



TMSA
TRIANGLE

Science Wisdom Peace

Triangle Math and Science Academy

Parent-Student Orientation 2022-2023



TMSA
TRIANGLE
Science Wisdom Peace

WELCOME to TMSA!

We will try to answer all of your questions today!

TMSA Admin Team K-8



Mr. Kara
Principal K-12



Mrs. Hansen
AP of Academics
ES- K-5



Ms. Lanham
AP of Student Culture
ES - K-5



Mr. Scranton
AP of Student Culture MS- 6-8



Mr. Wexler
AP of Academics MS- 6-8



Mrs. Wood
Administrative
Assistant



Mrs. Bell
PowerSchool
Coordinator



Mrs. Powell
School Nurse
Aide



Ms. McDowell
AP of
Operations

TMSA Faculty Members



Ms. Banks
K-5 School Counselor



Ms. Mathis
K-12 School Social Worker

Meeting the SEL Needs of our K-12 Students



HOME BASE™

PowerSchool

Sign In Create Account

Parent Sign In

Username

Password

[Having trouble signing in?](#)

Sign In

Student Sign In

Students - Click the button to sign in. You will be redirected to the Student sign in page.

Student Sign In

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Elementary School Best Forms of Communication:

1. PowerSchool
2. Schoology
3. Class Dojo (teacher option)
4. Email
5. Phone
6. Meetings/Conferences



ClassDojo

Communication

Parents also receive information via:

- School Newsletters- ES, MS, and HS
- School Messenger-you must opt in to receive this [CLICK HERE](#)
- TMSA Facebook and Twitter Pages
- TMSAcademy.org is the school website
- TMSAPCS is our Central Office
www.tmsapcs.org

More Communication

- **Schoology is our learning management system K-12**
- **TMSA School page- you can use last year's log in. New families will receive log-in info from Mrs. Bell.**
- **Schoology ES Group page: you will need the link to join the group**
[ES Schoology Parent Group](#)
- **Teachers will invite parents to their class Schoology pages.**
- **This is where we post information related to the elementary school- upcoming events, testing dates, reminders, etc.**
- **Schoology is where student assignments and grades are located**
- **For new parents- we will offer some training videos or webinars for Schoology use in the next few weeks**
- **Parent guide for using Schoology:**
<https://support.schoology.com/hc/en-us/articles/201000873-parent-guide>

Schoology- ES Group Page

- All exterior doors are locked at 8:10 a.m.
- Late arrivals and all guests must enter at the front entrance and sign in
- All visitors and school volunteers (any non-staff) are screened through a Raptor System background check, an emergency management system for schools
- TMSA staff can be identified by their TMSA ID's
- TMSA partners with Cary Police Dept and Cary Fire Dept for its emergency planning
- TMSA has an assigned School Resources Officer (SRO) yearly
- Students participate in monthly fire drills and yearly tornado and lockdown drills

Safety is our #1 priority

- **TMSA follows the guidelines from the CDC and works closely with our local health dept.; as of now there are no precautions in place due to low community spread. This may change as we continue to monitor the situation**
- **The school installed a Reme Halo air purification system last year which improves air quality to a level comparable to surgical hospital rooms and is proven to reduce SARS-CoV-2 present by 99.9%**
- **We have a custodian continuously cleaning throughout the day**
- **Staff encourage students to wash their hands and to use hand sanitizer**
- **Notification will be sent to parents only if they have been directly exposed.**
- **Mrs. Powell, our school clinical aide, will update us, as needed, as to any health policy changes**
- **If there were a confirmed case of monkeypox, only students who had prolonged direct physical contact would be at risk, in which case, parents would be notified**

Covid-19 Precautions

- **Students may ride one of our 5 buses or be dropped off at school.**
- **Kindergarten** parents will be allowed to park in the front parking lot and escort their child to their classroom during the staggered entry days and Meet the Teacher Day (August 29-31 and Sept.1) and on the first day for all Kindergarteners (Sept. 2).
- From Sept. 12 on, Kindergarten students should follow standard arrival procedures, and you should allow your child to come to class on their own. We will be sure they get to the right location!
- **K-5** parents - please enter the carpool line from Gregson Dr. and drop students off at the front student entrance. K-5 students should enter the building by going up the stairs, through the double doors, and **go to the cafeteria until the bell rings.**
- **School doors open at 7:40.** Students will be supervised in the cafeteria until the bell rings at 8:05. **School begins promptly at 8:10 AM.**

Student Arrival K-5



Arrival- 7:40am-8:10am

- **TMSA will have 5 buses this year transporting from 5 central locations around the city**
- **As of today, all buses are full; to get on a waiting list or for additional bus information email:**
Smcdowell@tmsacademy.org
- **AM-If your child is busing to Apex, they arrive to Cary campus first, then go on to Apex.**
- **PM- Buses will leave Apex campus at 3:40 and then head to Cary campus to be dropped off and then continue with their PM bus route.**

Bus information

Student Punctuality is Very Important!

- **Students will be marked tardy if they are not in their classrooms when the bell rings at 8:10. (Not arriving to the building at 8:10.)**
- **After 8:10, all exterior doors to the school will be locked.** You will have to park and enter at the Main Office entrance where you will sign in your child, who will receive a tardy slip.
- **Note:** Main office is located at the front student entrance (middle).
- Tardies will be determined to be excused or unexcused by the administrative assistants. (See Student Handbook for details.)
- **10 tardies** will result in a meeting with your assistant principal.
- **More than 15 tardies** may result in a referral to the Dept. of Social Services.

Late Arrivals

Did you know?

Coming to school just 5 minutes late each day adds up quickly.....

- 875 minutes
- 14.5 hours
- 2 days of instruction is lost!

So important to be ON TIME!

- **PBS- Positive Behavior System for K-5**
 - “PAWS” for K-5
 - K-3 will continue on standards based grading
- **mClass** universal screener/progress monitoring tool will be used K-3
- One full time **School Counselor, Ms. Banks**, for K-5 students
- **MAP Testing-** Adaptive tests- fall, winter, and spring
- We continue to grow and make improvements!

Continuing for 2022-2023

- **Lunch in the cafeteria again!**
- **New base for playground! (No more mulch)**
- **New shade coverings on the playground and front of school**
- **New K-5 Reading Curriculum**
- **Leader In Me implemented schoolwide**
- **Additional classrooms K-5; Grades K-2 have five classrooms; grades 3-5 have four classrooms**
- **Several new staff members**
- **Only grade 4-5 will use hallway lockers**
- **Only K-1 dismissed from playground entrance; 2-5 dismissed from the front student entrance**

New to K-5 this year

Based on the Training provided by Marzano Resources and Best Practices, TMSA Schools will adopt 1-4 Scale for K-3 this school year.

PERFORMANCE LEVELS:

4 (**ADVANCED**) - Superior academic performance. Advanced work indicates an in-depth understanding and exemplary display of the skills in the standards.

3 (**PROFICIENT**) - Satisfactory academic performance. Proficient work indicates a solid understanding and adequate display of the skills in the standards.

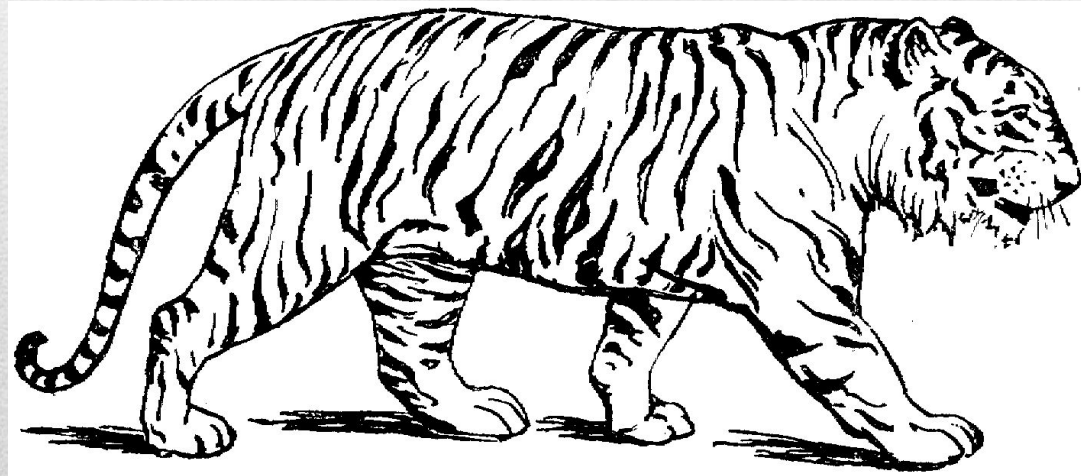
2 (**BASIC**) - Marginal academic performance. Basic work indicates a partial understanding and limited display of the skills in the standards.

1 (**BELOW BASIC**) - Low academic performance. Basic work does not display application of concepts and skills. Needs additional instructional support.

More info to come on Curriculum Night

K-3 Standards-Based Report Cards

The **Tiger TAILS** classes were created to help individualize instruction at TMSA. The acronym stands for **T**ime for **A**ctivities that **I**nspire **L**earning and **S**uccess. Classes include remediation in math and reading, and enrichment classes.



Tiger TAILS Program (K-5)

- **Grades 4-5 students will have electives classes daily from 2:05- 2:55**
- **Students will complete a Google form with electives options; this will happen within the next two weeks**
- **Students will select their top 3 choices; we will do our best to get everyone into one of their top choices**
- **Most will run on a semester basis; a few will commit to a yearlong option**

Electives- Grades 4-5

- Our goal is to clearly teach students behavioral expectations at TMSA.
- We will recognize the positive behaviors shown by students.
- Admin Team will handle any infractions of our discipline policy.

PBIS: Code of Conduct



Practice Respect

Always Be Kind

Work Responsibly

Stay Safe

PAWS: K-5 PBIS

All Settings	Specials	Bathroom	Playground	Cafeteria	Hallway/Locker	Auditorium
<p>P practice Respect</p> <p>Others and property</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Use appropriate voice level •Treat adults and peers as you want to be treated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Please flush •Use appropriate voice level •Respect privacy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Practice good sportsmanship •Wait patiently for your turn •Play fair and share 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Use appropriate voice level •Use good table manners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Respect other people and property •Use appropriate voice level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Eyes and ears on the speaker •Quiet voices
<p>Always Be Kind</p> <p>Actions and words</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Use encouraging words and actions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Wait patiently for your turn •Use kind words and actions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Include others •Use kind and encouraging words and actions •Look out for each other 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Be polite and kind to all adults and children •Welcome everyone to all tables 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Look out for each other •Use kind and encouraging words and actions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Keep your legs down
<p>Work Responsibly</p> <p>Do your best</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Be prepared and ready to work •Use materials as intended 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Use bathroom in an appropriate and timely manner •Throw away trash •Conserve paper, water and soap 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Use equipment correctly and put it away •Problem solve with classmates •Line up calmly and quickly •Pick up your belongings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Clean up after yourself and use time wisely •Throw trash away •Eat before you socialize •Bring lunch supplies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Walk single file •Walk on the second, colored tile •Walk on the right side of the hallway •Place belongings inside locker 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Work to keep your area clean
<p>Stay Safe</p> <p>Follow rules and directions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Use materials safely 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Wash your hands with soap and water 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Use equipment safely •Follow rules and directions •Ask for help when needed •Keep your hands to yourself 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Stay in seat until excused •Keep hands and feet to yourself •Walk at all times •Touch and eat your food only 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Walk at all times •Keep hands and feet to yourself •Walk facing forward 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Walk single file •Keep your body still in the seat

- Each month teachers in grades K-5 will pick one student who consistently shows their Tiger Pride.
- We also focus on one character trait each month.
- Students chosen by their teachers will be displayed on our **Wall of Tiger Pride**.

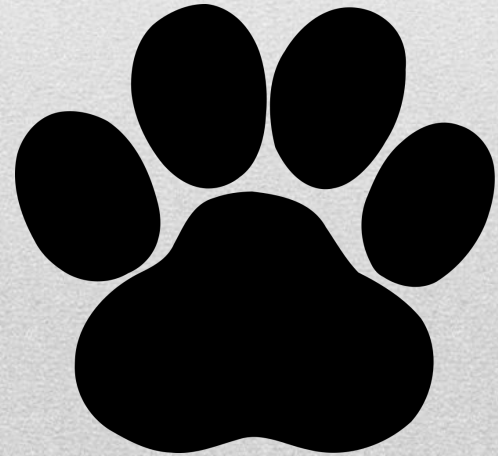
K- 5 Wall of Tiger Pride

Each week K-5 teachers nominate one student as a Tiger PAWS winner, someone they felt was showing their Tiger PRIDE and demonstrating positive attitude, behavior, and/or noticeable improvement.

A student will be chosen for each grade level K-5.

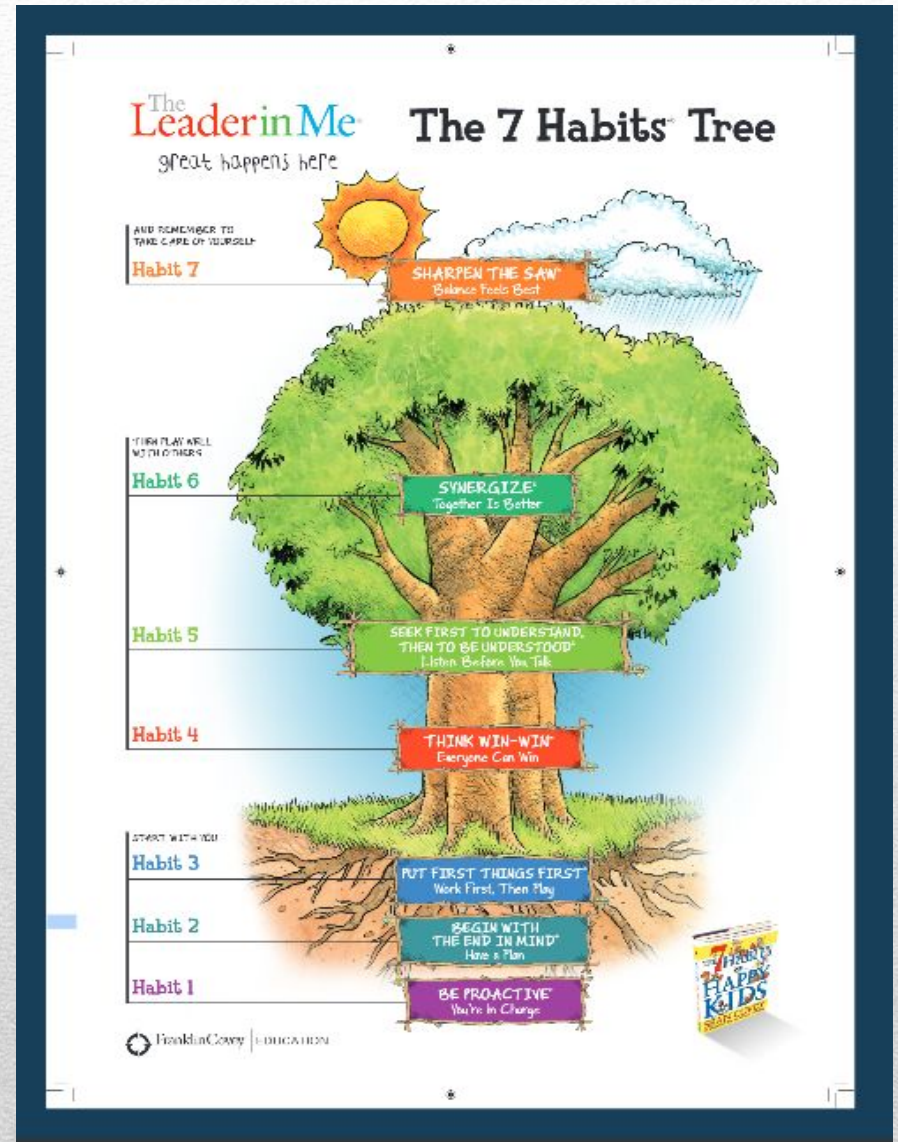
Winners will be posted on Schoology each Friday AM.

**Weekly Tiger
PAWS**



- We will be using the **Leader in Me** K-8 this year
- Teaches leadership skills, positive character traits, goal setting, social- emotional skills, and much more
- We will have a student lighthouse committee, as well as a parent lighthouse committee

Leader in Me



- **The YMCA will be our after-school care provider this year**
- **First day of after-school care will be Monday, August 29**
- **Sign up directly with Cary (Taylor) YMCA:**
<https://www.ymcatriangle.org/schools/taylor-ymca-after-school-elementary>
- **The YMCA bus will depart for Taylor YMCA daily by 3:30**
- **Students should arrive to the YMCA by 4PM daily**
- **Students must be picked up at the Y by 6:00.**
- **Ms. Lanham is the point of contact for the YMCA, but they can also be contacted directly through the Taylor YMCA.**
- **There is more info in the lobby at their table today**

After School Care- Taylor YMCA

- **After School Clubs** will be provided by outside vendors and most will begin at 3:00 dismissal. All will run on a semester cycle this year. Plans are to send out sign up sheets within the first few weeks of school and will not begin until Sept. 26. More information to follow on club vendors.
- **Any after-school tutoring will be set by the teacher, as needed.** We also have Tiger TAILS remediation classes during the school day.
- **Saturday School** is often offered for students needing extra academic assistance each year; details to follow.
- **All students MUST be picked up at dismissal** unless they are signed up for a club, tutoring, or other after-school organization. **All students remaining after 3:30 without an assigned adult supervisor will be sent to the office to phone home. Parents will be charged late pick-up fees.** You will have to come into the front office and sign for your child.

After School Activities

Tentative Clubs

- **Gear Shifters (lego)**
- **Mad Science**
- **Chess Club**
- **Art Club**
- **A sign up sheet will be sent out within the next week with links for the vendors.**
- **Scheduled to begin Mon. Sept. 26**

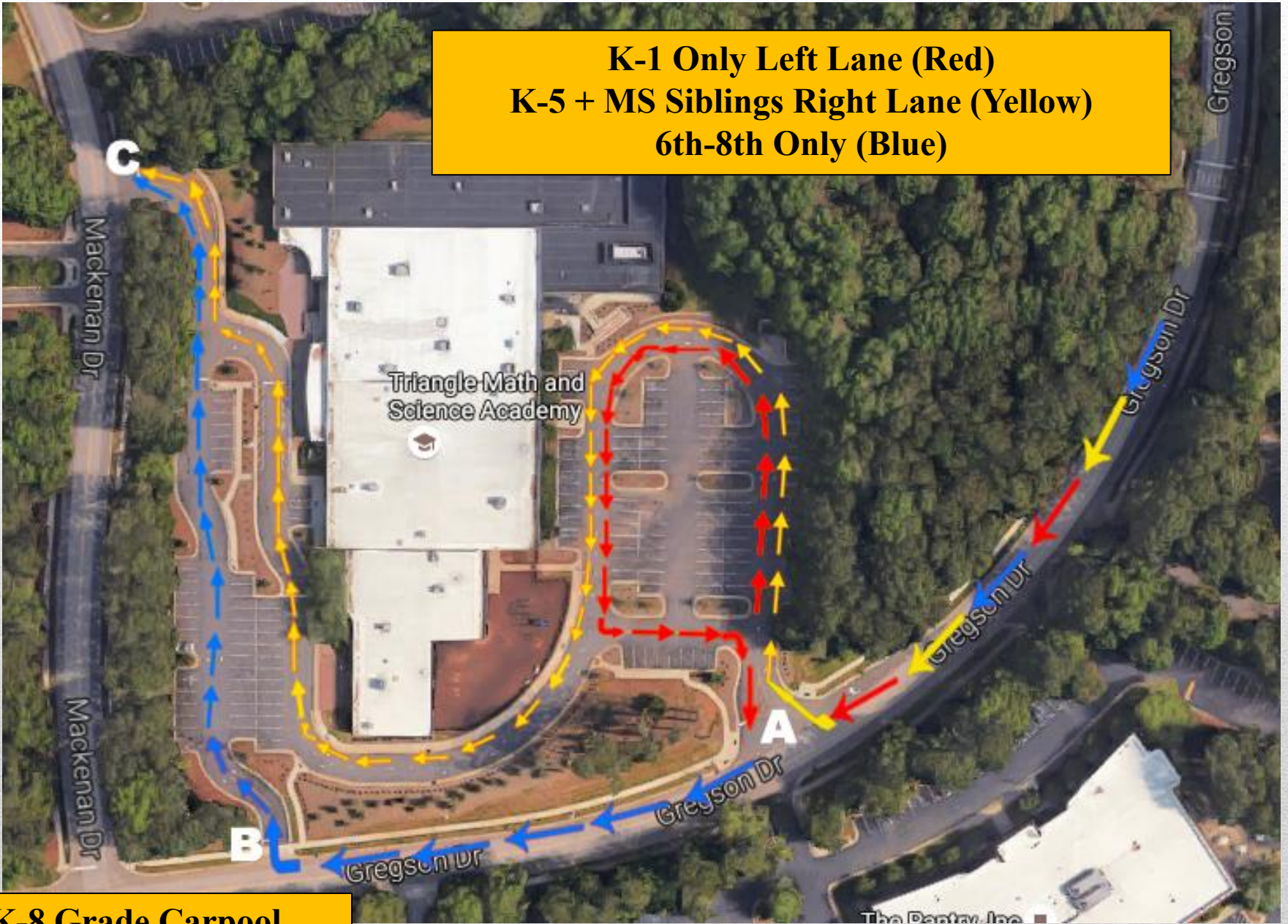
More info to come within first 2 weeks of school

After School Clubs & Vendors- K-5

- **K-1 will dismiss from the playground entrance from 2:50-3:10 ONLY**
- **K-1 without siblings enter the parking lot in the left lane.** You will turn left out of the carpool lane and exit back onto Gregson Drive
- **Grades 2-5 will dismiss from the Front Student Entrance (at pillars) from 3:00-3:30**
- **K-1 parents** with upper grade siblings (2-8) should enter the far right carpool lane so that you may continue to the front of the school
- **Turn on your flashers when dropping off and picking up. Turn them off once your child(ren) have exited (AM) or entered vehicle (PM).**
- **All parents should display their student's dismissal tags in their front windshield for staff to see.**
- **Please be patient as new parents get used to the procedure!**

K-5: Dismissal Procedures

K-1 Only Left Lane (Red)
K-5 + MS Siblings Right Lane (Yellow)
6th-8th Only (Blue)



**K-8 Grade Carpool
Dismissal Map**

- Students are to follow safety precautions such as crossing at the crosswalk, staying behind the lines, watching for their car, etc.
- Parents should drive SLOWLY through carpool and follow staff directives and pull up as close as you can to the car ahead of you
- Parents should be alert to students and staff; please do not use cell phones in the carpool line
- If your child is not ready when you arrive, you will be asked to “shoot the loop” again to avoid holding up the carpool line
- If there are any problems with parents or students following carpool rules/procedures, you will be asked to meet with Principal Kara or your dean

Carpool Expectations= SAFETY!

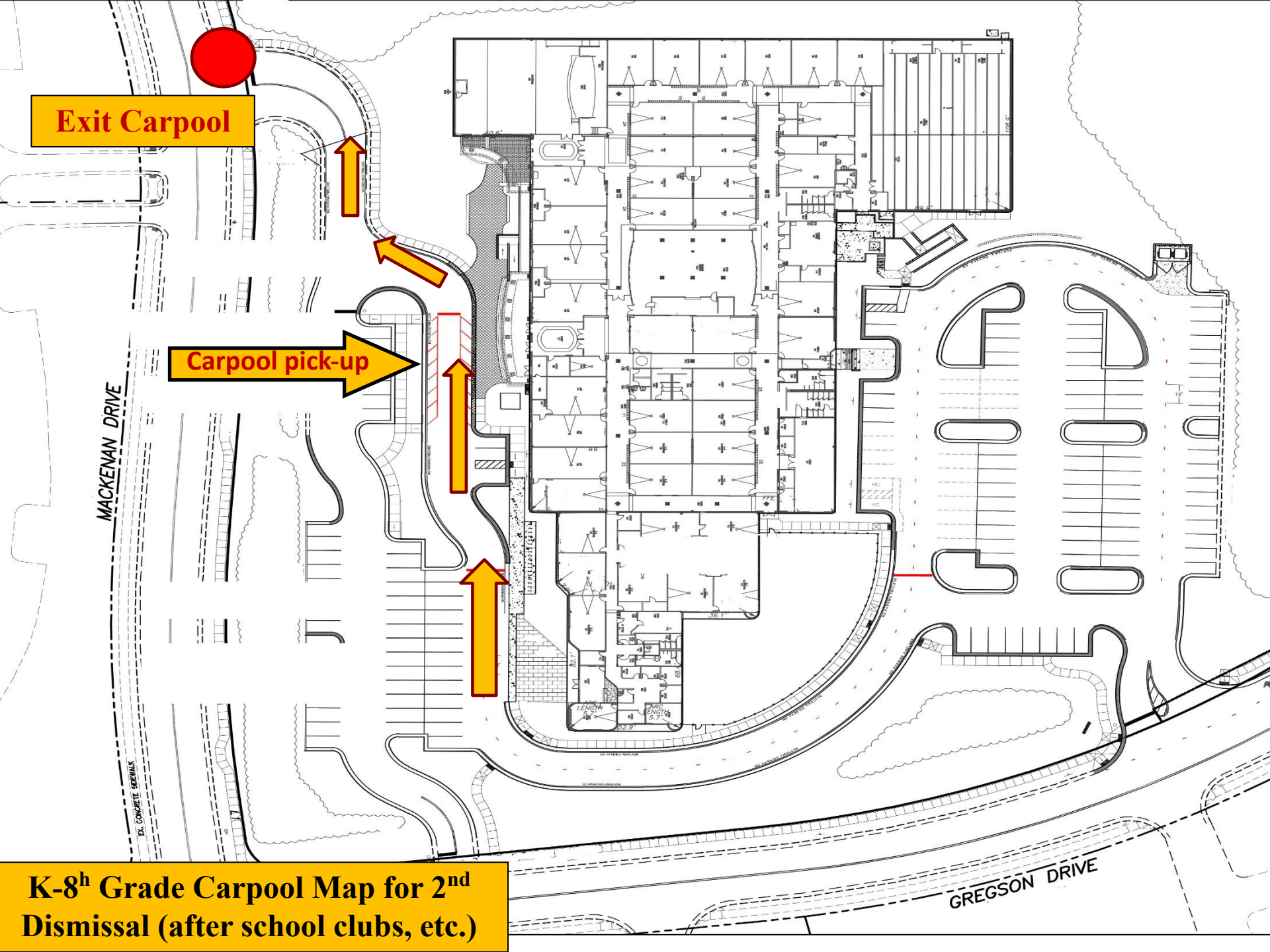
Exit Carpool

Carpool pick-up

K-8^h Grade Carpool Map for 2nd Dismissal (after school clubs, etc.)

MACKENAN DRIVE

GREGSON DRIVE



- Students will eat in the cafeteria this year
- There will be 4 different lunch times for K-5 from 10:15 - 11:50
- TMSA students will need to bring in a cold lunch
- Catered meals will not be available this year
- Microwaves are not available to students
- Students should bring their own eating utensils
- Notify the school nurse aide of any peanut or other food allergies; she is here today if you need to speak with her
- There will be a “peanut free” table available for students with nut allergies

Lunch

- **Read the Dress Code Policy carefully in the Student Handbook.** (Located on school website)
- **Students are required to wear their uniform every day, unless notified otherwise**
- Students out of uniform will receive a reminder. If this occurs repeatedly, parents will be contacted. Repeat dress code violations may result in loss of Friday jeans or dress down days privileges.
- Parents may be notified and possibly asked to bring a change of clothing to school in case of emergencies.
- **Uniform Vendors** are listed on the TMSA website. (Note: You may wear uniform colors until your uniform arrives.)
- **LABEL EVERYTHING! (Clothing, supplies, water bottles, lunch boxes, etc.)**
- **Lost and Found** will be in the student entrance area or the cafeteria and will be cleaned out weekly. Please check these areas for any lost items.
- **Fridays**, students can wear jeans with any **TMSA spirit shirt or uniform shirt.**
- **The second Friday of the month is “Casual Day.”** See guidelines for acceptable clothing in the **Student Handbook.** Students will be asked to change if their clothing is inappropriate.

Uniforms

- **K-5 Student carpool tags** will be available by your homeroom teacher as soon as possible. Please hang these cards from your rear view mirrors upon pick-up.
- **Student supplies** may be brought to your classroom today or day 1
- **Medication** drop-off (Nurse Aide Office is near student entrance)
- Acknowledgement of **Student Handbook** and **Internet Use form** will be sent out by your child's homeroom teacher. Please sign and return during the first week of school
- Please **sign in with your homeroom teacher** when you visit the classroom today
- There are **Parent Task Force** sign-up sheets in the hallway; please see if there are any committees that interest you and sign up!

More Information

- The **Student-Parent Handbook** is a great resource to locate information from this session. This can be located on our school website under the “academics tab.” All students and parents must sign a form saying they have read this.
 - Teachers have a wealth of knowledge and can answer most of your questions about the topics discussed in this presentation
 - Still need help?
 - Mrs. Wood mwood@tmsacademy.org
 - Mrs. Bell sbell@tmsacademy.org
 - Ms. McDowell Smcdowell@tmsacademy.org
 - Mrs. Powell Lpowell@tmsacademy.org
 - Ms. Hansen Lhansen@tmsacademy.org
 - Ms. Lanham clanham@tmsacademy.org
 - Mr. Kara principal@tmsacademy.org
 - Mr. Scranton tscranton@tmsacademy.org
 - Mr. Wexler Ewexler@tmsacademy.org
-

**Have
questions?**

- **Visit each of your classrooms**
- **Meet your teacher(s)**
- **Remember to sign in**
- **Drop off your child's school supplies**
- **Detailed information about curriculum will be sent home by your teacher or will be shared on Curriculum Night; today is simply a chance to visit your rooms and meet your teachers!**

Visiting the Classrooms
