

Turner Times Newsletter

Welcome to the 2026-2027 School Year!

Welcome back, Turner families! I hope you had a wonderful summer and had the opportunity to enjoy some extra time with family and friends. As we get closer to the start of the school year, there is a lot happening behind the scenes as we prepare classrooms, organize materials, and get everything ready to welcome our students back.

One of my favorite parts of a new school year is seeing Turner come back to life. Students filling the hallways, classroom communities beginning to form, and everyone settling into new routines. We know the first few weeks can bring excitement, questions, and a few bumps along the way. Our goal is to make the transition as smooth as possible and ensure that every student feels welcomed, supported, and ready to learn.

As we begin the 26–27 school year, we are looking forward to continuing to build strong relationships with our students and families. Open communication and partnership are an important part of that work, so please know that we welcome your questions, feedback, and ideas throughout the year. We are all working toward the same goal: supporting our students.

Thank you for the trust you place in our staff and for the partnership you provide throughout the year. I am grateful to be part of the Turner community and am looking forward to welcoming everyone back and getting the year underway!

Once again, welcome back, Turner families, and let's have a great year!

Morgan Efrom
Principal

Turner Mantra

Here's a family-friendly version that explains the process while making the mantra meaningful and easy to connect to daily school life:

At the end of last school year, our Turner staff came together to reflect on what makes our school community special and what we want every student, staff member, and family to experience when

they are part of Turner. Through conversations, reflection, and collaboration, staff shared the values, beliefs, and experiences that define who we are as a school community. From this work, our Turner mantra was created: **Tiger Strong. Together We Belong!**

Tiger Strong represents the strength, resilience, and pride we see in our students, staff, and families. It reminds us that we are stronger when we support one another, face challenges together, and celebrate each other's growth. **Together We Belong** reflects our commitment to creating a school where every student and family feels welcomed, valued, included, and connected. This mantra will serve as a reminder throughout the year that each of us plays an important role in making Turner a place where everyone can **learn, grow, and belong**.

School Hours

School Hours: 8:40 AM – 3:25 PM

Building Opens for Breakfast: 8:15 AM

1/2 Day Dismissal Time: 11:45 AM

Office Information

Turner Main Office: 630-293-6050

Attendance Line: 630-293-6050 ext. 7207

Morgan Efrom, Principal: 630-293-6050 ext. 7201

Kelly Reinmann, Assistant Principal: 630-293-6050 ext. 7217

Connie Michiels, Secretary: 630-293-6050 ext. 7200

School Nurse: 630-293-6050 ext. 7202

2026-2027 District Calendar - ENGLISH

2026-2027 District Calendar - SPANISH

Upcoming Dates

8/18: Supply Drop Off @ Turner Elementary, 1-3 PM

8/19: First Day of School (Grades 1-8)

8/20: First Day of School (Kindergarten)

8/24-9/4: Fall MAP Testing Window

9/2: *TENTATIVE* Turner Welcome Picnic (5-7 PM) *more details to come*

9/7: NO SCHOOL - LABOR DAY

9/10: Turner Curriculum Night (6-8 PM) *more details to come*

10/8: Fall Pictures

10/12: NO SCHOOL - COLUMBUS DAY

10/16: **TENTATIVE** Turner Fall Fest (5:30-7:30 PM) *more details to come*

10/22: **NO SCHOOL - PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES**

10/23: **NO SCHOOL - SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT DAY**

10/29: Parent Teacher Conferences (*Evening Only*)

11/3: **NO SCHOOL - PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY**

Arrival & Dismissal Procedures

Student Drop-Off/Arrival

- Students may be dropped off starting at **8:15 AM**.
- ***Safety is our number one priority. Please do not drop off your student prior to 8:15.***
- Students arriving **after 8:40 AM** are considered tardy. **A parent/guardian must walk them into the front office to sign them in.** Students will then receive a tardy pass and select their lunch choice.

Important Safety Reminders

- Stay in your car during drop-off and pick-up.
- A staff member will assist your child in getting in or out of the car if needed.
- Always watch for staff walking through the parking lot to and from their cars.
- Maintain a safe speed and stay off your cell phone at all times while on school grounds.

Dismissal or Transportation Changes

If Your Child Has a Bus Route

- If your student has an assigned bus route but will be a **car rider** this year, please notify our **Secretary, Mrs. Michiels, at 630-293-6050 ext. 7200** as soon as possible so we can update our records.
 - **IMPORTANT:** Students assigned to a bus route will be placed on their assigned bus at dismissal unless office staff has received and confirmed a transportation change directly from a parent/guardian. For student safety, transportation changes should not be communicated solely through the student. A student telling staff that they will be going home a different way is not sufficient notification, and we cannot honor a change unless it has been communicated directly to the office by a parent/guardian.
 - If your student's dismissal plan needs to change for a particular day, **please contact the Main Office by 1:30 PM** to ensure we have enough time to make the necessary arrangements.
 - Turner Main Office Phone Number: 630-293-6050
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Turner Building Goals

Below you will find our building goals in Literacy, Math, and Culture for the 26-27 school year. Reaching these goals requires a strong partnership between our school, students, and families.

Together, we can create the support and opportunities our students need to thrive!

Goal #1: Literacy

By Spring 2027, 36% of students will be at or above the 65th percentile in MAP English Reading, an increase from the Spring 2026 result of 29%.

By Spring 2027, 38% of students will be proficient/above proficient in IAR English Language Arts, an increase from the Spring 2026 result of 32%.

By Spring 2027, 11% of students who are English Learners will attain English proficiency on the ACCESS Test, an increase from the Spring 2026 results of 13%.

Goal #2: Mathematics

By Spring 2027, 48% of students will be at or above the 65th percentile in MAP Mathematics, an increase from the Spring 2026 result of 44%.

By Spring 2027, 33% of students will be proficient/above proficient in IAR Math, an increase from the Spring 2026 result of 29%.

Goal #3: Culture

By Spring 2027, the category of '**Supportive Environment**' category on the 5Essentials survey will **increase to 60**, up from a Spring 2026 score of 47.

Back to School Details & Information

Bus Safety Reminders

Families, we ask that you please take a few minutes to review these bus safety reminders with your student before the first day of school. Talking through what to expect can help students feel comfortable and prepared as they begin their daily bus routine.

- Wait safely away from the street and walk, never run to and from the bus.
- Wait until the bus comes to a complete stop before boarding or exiting.
- Remain seated, face forward, and keep the aisles clear while the bus is moving.
- Use quiet voices so you can hear the bus driver's directions.
- Keep hands, arms, and belongings inside the bus.
- Follow the driver's directions and treat the driver and peers with kindness and respect.
- Please report any unsafe student behavior to the bus driver and a school staff member as soon as possible!

Thank you for partnering with us to help ensure all of our students have a safe bus experience!

Class Lists

By 12:00 PM today (August 7th), you should be able to see your student's schedule on PowerSchool. *Turner class lists* will be posted at the main entrance on **Monday, August 10, at 9**

First Days of School

1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, & 5th Grade: Wednesday, August 19

Kindergarten: Thursday, August 20

We know the first few days of school can look a little different, especially for our youngest students and families, who may want a little extra time for first-day photos, hugs, and goodbyes after spending summer together.

On **Wednesday, August 19, and Thursday, August 20 only**, parents may use the church parking lot during arrival and dismissal and walk their student to and from school.

On **Wednesday and Thursday at 8:30 AM**, staff will welcome students outside on the blacktop near the playground. Teachers will be outside with class signs to help students find their class, and Turner staff will be available throughout the area to assist families and students.

Breakfast will continue to be available in the gym for students from 8:15–8:30 AM. If your child would like to have breakfast, you are more than welcome to wait for them on the blacktop until 8:30 AM.

Starting Friday, August 21, vehicles may no longer park in the church parking lot, and students will go directly into the building upon arrival through the main entrance. Thank you for helping us make the transition to our regular arrival routine as smooth as possible!

Kindergarten Orientation

Kindergarten Orientation at Turner will take place on **Thursday, August 19, from 1:30-2:30**. During this time, our Kindergarten teachers will share valuable information about our school, classroom routines, and everything you and your child can expect this year! Kindergarten Orientation is designed ***only for parents/guardians*** so we can share important information and answer your questions as you prepare for your child's first day of Kindergarten.

We understand this may not be easy for every family, and we're grateful for any effort you can make to attend on your own. Students will have the opportunity to visit their classroom and meet their teacher and become familiar with the school during **Supply Drop-Off on August 19 from 1-3 PM**, before the first day of school. If your Kindergartener does need to accompany you, our staff will be available to provide supervision outside of the classroom so you can focus on the information being presented.

A few important reminders:

- Families attending Kindergarten Orientation, please arrive no earlier than 1:15 to minimize congestion in the building.
- **All** families need to bring their ID to scan and sign in at the Main Office before attending Kindergarten Orientation.

- At 1:30, families will be able to make their way down to the Kindergarten classroom where presentations will take place

Supply Drop Off

We're looking forward to welcoming families to **Supply Drop Off on, Tuesday, August 18, from 1-3 PM** at Turner! This is a great opportunity to bring your child's school supplies into the building, drop them off, and meet their teacher and staff before the first day of school.

Parking Information:

- Families may use available spaces in the staff or visitor parking lots, as well as the church parking lot.
- Please do not park directly behind other vehicles, in the first lane, or pickup/drop off zone

Supply Lists

Click [here](#) or the link below to view the D33 supply list for grades K-5.

Grades K-5 Supply Lists (ENGLISH & SPANISH)

Supply Drop-Off will take place on **Tuesday, August 18, from 1-3 PM at Turner**. During this time, families and students will be welcomed into the building to drop off supplies in their classroom and meet their teacher. If you are unsure of your student's teacher or where to go. No worries, we are here to help when you arrive!

Parking Information:

Like any other schoolwide event, you may use any available spaces in the visitor parking lot. Parking is also available in the church parking lot across from the staff/bus lot on Ingaltan. Please do not park in the fire lane, in the pickup/drop off lane, or any other area that is not a designated parking space.

26-27 Assessment Calendar

Throughout the year, students will participate in district-wide assessments that help us monitor progress, celebrate growth, and make informed instructional decisions. While students will not test every day within an assessment window, **regular attendance is important** so they are present for scheduled assessments and instruction. Families can help by encouraging healthy habits such as getting enough sleep, eating breakfast, arriving on time, and reminding students to do their best!

NWEA/MAP: Measures student growth and achievement in reading and math and helps teachers identify areas of strength and areas for additional support.

FastBridge: Provides information about foundational reading and math skills and helps teachers monitor student progress and determine appropriate instructional support.

Dyslexia Screener: Helps identify students who may demonstrate characteristics associated with dyslexia so that appropriate instructional supports can be provided.

SAEBRS: Provides information about students' social, emotional, and behavioral skills and helps staff identify students who may benefit from additional support.

Developmental Milestones: Helps teachers understand students' developmental progress in areas such as communication, social-emotional development, and learning.

CogAT: Measures students' reasoning and problem-solving abilities in verbal, quantitative, and nonverbal areas.

KIDS: An Illinois kindergarten assessment that provides information about students' development and readiness across multiple areas as they begin school.

5Essentials Pulse Survey: Gives students and staff an opportunity to share feedback about their school experience and helps us identify areas of strength and opportunities for growth.

AAPPL: Measures language proficiency in speaking, listening, reading, and writing for students learning a world language.

ACCESS: Measures English language proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing for multilingual learners and helps teachers plan instruction and monitor language development.

IAR: An Illinois state assessment that measures student achievement in English language arts and mathematics and provides information about progress toward Illinois learning standards.

8/24-9/3: Fall MAP

9/8-18: Fall FastBridge Screener (K-5) & Dyslexia Screener (K-3)

10/5-16: SAEBRS (1-5) & Developmental Milestones (K)

10/13-21: CogAT (5)

11/2-6: 5Essentials Student & Staff Pulse Survey

11/9-18: AAPPL (Dual 3-8)

1/4-8: Winter FastBridge Screener (K-5)

1/11-22: Winter MAP

1/17-2/25: ACCESS (K-5)

2/1-11: SAEBRS (1-5) & Developmental Milestones (K)

2/22-3/5: CogAT (2)

3/15-26: IAR (3-5)

March: 5Essentials Survey (4th-5th Grade Students, Staff, & Families)

4/6-8: ISA (5)

4/19-30: SAEBRS (1-5) & Developmental Milestones (K)

5/3-14: Spring MAP

5/17-26: Spring FastBridge Screener

26-27 Parent Academies

This year, as part of our commitment to strong school-home partnerships, we are offering Parent Academies. We invite you to join District administrator to learn about assessments, ask questions, and better understand your child's academic journey, growth, and ways to support learning at home! Please view the Parent Academies below and view the link [here](#) for more details!

September 30: Understanding My Child's MAP Reading & Math Scores & Maximizing Communication Using ParentSquare

November 3: Understanding My Child's IAR Scores & ACCESS Scores

December 16: Accessing and Reading My Child's Report Cards & Maximizing the Use of PowerSchool

January 20: Understanding My Child's AAPPL Scores

January 28: Literacy Night

February: view link [here](#)

March 12: Understanding CogAT

Parent Academies Flyer

Sharing your Experience on Great Schools!

When families look at schools, they often check online reviews. A quick rating from you can help them see what makes West Chicago schools such a special place.

If you have a minute, please share your experience on GreatSchools:

- **Go to Turner's Webpage:** www.greatschools.org/reviews/
- **Search your child's school in West Chicago**
- **Leave a rating and short review**

You might mention how your child feels at school, a teacher who made a difference, or what you love about your school community.

Turner Spiritwear

Whether you're looking for a new hoodie, t-shirt, hat, or other fun gear, there's something for every student, parent, and fan. Spiritwear is perfect for school days, spirit days, sporting events, field trips, or just representing your school around town.

Best of all, everything is ordered online, paid online, and shipped directly to your home. No order forms, no deadlines, and no waiting for school delivery. Shop your school's store today and start the year showing your school pride!

Turner Spiritwear Link

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