

Parent-to-Parent Tips for a Successful Transition to New Trier

BEFORE SCHOOL STARTS:

- Get a filing/calendar system to hold all NT paperwork. Respond promptly. NT welcomes parent calls and questions.
- Take your child to NT sporting events, music presentations, Winter Carnival...etc.
- Include a discussion of summer school and Freshman Summer Novel at your IEP meeting.
- Any special advisor, peer placements requests or coordinated lunch periods discussed at the IEP should be confirmed in writing to the advisor chair.
- If your child is going to ride PACE bus to school, find the stops and ride the bus with your student. Talk about contingencies of a missed bus or stop. Personalize the PACE schedule for your child's stops and keep extra copies.
- Plan for your child to go to campus with their schedule before the first day of school. Walk through your child's schedule until he or she is comfortable. Find the classrooms, stairwells, bathrooms, bookstore, advisors office, library, cafeteria, auditorium, and gym. If you know an older student or sibling that can take your student, it is even better. Student-to-student tips include how to rent a calculator, make copies, join clubs and other priceless tidbits. If your student is taking PACE, this is a good time to learn the stops.
- The NT cafeteria uses a debit system with an expanded menu items. Get a copy of the selections and prices before school starts so your child becomes familiar with it.
- If your child uses books-on-tape or other assistive technology, discuss at the IEP meeting how they are to be supplied.
- Become familiar with the NT website at www.newtrier.k12.il.us. Information and schedules for all student club and sports activities are located here, not on the school calendar. Most teachers maintain websites with homework assignments, notes, and links.
- If received, respond to all Adventure Club correspondence immediately. Don't wait. It is a great program.

Financial Aid and Free lunch programs are available by contacting the Dean of Students, Katherine Urkovich (847-784-2219/urkovick@newtrier.k12.il.us).

WHEN SCHOOL STARTS:

- New Trier has an active commitment to communication. Initiate a communication network with **all** of your child's team of teachers. It should fit your needs as well as the individual teachers. Some examples are group email, phone call, monthly updates.
- Provide a brief summary of key attributes of your child and provide it to all teachers at the beginning of school. Focus on student learning strengths and supports that create successful student outcomes
- Encourage your child to communicate successes, frustrations and feelings with NT staff. Email and voice mail is a great way to do this. Have your student bookmark NT sites of their interest: e.g. www.newtrier.k12.il.us/pdf/bulletin.pdf (daily bulletin)

For questions, please contact PASS39 at pass39@wilmette39.org