



**SUSSMAN MIDDLE SCHOOL
PIONEERS**
"WRITE HERE! WRITE NOW!"
2021 - 2022



General Information

IMPORTANT – PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

Welcome to the 2021-22 school year. The first day of school is **August 11, 2021**. If you cannot attend the first day of school and do not notify the office, **YOU WILL BE DROPPED** and rescheduled later in classes that are still available.

WHEN DOES SCHOOL START?

DATE: **WEDNESDAY, August 11, 2021**

TIME: **August 11th, WILL BE A MINIMUM DAY.** School hours for *that day* will be from 8:00 a.m. until 12:16 p.m.

Our Regular Day schedule is from 8:00 a.m. to 2:44 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. Please note that, every Wednesday we are on our Early Release Day schedule from 8:00 a.m. to 12:55 p.m. (See Bell Schedule)

NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION

An orientation assembly will be held on **Friday, August 6, 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.** in the cafeteria for all students **NEW TO THE DISTRICT**. Schedules, activities, special programs and needed materials will be discussed, followed by a tour of the campus.

OFFICE HOURS:

The office will open on Monday, August 2, 2021. Office Hours are from 7:30am to 3:30pm all year long. (**Note:**-From August 2-10, the office will close from 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm)

2021-22 CLASS SCHEDULE

Class schedules will *not* be mailed home. The schedules will be distributed at registration. If you miss registration please go to the office on the 1st day of school.

WHAT ABOUT BACKPACKS, BOOK BAGS, and LOCKERS?

Lockers are not used at Sussman MS throughout campus. The use of book bags offers greater security for books and personal belongings and helps parents to be better informed about their child's school work in progress. Students are responsible for all personal items they bring to school. However, your child will be issued a locker in the locker room to store their clothing and book bags during their PE class.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION UNIFORMS

All students are required to wear a two-piece uniform for PE consisting of a grey shirt, dark green shorts, and tennis shoes. Names should be on the shorts and shirt; last name first, then first name initial. Sussman-imprinted clothes will be sold at registration and the first week of school. PE shirts cost \$10 and shorts cost \$10. Cash only, please no checks.

STANDARDS OF STUDENT DRESS AND GROOMING

Please see Downey Unified School District's Administrative Regulation # 2413 and the Sussman Middle School Dress Code.

BREAKFAST AND LUNCH

Free breakfast for all students daily!!! **The cost for a second breakfast is expected to be \$1.50. The cost for regular lunch is expected to be \$2.50.** Full lunches are available not only in the two cafeteria lines, but also at six snack bar lines. Please visit our website for menu options.

MEAL APPLICATIONS

Students on free and reduced lunch program will continue to use last year's number for the first 10 days of school. New and renewed applications will be processed by that time. Apply for an application on www.school lunchapp.com Parents can now check their student's eligibility status online after applying at www.school lunchstatus.com. Students should visit the cafeteria before school or at snack—not at lunch—to pick up their new number. Students new to the district are responsible for purchasing all food items until notified by the food services that their application has been processed.

We encourage prepayments of student meals. Payments can be made by check, cash, or online through PayPams – www.paypams.com

STUDENT PLANNER/AGENDA

On the first day of school, all students will receive a student planner/agenda (called the Pioneer Passport) that helps them to be more organized. The Pioneer Passport must be brought to school each day and will be used by students to keep track of assignments, write reminders, etc. Parents and students should read the Pioneer Passport carefully. It contains the answers to many questions and includes phone numbers, school calendars, and general information about rules, attendance, supplies, personal property, dress code, and activities.

DISCIPLINE POLICY

Students and families will receive a detailed explanation of school rules and the consequences of violations. **Please read and discuss the discipline policy with your child.** If students know the rules and expectations they will have a more successful school year.

SCHOOL INSURANCE

School insurance forms will be handed out to the students in their Physical Education classes during the first week of school.

STUDENT I.D. CARDS

The I.D. cards are used for various things, including serving as the student's library card. **I.D. cards should be carried with the student at all times.** **Students cannot check out Library books without their ID Card.** The school provides the I.D. cards to the students when the school pictures are taken during registration. If a student loses the I.D. card, he/she cannot check out books from the library unless they pay a suggested donation of \$5.00 to replace the card. If a student is absent for all picture days, a suggested donation of \$5.00 is encouraged to create an I.D. for them to check out books. This procedure is to ensure that no one checks out books in another person's name.