

NEW PLYMOUTH MIDDLE SCHOOL

STUDENT HANDBOOK 2011-2012

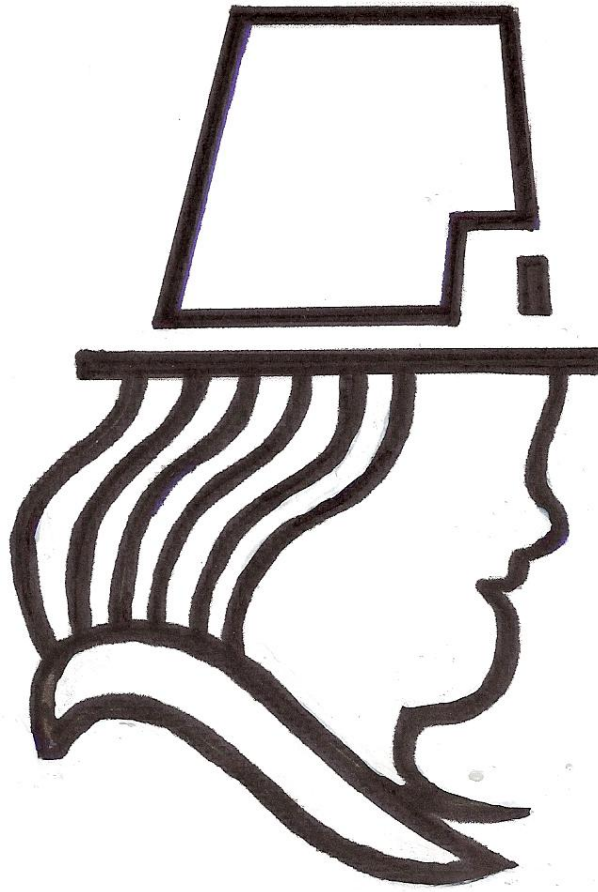
This agenda belongs to:

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY/STATE/ZIP

STUDENT NUMBER



Our Mission

Exemplary education through community and school

Our Vision

We will make “New Plymouth Middle School” synonymous with excellence

WELCOME

This folder contains information that will clarify rules and regulations at New Plymouth Middle School. We hope that it will serve as a useful reference. HAVE A GREAT YEAR!

RESPONSIBILITIES OF STUDENTS

1. RESPECT THE TEACHERS AND STAFF
2. RESPECT YOUR SCHOOL
3. RESPECT YOUR PEERS
4. RESPECT THE PROPERTY OF OTHERS

SCHOOL HOURS

Students should not arrive early or remain late, unless involved in scheduled supervised activities. Any student arriving at school before 8:00 will be assigned to the gym. They are to bring something to study. No student will arrive before 7:30.

7:30 a.m.	School building opens
4:00 p.m.	School closes
8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Office hours

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT – DISTRICT POLICY #540

Students are expected to conduct themselves in such a manner as not to interfere with the orderly operation of the educational program. The building principals are directed to establish reasonable, and age-appropriate, rules necessary to maintain orderly conduct in the school. Any rules established by the principal must be published in the student handbook, (each of which is subject to school board approval), or otherwise distributed so as to provide adequate notice to all students.

The principal may suspend or recommend expulsion of a student who engages in one or more of the following specific activities while in school buildings, on school grounds, in school vehicles or during a school sponsored activity. Suspension or expulsion shall be mandatory for serious violations in school building or on school property.

1. Causing or attempting to cause damage to school property or stealing or attempting to steal school property of value.
2. Causing or attempting to cause damage to private property or stealing or attempting to steal private property.
3. Commission of any act which if committed by an adult would be robbery or assault as defined by state law.
4. Violation of criminal law which has an immediate effect on the school or on the general safety or welfare of students or staff.
5. Violation of district policy or building regulations.
6. Violation of the district's policy on dangerous weapons in the schools or on school grounds.
7. Violation of the district's alcohol use/drug use policy. Expulsion shall be mandatory for sale of drugs or controlled substances, in accordance with state law.
8. Violation of the district's smoking and use of tobacco policy.
9. Violation of the district's policy on sexual harassment.
10. Throwing objects unless part of a supervised school activity that can cause bodily injury or damage property.

11. Directing profanity, vulgar language, or obscene gestures toward other students, school personnel or visitors to the school.
12. Engaging in verbal abuse, i.e. name calling, ethnic or racial slurs, or derogatory statements addressed publicly to others that precipitate disruption of the school program or incite violence.
13. Committing extortion, coercion or blackmail, i.e., obtaining money or other objects of value from an unwilling person or forcing an individual to act through the use of force or threat of force.
14. Lying or giving false information, either verbally or in writing, to a school employee or other personnel authorized to work in the school.
15. Scholastic dishonesty, which includes but is not limited to cheating on a test, plagiarism or unauthorized collaboration which another person in preparing written work.
16. Continued willful disobedience or open and persistent defiance of proper authority.
17. Behavior which is detrimental to the welfare, safety, or morals of other students or school personnel.
18. Repeated interference with the school's ability to provide educational opportunities to other students.

VIOLENCE IN SCHOOLS

Making violent remarks or even joking remarks about violence will not be taken lightly or tolerated. Making a threat is an act of violence that can get you in trouble. Saying you are going to kill someone at school could get you suspended from school and arrested.

HARASSMENT

Harassed, teased, picked on or being ostracized are some of the reasons given for the recent school shootings. If it is happening here, at our school, it must stop.

1. Constant name calling
2. Mean teasing
3. Abusive language towards another student
4. Constant disrespect of another student
5. Constant rude remarks towards another student
6. Threats towards another student

These types of behavior will not be tolerated in our classrooms or on our school grounds. If a teacher hears it they are to send that person to the office where it will mean automatic in-school suspension and parents called. A student could also possibly receive out of school suspension and a police ticket.

If reported by a student, it will be investigated and dealt with in an appropriate manner. Do not be afraid to come to the office or tell any teacher. We want our school to be a place where you feel safe.

FIGHTING

In the event ANY student (regardless of fault) is involved in physical fighting or extreme verbal abuse, that student will be immediately suspended for at least one school day.

VULGAR/ABUSIVE LANGUAGE OR ACTS

Vulgar/Abusive acts or language will not be tolerated in our school. Students displaying these tendencies will be suspended. Example: pulling down your pants (mooning someone) or someone else's.

EXTRACURRICULAR

Students must be in attendance at least 6 periods to be eligible to practice or compete in an activity unless previous arrangements have been made. Doctors or Dentist appointments are OK.

GUIDANCE

Any student wishing to confer with the counselor should feel free to stop at the guidance center at any time and schedule an appointment.

LOCKER

The combination to a locker is given only to those using that locker and should not be known by anyone else. You must remain in the locker assigned to you, no trading. Lockers should be kept neat and clean at all times and should not be slammed, kicked or otherwise abused. Locker inspections will be made periodically. Students who fail to care for their lockers will be subject to disciplinary action and charged for the damages. Jammed lockers will result in a noon detention.

VALUABLES

Valuables should not be brought to school. However if items must be brought for a special reason, they can be checked in at the office for safekeeping.

TELEPHONE – CELL PHONES

The classroom and office phones are generally not for student use except in an emergency. Cell phones must be turned off, and kept in your pocket, during school hours. If they are taken by a teacher they will be kept by the principal for five school days (not counting weekend days). This means you could not have it for the weekend depending on when it is taken. Should your phone be taken a 2nd time the phone will be held in the office for five school days, followed by five school days during which you will be required to turn it into the office at 8 AM where it will stay during school hours. A third time you will lose the phone for five school days, be required to turn it in to the office during school hours for ten school days. An additional ten days with your phone in the office during school hours will be added for each additional offense.

ITEMS IN CLASSROOMS

Any items not needed in a classroom that causes a problem will be taken by the teacher and turned into the office. Those items turned in will be kept for five school days, second offense will be ten days, at which time they may be claimed. Such items will include: radios, CD players, I Pods, tape players, beepers, candy, pop, etc.

BOOKS AND OTHER SCHOOL ISSUED EQUIPMENT

Books and any other equipment issued to you, or you have checked out, are to be properly cared for. The student will be required to pay for lost or damaged books and equipment. Books or backpacks left in the hallways or classrooms will result in a noon detention until the third time. From that time on, each time will result in after school detention for each offense, and noon detention every day until the after school detention is completed.

LOST AND FOUND

Take care of your possessions and mark them so they may be identified. The lost and found barrel is located next to the counselor's office. Check with the secretary for small items.

TRANSPORTATION AND BUS CONDUCT

This service is provided by the school district and is a privilege, not a right. Students are expected to conduct themselves as ladies and gentlemen on school buses at all times. Rules for bus conduct are posted on each bus, in the teacher's handbook, and given out by the bus driver. All students riding on the bus shall follow these rules. Only students assigned to a bus will be permitted to ride the bus unless approved by the bus driver and principal, or transportation director. Students are under the direct authority of the bus driver at all times while riding the bus. Extracurricular and athletic trips are under the supervision of the teacher, coach, and bus driver.

ASSEMBLIES

We have established a tradition for being an attentive, courteous audience. We are known for our high standard of behavior during plays, sports and assemblies. This means that the responsibility for maintaining these traditions rests with each and every student within the school.

DANCES

These are scheduled at various times throughout the school year by clubs and organizations through the student council and principal. Night dances will be from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., and are only for 7th and 8th grade students. These dances are intended only for our middle school students.

PHYSICAL AFFECTION

School is not the place for public expression of physical affection between students. Any expression of affection will result in a warning being given for the first time and suspension for any times thereafter.

NON-STUDENT LOITERING

To help protect student and school property from disruptive activity, school officials must have immediate knowledge of any persons who are not members of the staff or student body inside a building or on the school property.

1. Due to space limitations and the fact that we have nothing for them to do; student visitors will not be allowed.
2. Arrangements for visits by adults need to be made through the office. Parents are welcome to visit classrooms but should check with the office first.

CLOSED CAMPUS

The campus for students will be closed. Once students arrive at school they will not be allowed to leave until the end of the day. Students needing to go home for lunch may be excused with a note from their parents.

DRESS AND GROOMING

The Board of Trustees believes that the parent and student should select appropriate attire for school. Appropriate clothing for class or any school activity must be reasonable, safe, clean and decent. An individual's dress and personal appearance should reflect a sensitivity and respect for others. The fact that the school will permit a wide variety of school clothing does not mean that all styles are deemed appropriate. It is the opinion of the Board of Trustees that student attire has a direct effect upon the educational environment and upon the individual student's ability to function at an optimum level within his/her classes. Therefore, clothing or styles that show bare midriffs, sagging pants that reveal any

undergarments, revealing tank tops, shorts that are inappropriate in length, and any inappropriate symbols or headgear of any type are not permitted. Attire that depicts or advocates illegal substances for youth, such as tobacco, alcohol, drugs or weapons is not acceptable. Also, clothing that has a sexual theme or connotation is not acceptable. Any manner of grooming or apparel that denotes membership in or affiliation with any unauthorized group, gang, hate group, or racial prejudice will not be allowed.

Pants or Levis that have holes above the knee are not allowed. Hats, scarves, bandanas, and sunglasses are not to be worn during the school day. Dog collars, hanging belts or chains anywhere are not acceptable. Under garments showing or clothing resembling pajamas, bedroom slippers and flip flops are not to be worn to school.

Failure to comply with school dress code will result in a phone call to parents with a request to bring acceptable attire to the student, or the student being referred to in-house suspension for the remainder of the day. Dress for extracurricular activities will adhere to the same dress code and should be at least school dress or better. The respective sponsor and administration shall outline required dress for the students' participation in activities that are in any way representative of the individual school or community.

GANG APPAREL/ACTIVITIES

The school district will not allow any individual or group to engage in any behavior that is considered disruptive, harmful, criminal, or that advocates hatred or discrimination toward other individuals, nor will any display of symbols, mode of dress, or any activity related to this type of behavior be permitted. Symbols related to gang behavior are not allowed.

Students that have been found to be associating themselves in anyway with any gang will not be allowed to wear red, blue, or pink, and will be limited to certain attire. These are just a few but they are constantly changing. We stay in close contact with law enforcement professionals specializing in gang related behavior.

SCHOOL NURSE

The school nurse will be available periodically each day. All medication, including Tylenol, will only be handed out under the direction of the school nurse.

CLASS CHANGES

Prior to the completion of class scheduling, students have had ample time to consider which classes meet their interest and needs. Therefore, class schedule changes should be unnecessary except in extreme circumstances.

WRITING ON ONESELF

Writing on ones hands or other places on the skin will not be allowed. Please be advised should this happen you will be asked to wash it off.

ABSENCES

When a student is absent, the parent needs to call the office between 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. and let the secretary know of the absence. Should they be unable to do so, you will need to bring a note from your parent upon your return to school.

DISCIPLINE/DUE PROCESS

Class A Violations	Class B Violations	Class C Violations
Violation of dress code	Fighting	Tobacco, Alcohol, Drugs
Abuse of school property	Bullying	Serious Harassment
Five tardies	Property damage	Repetitive bulling
Cheating	Harassment Racial/Others	Assault of school personal
Inappropriate language	Language "F" bomb	Vandalism
Technology violations	Disrespect of school authorities	Possession of weapons
Leaving school grounds	Jeopardizing the safety of others	Behavior plan violations
Four lost books to the office in a month		

Point Accumulation and Consequences

All misconduct point will accumulate for the entire year. A five point deduction will be made for each month of good behavior (no behavior citations or office interventions). The accumulation total may not be less than zero.

Misconduct and Point Values

Class A violations are 5-points

Class B violations are 10-points

Class C violations are 30-points (any Class C violation can involve legal action)

Results of point accumulation:

1. 5 - points - meeting with Principal and noon detention
2. 10 - points - meeting with Principal, parents contacted, in-school suspension or after school detention. Fighting can be out-out-school suspension; the "F" bomb is out-of-school the rest of the day.
3. 20 - points - meeting with principal and parents contacted. Parents must attend a meeting with teachers and a written behavior plan is implemented.
4. 30 - points - parents contacted, meeting with principal, 1-2 days out-of-school suspension.
5. 50 - points - parents contacted, meeting with principal, 1-3
6. 60 – points – parents contacted, meeting with principal, 1 – 5 days out-of-school suspension, and possible recommendation for expulsion.

AFTER-SCHOOL DETENTION

Any teacher may assign after-school detention as long as the teacher is handling the detention and the student is given one day's notice. In cases of extreme difficulty in serving the detention, the teacher will make an effort to work with the student if the student approaches the teacher in a pleasant manner and discusses the problem with the teacher.

ATHLETICS

Guidelines dealing with eligibility and training rules for athletics will be handed out to parents and athletes at the beginning of each athletic season during a parent-athlete-coach meeting so they will understand the philosophy and expectations of each coach. No student will practice or check out any gear until all of the following are handled:

ASB card purchased

Interim questionnaire/athletic rules/insurance waiver on file
Current physical on file
All money owed to the school paid
A signed and notarized drug policy form on file

IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION

In-school suspension may be used in place of out-of-school suspension by the administration. During this time students are isolated without make-up privileges. Upon successful completion of in-school suspension, a student may return to classes.

OUT-OF-SCHOOL SUSPENSION

A student suspended from school for any reason will not be allowed make-up privileges in regards to schoolwork of any kind. All assignments missed will result in a zero for days or periods missed. Days missed because of suspension will be counted as unexcused and be counted toward the nine (9) days allowed each semester. (This may include a period, a day, or up to five days)

TARDIES – QUARTER ACTIVITIES

A tardy is defined as the appearance of a student beyond the scheduled time that a class begins. If the student arrives in the first 15 minutes of the class, he/she shall be considered tardy. A student arriving after this time will be considered absent. A student may have 2 tardies per class. Anyone, receiving a total of 6 tardies per class will have to take the semester finals. Once a student reaches six tardies he/she will serve one hour after school detention. Students have five school days to do their detention; if it is not done in the allowed time, the time will be doubled.

In order to qualify for the quarterly activity the follow need to apply:
No more than 2 tardies in any class.

AR READING – Semester Activities – (this applies to both semesters)

AR students at the end of the first semester, in order to go skiing, must accumulate for the first and second quarter, the amount of points necessary at their level. For example: if a student needs to have 18 points at the end of each quarter; the student will need to have accumulated 36 points at the end of the first semester in order to go skiing.

Non AR students, at the end of the first semester, in order to go skiing must accumulate for the first and second quarter, ½ the amount of points necessary at their level. For example: if a student needs to have 18 points at the end of each quarter; that student will need 9 points for each quarter and a total of 18 points for the semester in order to go skiing.

CHECKING OUT

Students need a note or a phone call from a parent or guardian in order to check out of school.

SCHOLASTIC DISHONESTY

Any student caught in a scholastic dishonest event, which includes but is not limited to cheating on a test, plagiarism or unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work, will get a warning and earn a Zero for the assignment. Students that are identified in a second or subsequent event could receive an “F” for the semester in that class. (Subsequent event(s) may be a different class).

TRUANCY

A truancy occurs when the student is absent without the consent of the parent(s), guardian(s), or school officials on the basis of a class, a portion of the school day, or the entire school day.

The truancy policy is:

The first offense:	The parents are notified. The student will be given 5 hours after school detention to be completed that week.
The second offense:	Parents are notified, required to attend a conference, the student is given 10 hours after school detention, and will be suspended for one day.
The third offense:	Parents are notified, required to attend a conference, and the student is suspended for three days.
The fourth offense:	Parents are notified and expulsion proceedings are initiated.

Any truancy will result in loss of the privilege to attend the quarter activity.

ATTENDANCE

The purpose of New Plymouth Middle School's attendance policy is to place primary responsibility for attendance upon the student. Students are expected to attend classes regularly and to be on time in order to benefit maximally from the instructional program and to develop habits of punctuality, self-discipline, and responsibility. Students must be in regular attendance if they are to derive benefits from educational activities.

Continuity in the learning process is seriously disrupted by excessive absences. In most situations, the work missed cannot be made up adequately. Students who have good attendance generally achieve higher grades, enjoy school more, and are more employable after leaving high school. For these reasons, a student must satisfy two basic requirements in order to earn class credits:

1. Satisfy academic requirements
2. Exhibit good attendance habits (as stated in this policy)

This policy permits a student to accrue a total of nine (9) absences per semester per class. Absence from class for any reason including illness, school activities, or a family convenience shall be counted as one of the nine days. Except in extraordinary cases, as determined by the local Board of Trustees, credit will not be given to any student in a subject when the student was not in attendance at least 90% of the time that subject was being taught. Students exceeding the allowable number of absences may petition the school for credit in those classes from which credit was withheld. Petition forms will show the specific days the student was absent. When the form is completed, the Board of Trustees will review it. Petitions for credit must be filed within two (2) weeks following the semester in which credit was withheld. Petitions submitted after this time will not be considered. Students may petition the board only 2 times in grades 7-12 unless a serious problem exists.

SEMESTER TESTS

Semester tests will be given the last two days of each semester in all classes. Students absent three or less days in a class, or who have less than six tardies in a class, will be excused from the semester test in that class and are not required to come to school during that testing period. Should you be required to test by absences or tardies it will count towards your grade. If you do not test when required, it will be counted in as a zero.

GUM – CANDY

No gum will be allowed in the building during the school day. Teachers will handle any discipline resulting from gum as they see fit.

ALL SPORT AWARD

To be eligible for the All Sport Award the student must participate in each sport that is offered at the school. Boys must participate in Football/Cross Country, Wrestling, Basketball, and Track. Girls must participate in Volleyball/Cross Country, Basketball, and Track. The student will not be eligible for this award if they quit a sport.

DRUG, ALCOHOL AND TABACCO POLICY

Students attending school in this district will not use, possess, sell, buy, or distribute drugs, including alcohol, tobacco, controlled substances, or related paraphernalia, on school premises. A full copy of the district policy #551 can be read by selecting the link on our middle school website. We also have a copy in our office.

HOMEWORK

Homework should be expected in every core class but it should not exceed ten minutes times the number of their grade level – see examples:

10 minutes X the 6th grade is 60 minutes

10 minutes X the 7th grade is 70 minutes

10 minutes X the 8th grade is 80 minutes

BELL SCHEDULE

Warning Bell	8:11
Period 1	8:15-9:12
Period 2	9:16-10:07
Period 3	10:11-11:02
Period 4	11:06-11:57
Lunch	11:57-12:23
Period 5	12:27-1:18
Period 6	1:22-2:07
Period 7	2:11-2:56

6th Grade will go to lunch five minutes earlier than shown.

NEW PLYMOUTH SCHOOL DISTRICT #372

2011-2012 SCHOOL CALENDAR

August 16	Registration (All three schools)
August 22-23	Teacher In-Service Days
August 24	First Day of School
September 5	Labor Day (No School)
October 6-7	State Teacher In-Service Days (No School)
October 28	End of 1 st Quarter (Noon Dismissal for Students)
November 4	No School
November 23-25	Thanksgiving Break
Dec. 21-Jan. 2	Christmas Break (Return to school January 3)
January 13	End of 2 nd Quarter/Semester (Noon Dismissal for Students)
January 16	Martin Luther King Day – No School
February 20	Presidents’ Day – No School
March 16	Elementary Only – No School for Students
March 23	End of 3 rd Quarter (Noon Dismissal for Students)
March 26-30	Spring Break (No School)
April 6	Good Friday (No School)
May 28	Memorial Day (No School)
May 31	End of 4 th Quarter/Semester (Noon Dismissal for Students)

First Quarter Parent Conferences

High School	September 21	4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Middle School	September 21	4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Elementary School	November 2 & 3	3:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

New Plymouth Middle School - Volleyball 2011-2012

6-Sep	Melba - 7th there - 8th here
8-Sep	North Star - 7th here - 8th there
13-Sep	Vale - 7th here - 8th there
15-Sep	Bye
20-Sep	Cole Valley Christian - 7th there - 8th here
22-Sep	Nampa Christian - 7th here - 8th there
27-Sep	Nyssa - 7th there - 8th here
29-Sep	Marsing - 7th here - 8th there
4-Oct	McCall Donnelly - 7th there - 8th here
11-Oct	Tournament
13-Oct	Tournament

Games will start at 4:15 p.m. with the "B" game played first. The top four 8th grade teams will play in the tournament. On Oct. 11th the 4th place team will play at the 1st place team's location and the 3rd place team will play at the 2nd place team's location. On Oct. 13th all teams will play at the 1st place team's location.

New Plymouth Middle School Football 2011-2012

8-Sep	Nampa Christian
13-Sep	@ Nyssa
20-Sep	@ Marsing
27-Sep	@ McCall Donnelly
4-Oct	Melba
11-Oct	@ Cole Valley Christian
18-Oct	Vale

7th and 8th Grade games are played at the same site. The "B" game (7th grade) begins at 4:15 P.M. with the "A" game (8th grade) to follow.

New Plymouth Middle School - Girls Basketball 2011-2012

8-Nov	Melba - 7th here - 8th there
10-Nov	North Star - 7th there - 8th here
15-Nov	Vale - 7th there - 8th here
17-Nov	Bye
21-Nov	Cole Valley Christian - 7th here - 8th there
29-Nov	Nampa Christian - 7th there - 8th here
1-Dec	Nyssa - 7th here - 8th there
6-Dec	Marsing - 7th there - 8th here
8-Dec	McCall Donnelly - 7th here - 8th there
13-Dec	Tournament
15-Dec	Tournament

Games will start at 4:15 p.m. with the "B" game played first. The top four 8th grade teams will play in the tournament. On Dec 13th the 4th place team will play at the 1st place team's location and the 3rd place team will play at the 2nd place team's location. On Dec. 15th all teams will play at the 1st place team's location.

New Plymouth Middle School - Boys Basketball 2011-2012

This schedule was unavailable at the time of publication.

All schedules may change due to various reasons. Please check our website for the most current updates. www.npschools.us

STUDENT NOTES

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