

Temple Middle School



Parent/Student Guide 2025-2026

School Address
275 Rainey Road
Temple, GA 30179

Temple Middle School is a Title I School

School Phone Number
Main Office.....770-562-6001
School Fax.....770-562-6002

School website
<http://tms.carrollcountyschools.com>

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Please refer to the Carroll County Schools Student Handbook for information on the Attendance Protocol, Dress Code, Discipline, Code of Conduct, and other important information.

<https://www.carrollcountyschools.com/page/students>

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Welcome to Temple Middle School

August 1, 2025

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome back for the 2025-2026 school year! We are looking forward to an amazing year with our students and community. We are pleased to offer our students various opportunities to participate in activities beyond academics, including the arts, athletics, extracurricular clubs, and academic competitions. Students are encouraged to put their best efforts into being successful and become involved in additional activities while attending Temple Middle School.

The vision for Temple Middle School is to be recognized as a premier middle school. The mission for Temple Middle School is to empower students to take ownership of their learning and actively shape their future. This is accomplished by providing students with academic, social, and emotional foundations and skills necessary to become high achieving, socially responsible young adults. We believe that there are several keys to ensuring student success, including:

1. All students benefit from a growth mindset and setting goals.
2. All students are unique and have the ability to learn.
3. Kindness is a skill that all students need to fully develop.
4. A safe, orderly, and positive environment is essential for learning.
5. Students must actively participate in the development of their education.
6. The education of all students is a partnership among parents, school, and the community.

There are countless ways for you and your child to get involved at TMS. Please partner with us as we strive to ensure student success and provide a bright future for all students.

Temple Middle School Administrative Team

Principal.....	Dr. Cynthia Beers
Assistant Principal.....	Monica Chason
Assistant Principal.....	Larry Weaver
Guidance Counselor.....	Mary Kathryn Birdyshaw
Instructional Coach.....	Emily Tucker
ISC for Special Education	Diana Funderburke
Athletic Director.....	Brandon Dickson

Arrival and Departure

The school will open to receive students at 7:45 AM. **Students may not be dropped off prior to 7:45 AM and left unsupervised.** Students who ride to school in cars must be dropped off in the designated parent drop-off/pick-up area, which is located in the front of the school. Bus Riders will enter the school through the connections hall. Once dropped off, male students will report to the gym and female students will report to the cafeteria. Once students enter the cafeteria or gym, they will not be allowed to leave until we dismiss by grade levels to report to their first period. At 8:10, students will be released by grade level to grab and go breakfast as they enter their grade level hallway, if they would like one. Once students have entered their hallway, they will not be permitted to leave that hallway. Students not in their first-period class by 8:25 will be counted as tardy.

Dismissal time is 3:45 PM. Parents should pick up students in the parent pick-up area in front of the school. All students should be picked up by 4:00 unless they are involved in an extracurricular activity. Students riding the bus will be dismissed to the bus loading area to the left (east) of the school. Parents may not drop off or pick up students in the bus loading area.

Temple Middle School Athletics Athletic Director: Brandon Dickson Athletic Secretary: Marian Ward

Fall Sports	Coach	Winter Sports	Coach	Spring Sports	Coach
Cheerleading/ Comp	Haley Perrine	Basketball (Boys)	TBD	Baseball	John Butler
Cross-Country	John Butler	Basketball (Girls)	Samm Dixon	Soccer	Liz Poncela
Football	Michael Cleek	Cheerleading	Haley Perrine	Track	Andre Carter
Golf	Aaron Hall	Wrestling	Brandon Dickson	Fishing (Year Round)	Jacob Robinson
Softball	Matt Smith				
Volleyball	Donna Johnson				

Note: Admission to all regular season sporting events is \$5.00 per person, school-age children to adults. Tournament fees are \$10.00 per person. Playoff games are \$8.00, and doubleheader games are \$10.00.

Temple Middle School is a member of the West Georgia Middle School Athletic Conference (WGMSAC). Member schools are divided into two divisions:

Small Schools	Large Schools
Bowdon	Bay Springs
Heard County	Bremen
Mt. Zion	Callaway (FB)
Temple	Cedartown
Villa Rica	Central
	Haralson County
	Rockmart (FB)

Athletics Eligibility

In order to participate in any athletic activities, the following is required:

1. Pass five of six classes for the semester immediately preceding participation or try-outs.
2. Provide the school with an up-to-date physical form, signed by a physician. Physicals are good for no more than one year from the date of the physical.
3. Provide documentation of current health insurance.

Participating in athletics is a privilege that is subject to revocation due to academic or disciplinary concerns. There is **no guaranteed playing time** for any middle school athlete. In addition, athletes are subject to team rules and discipline consequences set forth by the coach. Students are prohibited from attending or participating in games while serving an in-school suspension and/or out-of-school suspension.

Student attendance at all extra-curricular activities is encouraged and appreciated. To ensure your child is picked up promptly and safely after athletic events, please make transportation arrangements prior to the event.

Bell Schedule

7:45–8:10	Male students report to the gym. Female students report to cafeteria.	
8:10–8:25	Release to 1st Period (Grab and Go Breakfast)	
6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade
8:25 - 9:15 Connections	8:25 - 9:33 1st Period	8:25 - 9:33 1st Period
9:18 - 10:08 Connections	9:36 - 10:44 2nd Period	9:36 - 10:44 2nd Period
10:11 - 11:19 3rd Period	10:47 - 11:37 Connections	10:47 - 12:17 3rd Period 1st Lunch 11:00 - 11:34
11:22 - 12:52 4th Period 3rd Lunch 12:18 - 12:46	11:40 - 12:52 Connections 2nd Lunch 11:40 - 12:14	12:20 - 1:28 4th Period
12:55 - 2:03 5th Period	12:55 - 2:03 5th Period	1:31 - 2:21 Connections
2:06 - 3:14 6th Period	2:06 - 3:14 6th Period	2:24 - 3:14 Connections
3:17 - 3:45 LEAD - M,T,TH PAWS - W,F	3:17 - 3:45 LEAD - M,T,TH PAWS - W,F	3:17 - 3:45 LEAD - M,T,TH PAWS - W,F
3:45	Student release	

Book Bags

Students will be required to carry backpacks or string bags to transport their belongings, including cell phones, from class to class. Students may not have book bags with wheels. Athletic bags, large bags and large carryall-type purses are not allowed in classrooms. Arrangements for storage of these bags must be made in advance with coaches/sponsors.

Cell Phones and Other Electronic Devices

Temple Middle School is proud of the technology available for our students to enhance their learning opportunities. TMS is a one-to-one school, meaning every student has the appropriate technology needed in each classroom. For this reason, cell phones, smartphones, smartwatches, and other electronic devices are not necessary for student success inside our classrooms. There is growing concern regarding the distractions of cell phones and other electronic devices and how they interfere with student learning. The Georgia Legislature passed HB340, the “Distraction-Free Education Act” during our last legislative session. This bill requires schools to prohibit access of personal electronic devices, including cell phones and smartwatches in middle school classrooms during school hours. At TMS, students will not be allowed to have cell phones, smartwatches, AirPods, or headphones on their person. All cell phones, smartwatches, and other electronic devices should be stored in a zippered pouch of the students’ backpack during the school day. In the event a student needs to call home during school hours, that student will be allowed to do so in the front office.

If a phone, smartwatch, or electronic device is taken up from a student, the following consequences will be issued:

- **First Offense:** Device is sent to the front office and the student will receive a citation. Parents/guardians will be notified to pick up the device.
- **Second Offense:** Device is sent to the front office and the student will receive a citation. Parents/guardians will be notified to pick up the device.
- **Third Offense:** Device is sent to the front office and the student will receive a behavior referral for willful disobedience and three days of ISS.
- **After 3rd Offense:** Students will be banned from bringing any electronic communication devices to school and will be issued a behavior contract outlining the consequences of further infractions.

In the event that a student refuses to hand over a device to a staff member, disciplinary consequences will be issued.

Check-in and Check-out Procedures

1. Students arriving late (after 8:25 AM) to school must sign in and secure a tardy pass from the front office. Students will present this pass to their teacher for admittance to class.
2. Students cannot check themselves in or out of school.
3. The school cannot release students to anyone other than those persons who are listed in Infinite Campus as approved for checkout by the enrolling parent.

Citations

Our PBIS Plan also provides opportunities for students to learn from their mistakes. TMS will follow a citation system that allows students multiple opportunities for intervention, aka citations, before they are sent to in-school suspension. A behavior referral will be generated upon the third citation. Citations will carry over from class to class, setting a higher standard for behavior throughout the building. The plan also allows for early parental involvement so that communication can take place BEFORE the most severe consequence. Please see below:

Citation Steps:

- 1st citation - Parent contact and classroom consequence
- 2nd citation - Parent contact and silent lunch
- 3rd citation - ISS

Citation counts start over after serving ISS. Each additional set of 3 citations earned will result in an increase in days of ISS. Students will begin each nine weeks with a clean slate of citations. Parent contacts will be made after each citation.

Class Schedules & Changes

Temple Middle School designs student schedules to maximize the educational experience of its students. Therefore, schedule changes are made only in extreme circumstances and must be approved by the school administration. Each student will rotate connections classes throughout the school year.

Clubs and Organizations

Student participation in school clubs and organizations are voluntary and encouraged. If you wish to decline permission for your student to participate in a particular club or organization, please send the opt-out page at the end of the district student handbook. Written parent permission will be required prior to a student's participation in any new club after the start of the school year.

Sponsor	Club or Organization	Description
TBD	Academic Team	A group of students who compete with other teams in the Carroll County academic bowl competitions.
Matt Smith Blair Cole Andre Carter	FCA	A club whose vision is to see the world impacted for Christ through the influence of coaches and students.
Jordan Shaffer	Honors Chorus	High-ability chorus students who will work on higher-level choral music throughout the school year and are chosen based on ability and commitment.
Lauren Rosinski	Jr. Beta Club	A leadership-service club for grades fifth through ninth whose purpose is to encourage effort, reward merit, and promote those qualities of character that make for good citizenship.
Dr. Cynthia Beers	Principal's Advisory Committee	The advisory committee consists of representatives from each grade level. These students provide feedback to the Principal on various programs and procedures within the school.
Rebecca Raines	Student Council	The Student Council serves as the voice of the student body and is dedicated to its social and organizational activities.
Pam Bryant	Science Olympiad	The school science team prepares for competition in the spring. Events vary from academics and lab competitions to science projects such as robotics and rocketry
Kylee Joiner	Junior National Art Honor Society	The Junior National Art Honor Society is a place for practicing artists to hone their skills, develop their techniques and portfolios, collaborate with other artists like themselves, create bonds with the community through the arts, and learn how to work together through group projects that will beautify the school and community.
TBH	Golden Pearls	The PEARLS is an organization aimed at providing elementary, middle, and high school female students with the tools that they need to be successful, future-focused students, while being of service in their communities.
Lori Quintana	Jr. TOME Society	Temple Middle School Jr. Tome Society Chapter serves students in grades 6-8 and is a competitive book club for students who love to read. Students in the Temple Middle School book club chapter will read and discuss 10 select books and participate in either virtual or in-person literacy events, with the chance to compete at the TomeCon conference.
Arlin Blackwell	TECH Team	Tech Fair consists of students working either individually or as a team of two in one of these categories: 3D Modeling, Animation, Audio Production, Device Modification Digital Photo Production, Game Design, Graphic Design, Internet Applications, Mobile Apps, Multimedia Applications, Productivity

		Design, Project Programming, Robotics, Tech Programming Challenge, Video Production
		The student or team of two then presents it to the judges.

Code of Conduct

Please refer to the Carroll County Schools Student Handbook for information on the Code of Conduct.

<https://www.carrollcountyschools.com/page/students>

Student misconduct, which results in the loss of instructional time or in the loss of a safe school environment, will not be tolerated. Progressive discipline will be used with students who continue to violate our code of conduct.

Counseling and Support Services

Philosophy: Counseling and guidance services are structured to meet the individual needs of students. It is a part of the total educational program of the school.

Services include: Classroom guidance, individual counseling, and small group counseling are available for students. Please contact the counselor if you have any questions or concerns.

Referrals to the counselor may be made by:

Student, (self-referral), parent, teacher, or an administrator

Please contact Mrs. Birdyshaw at maryk.birdyshaw@carrollcountyschools.com for counseling needs

The Suicide and Crisis Lifeline is available 24 hours a day at 988

TMS Faculty and Staff

6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade	Connections
Tenacious Tiger Typhoons (T3)	Fierce Felines	Tiger Frogs	Arlin Blackwell (STEM)
Blair Cole (ELA)	Monica Brown (ELA)	Stephanie Covington (Sci)	John Butler PE
Lawanda Flonnory (Math)	Amy Fleming (Math)	Tracy Hales (ELA)	Brandon Dickson (Weights)
Hannah Fortner (SS)	Melissa Johnson (ELA)	Jill Johnson (SS)	Cloey Gilham (AG)
Kelli Price (ELA)	Jacob Robinson (SS)	Lauren Rosinski (Math)	Kylee Joiner (Art)
Emma Varner (Sci)	Catherine Williams (Sci)		Dana Knott (Spanish/Bus. Ed.)
Team Sabertooth	Cool Cats	Tiger Train	Jordan Shaffer (Chorus)
Pam Bryant (Sci)	Dalton Bloom (ELA)	Jennifer Cheatwood (Math)	Matt Smith (PE)

Paige Flotz (ELA)	Pam Cooper (Math)	Liz Poncela (SS)	Amelia Young (Band)
Lance Hill (SS)	Melissa Johnson (ELA)	Rebecca Raines (Sci)	Lori Quintana (Business)
Kellie Price (ELA)	Molly Ledbetter (SS)	Kelly Steele (ELA)	
Nicole West (Math)	Lindsey Minton (Sci)		

Exceptional Children's Services	Administrative Team	Support Staff	Food Services
TBH (SLP)	Dr. Cynthia Beers (Principal)	Caroline Allen (SSW)	Tona Cook (Manager)
Constance Billman (6th)	Monica Chason (Assistant Principal)	Allison Conn (Nurse)	Ginger Gentry
Kayla Bradshaw (ELA)	Larry Weaver (Assistant Principal)	Leila Elliott (ISS/Attendance Clerk)	Martha Smith
Alicia Brock (ELL)	Emily Tucker (Instructional Coach)	Bonnie Horsley (Bookkeeper)	Martha Wyatt
Andre Carter (8th)	Mary Kathryn Birdyshaw (Counselor)	Lori Quintana (Library Media Center)	
Samm Dixon (Math)		Lauren Rudy (IT)	
Kerry Findley (7th)		Hali Santori (Clinic Asst)	
Diana Funderburke (ISC)		Christy Agan (Registrar)	
Amanda Gray (7th)		Marian Ward (Secretary)	
Jolai Nance		Renee Williams (SLP)	
Kelly Peabody			

Fees

Outstanding student fees will be entered into Infinite Campus and can be paid using the Campus Pay portal.

Field Trips and Assemblies

Field trips and assemblies provide students with enriched learning experiences. Students at Temple Middle School will have the opportunity and privilege from time to time to attend these learning experiences. Our expectations are that all students conduct themselves appropriately at any and all school functions.

Food and Drinks

Students are allowed to have bottled water at all times throughout the school day at TMS, although access may be limited during connection activities. Students may not sell any food items at any time. Unauthorized solicitation of any type is prohibited on school grounds.

Fun Friday & PBIS Carnival

Fun Friday will take place throughout the year. The purpose of the Fun Friday and the PBIS Carnival program is to reward students for good behavior and promote our Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) program at Temple Middle School. Students can play games, socialize, and purchase snacks from concessions during Fun Friday. Any student serving ISS or OSS will not be allowed to participate in the next Fun Friday. Students are eligible for future Fun Fridays as long as they do not receive additional ISS or OSS. Our PBIS Carnival will take place in the Spring. Students who have served more than 5 days of ISS or received any OSS will not be eligible to participate in the Carnival.

E- Hall Passes

Students are not permitted in the halls during class time without the appropriate E-Hall pass.

Honor Roll and Academic Awards

A/B Honor will be calculated using the posted 9-week grades. Midterm grades and semester averages will not be used to determine A/B Honor Roll. Academic recognition programs at TMS will be held in the Spring. Students who have earned an award will receive an invitation to attend the awards ceremony. Families will be notified via email of the time and date of the ceremony if their student is invited.

TMS will host a ceremony for all 8th-grade students celebrating their completion of 8th grade and promotion to high school.

Lockers

Lockers will not be available for purchase this school year.

School Advisory Council

Temple Middle School utilizes a school advisory council consisting of parents and other stakeholders. The purpose of this council is to improve the learning experience of students at Temple Middle School. This council meets periodically throughout the school year. Please contact the front office for more information.

School Deliveries

Deliveries (e.g. flowers, balloons, stuffed animals, food, etc.) made to students are not permitted and will not be accepted at Temple Middle School. This includes deliveries for birthdays, special occasions, holidays, etc.

Student Advisement

Temple Middle School conducts monthly advisement lessons with our students to inform and educate them on various topics such as internet safety, bus safety, bullying, college and career opportunities, and character education topics. In addition, our 8th-grade students will complete a series of activities and lessons that culminate in a career exploration capstone project to help prepare them for selecting a pathway through high school and beyond.

Visitors & Volunteers

All visitors are welcome at Temple Middle School. In order to maintain a proper environment for instruction, please note a few reminders:

- Call ahead to arrange a visiting time with the teacher
- Sign in and out at the front office to receive a visitor or volunteer pass
- Silence cell phones while in the school

We truly appreciate the time you donate to TMS, but we must request that you do not bring children that are not enrolled in Temple Middle School while volunteering at TMS.