

Parent-to-Parent Tips

For Parents of Freshmen and Newcomers to Enloe

If you don't know how to use email – learn! Two good reasons:

- 1) It is the preferred means of communication by many of the teachers.
- 2) The PTSA has a great email group they use to send out weekly communications. To join, send an email today to: enloeparents-subscribe@yahoogroups.com or contact enloemoderator@yahoo.com

Check the Enloe website. It is very helpful and has lots of current information.
<http://enloehs.wcpss.net>

Get in the swing of Late Start Tuesdays. Beginning Tuesday, September 9th, 1st period begins at 7:55 on Tuesdays. On these days there is no “0” period, and buses run at the regular time (with students heading to designated areas once they arrive). Check the bell schedules on the Enloe website for complete details.

Remind your student to use their agendas/planners. This is an incredibly important tool for them to track their homework, test, and project schedules. Encourage your student to enter their after school activities in their agendas as well as their school work. It helps them plan better (hopefully!) if they know they have a trip or tournament the weekend before a project is due.

Checking students in and out during the school day takes place at the West Office. (Second drive on Clarendon Crescent from New Bern Ave. Use the entrance across from the Visitor's parking.)

Carpool lane drop off is the drive thru in front of the West Building. Give yourself plenty of time!

Enloe has test dates for specific subjects:

Monday: English, Career & Technical Education

Tuesday: PLC late start

Wednesday: Science, Business, and Health/P.E.

Thursday: Math and Foreign Language

Friday: Social Studies, Visual & Performing Arts

Quizzes can be anytime!

Homeroom is different than middle school. The homeroom teacher is not necessarily one of your student's class teachers. Homeroom is scheduled every day for the first two weeks, but is only scheduled two Tuesdays a month the rest of the year.

Tickets for school dances are sold ahead of time. Many times they sell out! Buy them in the first day or two; generally they are sold during lunch period. You may not be able to buy a ticket at the door.

Sign up for SPAN (Student/Parent Access Network). This is a great way to keep an eye on attendance, schedules, and grades and helps to keep both parents and students informed. You can find an application with instructions under “Information” on the Enloe website. <http://enloehs.wcpss.net>

Volunteer at Enloe whenever you can. There aren't nearly as many opportunities to volunteer at the high school level, but there are needs. Look for them! Proctors for exams are always needed.

The hospitality committee needs lots of manpower to put on the various staff appreciation events during the year. If you can't be there to serve, you can send in food to the office beforehand.

The arts and athletic boosters have many ways to get involved with the school. The athletic boosters need ticket takers at sporting events, and run the concession stand at many events. The funds that are raised through ticket sales and concessions are a necessary supplement to the small amount Wake County allocates each high school for sports funding.

Arts programs need parents to raise money, chaperone trips and many other jobs. Hosting an exchange student is another way to support your child's learning. These are just a few of the many ways you can get involved at Enloe.

Remember, you need to complete the WCPSS background check for school volunteers each year, online at the school. If you've volunteered in previous years, it takes just a minute to update your status.

Attend PTSA meetings It's a good way to hear about what's going on at school, and to hear about current happenings from Dr. Cochran. PTSA meetings include programs of interest to parents. Previous topics have included: Graduation Project, Social Networking Sites, Teen Driving and Financial Aid for College. Make sure your student knows you are going. It shows them you care about their school and their education.

Ask to see your student's Enloe Handbook/Calendar given at the beginning of the school year. It has a lot of helpful information about school events, and things like registration deadlines for SAT testing dates and the testing dates themselves.

Go to Open House night to meet the teachers. Teachers give brief overviews of classroom expectations, which give you a feel for them and their teaching style. By going, you'll also be more likely to recognize them when you are on campus. Be sure to say Hi! PLUS, by attending, you will gain a new appreciation for the size of the Enloe campus and the walking your student does each day.

Be sure your student asks their teacher for help in a subject. The teachers work to be available to students before and after school or during lunch. Encourage your student to ask for help. Have them find out which days the teacher gives extra help.

Driver's Ed class (AHHH!!!) is available, but you must sign up. Your student must be 14 ½ to take the class. Sign up is monthly and classes fill up quickly! Your child will need to take 30 hours of classroom instruction and 6 hours of road instruction. The classes run every day after school for approximately three weeks. You can also take Driver's Ed in the summer at Enloe or at another high school. Your student will receive a Drivers Eligibility Certificate after completing Driver's Ed, which he/she will need to bring to the DMV in order to get a permit. Parent and Teen Behind-the-Wheel Training Manuals are available from the Jordan Driving School www.jordandriving.com to help you support you child as they make the transition to responsible driver. More information is on the Enloe website.

Grievances—if you or your student has a dispute with a staff member, be aware that there are deadlines listed in the Wake County Student Handbook by which time you need to initiate a grievance. Past these deadlines, the administration may refuse to consider your grievance, no matter how much physical evidence you may show. Please refer to the Handbook for deadlines and procedures.

Special Tip for Parents of Freshmen—Parents should expect an adjustment period for entering freshmen. Enloe is a large campus with a diverse population. It's bigger than some small towns. Coming from a small middle school can be akin to moving from Mayberry to New York City. Some children adjust to this sea change more quickly and more smoothly than others. Also, because this is a magnet school, your child may not know many other people in this new environment. Think about all this and be ready to talk with your child about the adjustments and how new things require patience. Assure them that in time they will be able to find a sub-group (club, choir, arts or literary group) where they can get to know people with like interests and find a supportive group or groups within the larger environment.

For Parents of All Enloe Students

NCWise Keep your child's NCWise number in your wallet. It is important and you need it when you check them out of school early for doctor appointments etc.

Varying Expectations Teachers, like people, have a variety of personalities. Be sure your student observes which are more formal or casual and adjusts their behavior accordingly.

Tardiness Avoid being late to classes. Tardiness can result in Afterschool Detention

Clubs Encourage your student to join a club, any club! Key Club really is a good one for the college resume. Listen out for interest group meetings announced on the Loe Down

near the beginning of the year and check with other students about the clubs they are involved in. Check the Activity bus schedule on the Enloe website (under Transportation) to see if there is a convenient stop near your house.

Locker Sharing If your child has a locker that is remote from many of his/her classes, tell them to buddy up with another student. Sharing lockers is a good way to have greater access to their things during the day. Make sure it is someone they can trust and is not a slob, though!

The No-Checks Policy Be prepared to pay cash (no personal checks) for all school events (sports, drama, dances etc).

Any "official" costs (Student Services, test fees etc) require a certified check.

Exam Weeks Plan ahead for exam weeks. If your student normally takes the bus, consider that they will have a lot of wait-time between when exams end and when the bus comes [at its normal time]. Picking them up may mean interrupting the day for parents that work. Consider making carpool arrangements with other parents that week or with students that drive—this can dramatically cut down on the carpool lane congestion that occurs—not to mention air pollution!

Cell Phones It is helpful for your child to have a cell phone, but remember they are not to be used inside the building or they may be confiscated. Additionally, cell phone service inside of the Enloe Bldg. is shoddy at best for most cell phones. If you have an important reason to get in touch with your student during the day, you may want to send a text message that they can read and reply to during their lunch period.

Course Selection Begin training your student to take an active role in course selection and take responsibility for course changes. When they go to college, you won't be there to help them with this.

For Parents of College- Bound Juniors and Seniors

Start educating yourself early on about this huge topic. Books, websites such as College Confidential and U.S. News & World Report, and your friends and neighbors can all give you valuable information. Begin visiting colleges in junior year, if possible. Start writing college essays during the summer prior to senior year. Once school starts, there will be less time to focus on these critical application elements.

There are a few deadlines to be aware of when it comes to the Enloe portion of this process. Most importantly, you need to be aware of the date(s) by which the Enloe Registrar, needs to receive a request for a transcript and in most cases for a counselor recommendation, in order to get these items to the college on time. These deadlines vary based on the due date of the application. A list of these dates is available on the Enloe website under Departments-Student Services. Follow the links to the transcript request section. If you are applying to a bunch of schools with different deadlines, that's okay,

just try to get all the requests for transcripts to the registrar by the deadline for the first one, so you don't have to go back to Student Services numerous times. **Please do not wait until the deadline day to submit these forms to the registrar, as they will get put on the bottom of the pile.** You may find it worthwhile to sign up for the Docufide service, which costs \$5.00 per transcript sent, and is an electronic service. This way, the registrar just has to click a button to send, instead of putting a physical copy of a transcript in an envelope, stamping it, etc.

You may also want to request a copy of your student's first semester, senior-year grades to be sent to some of your regular-decision colleges. If so, the student will want to make that request in January, but the grades won't be available to be sent until early February.

There is now a system for tracking the progress of your transcript request, and seeing when it was sent to the various colleges. Learn more about how to set this up on the Student Services section of the Enloe website.

NCSU –Waiving the Freshman Writing Requirement Learn more about the requirements for submitting a writing portfolio that may enable a student to bypass Freshman English at NCSU at the following website:

<http://social.chass.ncsu.edu/fwp/PortfoliosMain.htm>