



When should students arrive for school?

School begins at 8 a.m., but students should arrive by 7:55 a.m., which is when the opening bell rings. Doors at 850 Washington St. open at 7:45 a.m., and arriving students should report to their advisory. On Mondays and Thursdays, students attend our Middle School Morning Meeting. On Fridays, students begin with their first period classes and have an extended advisory later in the day.

Daily attendance is taken in advisory. Students arriving after 8 a.m. must check in to the Middle School office. The Middle School needs to hear from a parent/guardian via email, phone call, or note to excuse any tardiness.

Where should I drop off my student?

Students may be dropped off at Main Campus to ride shuttle buses to 850 Washington St., which begin departing at 7:45 a.m. Breakfast is available in Cahall from 7 - 7:40 a.m. Students coming for breakfast or who are being driven by an Upper School sibling should be dropped off at the bus lane of Main Campus prior to 7:40 a.m.

Students riding the bus arrive at Main Campus and, if timing allows, may proceed to Cahall for breakfast. Students who take the MBTA will be picked up by the shuttle buses at the Braintree Red Line station.

Parents/Guardians (not Upper School siblings) may drop off students directly at 850 Washington St. between 7:45 - 7:55 a.m. Please see the pickup and drop-off map for details.

When are students done with their day?

When classes at 850 Washington St. end, students take shuttle buses to Main Campus for sports. All Middle School students are required to participate in a sport for each season. Team sports and recreational sports last until 3:45 p.m. Pickup is at the bus lane of Main Campus. If a student needs to be picked up early (before classes end at 2:30 p.m.), parents and guardians must sign them out at the Middle School office.

Is there supervision after practices?

Study Hall is available for students in the Tiger's Den in Cahall with a Middle School faculty member until 4:45 p.m. At that time, the faculty member walks any remaining students downstairs to the Student Commons. Supervision in the Student Commons ends at 6 p.m., so students must be picked up by that time.

What's the absence/tardiness/dismissal policy?

If a student will be absent, tardy, or dismissed early, parents/guardians must email Mrs. Bosworth (kbosworth@thayer.org) or Mrs. Tenney (ttenney@thayer.org) or call them at **781.380.0513**. Thayer Academy has two registered nurses on staff, and students should consult them if feeling ill. Parents or guardians will be called if a nurse determines the student should go home. Students should not contact parents or guardians directly to request a dismissal from school.

How do I know if school is cancelled?

Thayer uses an automated service to contact families in case of a school-wide emergency or closing due to weather. Phone calls, text messages, and emails are sent, and information is posted on the website as well as provided to local TV and radio stations. Please notify the Middle School office of any changes in contact numbers.

Where is homework posted?

New daily homework assignments are shared during class and by 4 p.m. on the class page of MySchoolApp. Thayer daily planners are given to all students at the beginning of the school year. Students are encouraged to write their homework down in their planners before they leave each class to ensure they capture long-term projects or weekly assignments such as Membean. Parents can view their children's homework assignments in MySchoolApp as well.

What should Middle School students wear?

Information on all dress expectations can be found at **THAYER.ORG/DRESSCODE**.

On days when there are home games, individual coaches will remind and communicate with their team about dressing up for game day. When students are between athletic seasons or when students do not have athletics, they are expected to follow the dress code.

Due to our location next year at 850 Washington St. and the need to travel to fields for athletics, the Middle School will have one more year of allowing athletic attire to be worn at school on practice days *only*.

Athletic attire is allowed for students who are in season and have practice. The clothing should reflect the needs of that sport or that PE class on a given day. Students can change footwear before practices. If wearing tank tops or spandex, students should layer their attire during the day to reflect the dress code.

(Dress Code cont'd)

All shirts must have a full back and must cover the waistband of a student's skirt, pants, or shorts. Shirts are expected to cover the shoulders. Additionally, clothing with inappropriate or offensive messages is not allowed. This includes, but is not limited to, clothing with messages advocating violence, alcohol, or drugs; clothing expressing obscenities; and clothing that is derogatory to one's self or others.

Where can I find info about buses & public transportation?

The most up-to-date information regarding transportation options can be found at **THAYER.ORG/PARENTS/TRANSPORTATION**. Please note: This year, buses will drop-off and pick up in the Middle School parking lot (85 Hobart Street).

Can students use their phones?

Phones should be silenced or powered off and stowed in backpacks from the start of the day until school's end.

Where will Middle School students eat lunch?

Middle School students will receive a daily lunch in the cafeteria at 850 Washington St. Lunch is included in tuition, so there is no need for students to have money on hand.

What sports gear will my child need?

Middle School Director of Student Activities and Athletics John Reid and coaches will address team gear by individual sport. While sport-dependent, students generally need a durable sports bag, clothing, shoes, uniforms, and a water bottle each day for practice and games. Please be sure to label all clothing and equipment since many students have the same gear. A link to the lists of required Middle School Sports Attire and Equipment by sport can be found at **THAYER.ORG/PARENTS/ATHLETICS** (under "Helpful Links").

Where can I find team rosters and schedules?

Team rosters and schedules can be found on each individual Team Page. Access Team Pages via the Parents Section under "Athletics" (**THAYER.ORG/PARENTS/ATHLETICS**) or in the main Athletics section under "Teams, Schedules, and Results." The website also offers instructions on how to set up athletics text alerts and how to make your team's schedule appear on your default Calendar app.

What are Activities?

Each term, students participate in an activity (or two) of their choosing. These activities are a chance for students to explore new interests or familiar passions with different age groups. Most activities meet twice per week combined with a study hall twice per week. There are many activities to choose from, such as Drama, Book Clubs, *Evergreen* (MS Yearbook), TATV, 8th Grade Video, Recycling/Garden Club, Positiveteam (service), Blue Hills Hiking, Photography, and many more. Students are asked for their top activity choices at the beginning of each term and are then placed in an activity.

Where can I find the most up-to-date Thayer information?

Thayer's website is the primary resource for students and families. Please take some time to browse **THAYER.ORG**, especially the Parents section at **THAYER.ORG/PARENTS**. This is where you will find the Student Handbook, athletic schedules, daily announcements, links to homework assignments, weekly and monthly activities happening at Thayer, ways to get involved, and more. You will be able to subscribe to the school calendar and various alerts. For assistance logging in to the secure Parent Portal, contact help@thayer.org.

What is the TNN?

The Tiger News Network (TNN) is a weekly newsletter for Thayer families. Emailed Fridays throughout the school year, the TNN provides up-to-date, need-to-know information with helpful links. It is a must-read for parents who want to stay current with campus events.