

## New Trier 101 FAQ April 2024

**Homework:** What is New Trier's homework philosophy? (much of this information is from the Program of Studies, which is New Trier's course selection guide)

- Homework is integral to engagement and success in New Trier's rigorous curriculum. With homework comes a shared responsibility among students, families, faculty, and administration to manage the effect of homework on students' ability to maintain a healthy and balanced life.
- Because New Trier teachers are trusted to use their professional judgment in assigning homework that complements the learning objectives of the various courses, it is to be expected that there will be variation in the type, frequency, and amount of homework in different courses.
- It is also expected that New Trier teachers will be cognizant of and responsive to the fact that their respective courses are but one part of a student's overall high school experience.
- Students in the right levels of course often spend several hours on homework each night.
- Regarding homework by level:
  - Level 2 - Explicitly structured and directed, some amount of reading and writing required, and independent work reinforces new material introduced in class
  - Level 3 - Explicitly structured and moderately directed, moderate amount of reading and writing required, and independent work requires some new material to be learned outside of class
  - Level 4 - Explicitly structured and open-ended, extensive amount of reading and writing required, and independent work requires a significant amount of new material to be learned outside of class

**Technology/Devices:** What technology/device(s) do students use and how are they managed at school in terms of content protection? Are they able to access social media, video games, etc? Can students access their phone during the day?

- Students use iPads as their primary academic technology resource. The main ways iPads are used in school include:
  - Canvas: how teachers provide students with resources such as reading materials, assignments, quizzes, and even grades. Many teachers will also communicate directly to students through Canvas in the form of announcements or messages. While parents can have access to Canvas, its use is primarily for students.
  - Ebooks - many textbooks are now ebooks. Students can read, bookmark, and annotate within these ebooks.
  - Other academic apps - students may engage with materials and study for tests through apps such as Quizlet or Kahoot!
- Devices can only be out during class when the teacher approves usage. The iPad restricts what apps students can add to them, and New Trier has an internet filter.
- A good resource is under the *Parent/Community* drop down on the New Trier website where there is a *Tech Resources for NT Families*

**PowerSchool:** Can parents access assignments/grades through PowerSchool?

- Yes. PowerSchool offers parents a set of useful tools, such as a way to communicate with teachers, approve course registrations, and even report absences. PowerSchool provides each family access to student attendance, grades, and class schedules.

**Payments:** How do students pay for lunches, class trip fees, etc.?

- Payments for lunches, dances, and many other school fees can be made through RevTrak - New Trier's online payment system.. RevTrak can be found on NT website under "Quick Links" or "Find It Fast."

**Transportation:** How do freshmen get to school?

- There are a variety of ways freshmen get to school, and it is all dependent on what makes most sense for your family. There is the PACE Bus, school bus, parent, shuttle from the Winnetka Campus, walking, or biking.
- The transportation page on the New Trier website is a resource for the schedules and services: <https://www.newtrier.k12.il.us/transportation>

**School Supplies:** How do the students know which school supplies they will need for each class?

- On the first day of class, teachers provide students with a list of supplies that you will need to purchase for school. Many head to school supply stores to purchase. There is no school supply box to purchase as many had in junior high school.
- Books can be purchased from the New Trier Bookstore or Amazon. New Trier recently moved to a new book supplier, Beck's Books, which will operate the online and physical book store at New Trier. Ebooks will be purchased through New Trier's book store.

**Lunch:** What are the lunch options and associated costs?

- There is a main cafeteria where many students eat. The kitchens are not allergy free, though allergens are listed. If your student has an allergy, they should speak to a food service manager if they want to purchase food safely
- The cafeteria run by Quest Food Service has a variety of options each day for both breakfast and lunch.
- Some examples of costs are the following: entree is approximately \$6, smoothie \$4.25, bagel cream cheese \$3.50, muffin \$2.75 - these are subject to change.
- Some students choose to bring their lunch.
- Students are not required to eat in the cafeteria; some choose to eat outside, others in the lounge

**Summer:** Is there anything for students to prep during the summer?

- Every student will have an assigned summer reading book and assignment. Families will receive this information in early June. Summer reading information will be available on the website under "Academics and English" There is no need to do the reading before August.
- During the summer your student will receive information on orientation as well as communication from their Senior Helper. The Senior Helper is a Senior who will be in their Adviser Room for the first semester to help with transition from a student's perspective.
- In May there will be another evening event "After the Academics". After the Academics is an open house where students can learn about all of the extracurricular activities available at New Trier.

**General Questions:** We used to ask our homeroom teacher all the questions we did not know. Where do I go now?

- Your adviser is your resource for all things regarding your student. They will assist with everything from schedule planning for next year to more general questions
- The New Trier Website is also a very good resource for information. Everything from club opportunities, bell schedules and more is on the website and is also a great go-to. The website is <https://www.newtrier.k12.il.us>