If you feel your child needs additional assistance, contact the teacher, call the counselor, or arrange a team meeting. Teachers have two half-hour sessions available before or after school each month. This calendar is posted on our website.

What advanced courses are available and how will I know?

The PEP program is available to those students in sixth, seventh and eighth grade who qualify. Through a selection process, students may also qualify for seventh grade Accelerated Math and in eighth grade Integrated Algebra, Regents Earth Science, Accelerated Art, and Foundations in Studio Art. Contact your child's counselor for more information regarding these courses of study. A course guide with descriptions of each course is on the website.

What do I do if I have to get an "important" message to my child during the day?

You'd be surprised by the number of calls we get every day asking us to get messages to children. While we want to be helpful and responsive, it is not always possible to deliver messages (reminders) to students. Please make arrangements with your child before leaving for school or the night before. If your child needs a reminder, you could write in his/her agenda book or leave a note in your child's bookbag. We cannot be responsible for personal messages. House phones are available to students if needed.

In the event of an **EXTREME** emergency, we will make every effort to get a message to your child during the school day if you call the House office.

Period Schedule

Entry		8:00a.m.
Homebase		8:07- 8:14a.m.
Period	1	8:17- 8:58a.m.
	2	9:02- 9:43a.m.
	3	9:47-10:28a.m.
	4	10:32-11:17a.m.
	5	11:21-12:06p.m.
	6	12:10-12:55p.m.
	7	12:59- 1:40p.m.
	8	1:44- 2:25p.m.
	9	2:29- 3:10p.m.

Extended Homebase Schedule

Entry		8:00a.m.
Homebase		8:07- 8:32am.
Period	1	8:35- 9:13a.m.
	2	9:17- 9:55am.
	3	9:59-10:37a.m.
	4	10:41-11:26a.m.
	5	11:30-12:15p.m.
	6	12:19-1:04p.m.
	7	1:08- 1:46p.m.
	8	1:50- 2:28p.m.
	9	2:32- 3:10p.m.

One Hour Delayed Schedule

Entry		9:00a.m.
Homebase		9:10- 9:15a.m.
Period	1	9:19- 9:50a.m.
	2	9:54-10:25a.m.
	3	10:29-11:00a.m.
	4	11:04-11:49a.m.
	5	11:53-12:38p.m.
	6	12:42-1:27p.m.
	7	1:31-2:01p.m.
	8	2:05- 2:35p.m.
	9	2:39- 3:10p.m.

Two Hour Delayed Schedule

Entry		10:00a.m.
Homebase		10:10- 10:15a.m.
Period	1	10:19- 10:40a.m.
	2	10:44-11:05a.m.
	3	11:09-11:30a.m.
	4	11:34-12:19p.m.
	5	12:23-1:08p.m.
	6	1:12-1:57p.m.
	7	2:01-2:22p.m.
	8	2:26- 2:46p.m.
	9	2:50- 3:10p.m.