

Welcome Families!

- Happy New Year!
- Sign in and Feedback form: https://forms.office.com/r/5rjXkeYhJ8
- Lorna Gilmour Family Partnership Specialist (Teacher on Special Assignment TOSA)
- Rachel Auffant Secondary Counselor
- Susie Yamane Admin Assistant to Equity
- This session will be recorded.
- ➤ Please turn off your camera.
- ➤ Please keep yourself muted.
- ➤ Enter your questions in Chat
- > We will have time at end of session to answer questions.
- ➤ Participants will also have an opportunity to ask questions in the feedback form and request the PowerPoint.



5th grade Transition Information

ISD Equity and Family Partnership

Lorna Gilmour – Family Partnership Specialist
Rachel Auffant – School Counselor
Susie Yamane – Assistant to the Executive Director of Equity and Family Partnership

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Bienvenue

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Purpose of tonight's event:

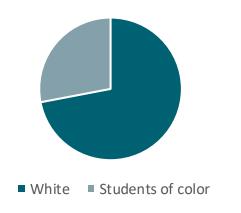
- Support families who may be unfamiliar with the ISD middle school system and programs since they attended schools outside the US, other areas in the US or private schools.
- ➤ Provide information to any families who are interested in learning more about the ISD middle schools.



Issaquah School District Demographics

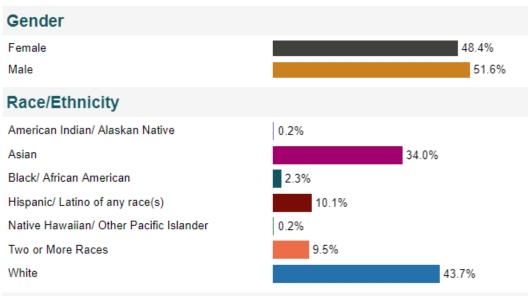
- District demographics are changing
- Increase in culturally and linguistically diverse families

Student Demographics 2007-2008



Issaquah School District







Family Partnership Team and role

Lorna Gilmour – Family Partnership Specialist (TOSA-Teacher on Special Assignment)

Ina Ghangurde – Family Liaison (Cougar Mountain and Maywood)

Liliana Medina – Family Liaison (Issaquah Middle and Pacific Cascade)

Wenli Mithal – Family Liaison (Pine Lake and Beaver Lake)

- Part of Equity Department
- Remove barriers to accessing information or understanding the school system.
- <u>Liaisons</u> provide support for families in all schools support families in each feeder pattern
- Hold events and workshops for family education and support
- Provide resources for families
- Cultural Competency work with staff



HOME > PROGRAMS AND SERVICES > CULTURAL AND FAMILY PARTNERS

Cultural and Family Partnerships

The Issaquah School District supports students' success by supporting families.

To eliminate barriers and provide full access to all the educational opportunities in our district, we provide families supports such as Parent Workshops, access to Family Liaisons and resources to help staff better support our students and families.

Accessing Information in Other Languages











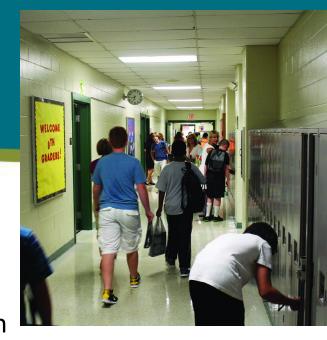






Big transition from Elementary School

- No recess biggest surprise for some families and students
- Lunch 30 minutes most schools have microwaves
- Lunch Many schools have activities/play during last 15 minutes of lunch
- 4–5-minute transition time between classes (locker and bathroom)
- Lockers all students will be assigned a locker
- Books online books, some textbooks to class, many schools have class sets of books so students can keep books at home or use the online textbooks, (fees if books lost or damaged)
- Class supplies material/supply list online, some teachers may have additional requirements and students will be notified the first week of school, Don't need all the supplies the first few days of school (teachers will let students know what is needed and when the first few days)
- After school clubs and sports opportunities offered at all ISD middle schools (afterschool activity bus available)





Middle School - Transition years Students become independent learners Caregiver/Parent as coach and mentor to help students self-advocate

- Student learns to be the ADVOCATE for their own learning
- Caregiver/parent is the coach to help the student learn how to talk to the teacher as needed
- Caregiver/parent should **model and teach** students how to email a teacher for questions or get help (students have Office365 accounts and Canvas accounts to send emails)
- Caregiver/parent can also encourage and talk to students about asking for help from the teacher (when, how, etc)
- Teachers work with students to show how to advocate for their learning
- More communication between the student and the teacher



How Middle Schools communicate with home

- Handouts and flyers RARELY sent home with students
- Weekly newsletters from classroom teacher not common message sent on occasion via Canva
- Weekly Bulletins sent by schools and school district. (Most common way of communication Check junk mail so you are not missing important messages)
- Email/Canvas message from teacher to class or the specific families
- Teacher website (Canvas) regarding specific information about the class, assignments, projects, etc.
- Visit school website for information on clubs, sports, bell schedule, calendar, announcements
- If you have a question, you should email the teacher with the question or concern. No designated teacher conferences in middle schools.
- Caregiver/parent contact teachers to discuss student progress in each class or request a meeting via the school counselor with all teachers.
- Teachers prefer communications via email.
- Peach Jar announcements and opportunities for families and students
- PTSA email no handouts or flyers, sign up for PTSA

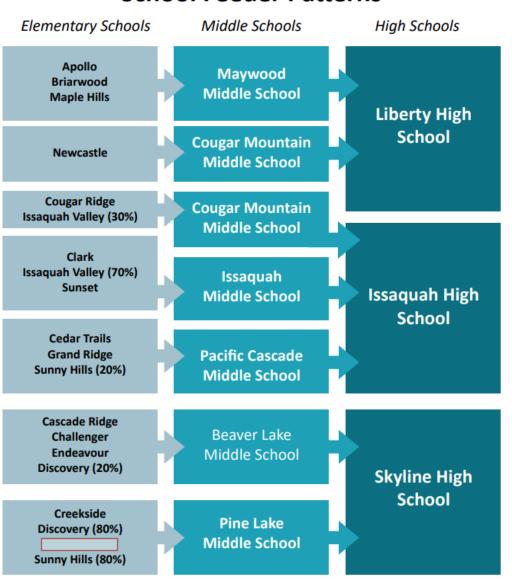


Which Middle Schools will my child attend?

- Follow feeder pattern based on your home address.
- If you move and you no longer live within you school's attendance boundary, you will need to transfer schools.
- Attendance Map webpage
- Contact school registrar if unclear from attendance maps to determine which middles school you will be attending (for IVE, DES, SHES)



School Feeder Patterns





Moving from ISD elementary to middle school

- □ Automatic all paperwork is transferred. Parent does not need to re-register or re-enroll for middle school if your child currently attends an ISD elementary school. □ EVP – Enrollment Verification Process in August required for all ISD families each year (confirmation of attendance and required paperwork completion process). □Course selection - Families will need to do course selection for 6th grade child in February (more information on course selection later in presentation) □ Transportation – verified during EVP, check <u>Bus route website for route information</u> □ Lunch account – carries to new middle school, much more lunch options (more a la carte items also) ☐ Highly capable - integrated in secondary schools, classes self-select □ If your child has a 504, IEP or health plan – the plan or accommodations will follow them to ISD middle school. 5th grade IEP teacher meets with the IEP teacher in middle school to review information.
 - 504 plan (504 is a plan with accommodations for children with disabilities)
 - Health plan for diabetes, asthma, hearing or other health needs
 - IEP (Individualized Education Plan) for students with special services



Calendar

- □ <u>District Calendar</u> and <u>School calendars</u> on website (2023-2024 calendar)
- ☐ School attendance is always critical but in middle school absences impact student learning more since at a quicker pace.
- ☐ Year divided in 3 trimesters (12 weeks in each Trimester) report card available on Skyward each trimester



2023-2024 District Calendar

M	Т	W	Th	F	
	SEP	TEM	BER		
28	29	30	31	1	
4	5	6	7	8	l
11	12	13	14	15	
18	19	20	21	22	
25	26	27	28	29	

OCTOBER				
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			

NOVEMBER				
	1 2 3			
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	

DECEMBER				
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

JANUARY				
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

Aug 29:	First day of school
Sept 1:	First day of school for
	kindergarten students

Sept 4: Labor Day

No school for students or staff

Oct 23: Teacher Work Day

No school for students

Nov 10: Veterans Day Observance

No school for students or staff

Nov 22-24: Thanksgiving holiday

No school for students or staff

TBD: Elementary conferences

Dec 18- Jan 1: First Winter Break

No school for students or staff

Jan 15: Martin Luther King Jr. Day

No school for students or staff

Jan 26: Teacher Work Day

No school for students

Feb 19: Presidents Day
Feb 20-23: Second Winter Break

No school for students or staff

Apr 8-12: Spring Break

No school for students or staff

May 27: Memorial Day

No school for students or staff

June 18: Last day of school

June 19: Juneteenth

INCLEMENT WEATHER MAKE-UP DAYS

** If school is closed during the school year due to inclement weather, March 15th will be the first make up day. Additional school days will be added to the school calendar in June as

M	T	w	Th	F	
FEBRUARY					
			1	2	
5	6	7	8	9	
12	13	14	15	16	
19	20	21	22	23	
26	27	28	29		

	MARCH					
				1		
4	5	6	7	8		
11	12	13	14	15		
18	19	20	21	22		
25	26	27	28	29		

APRIL				
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30			

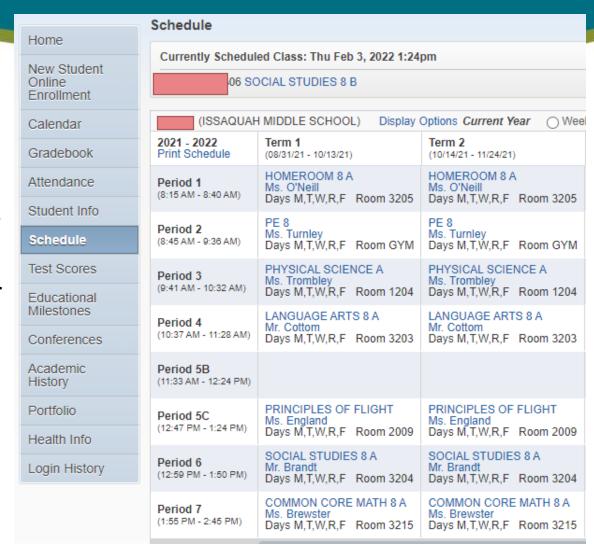
MAY				
	1	2	3	
7	8	9	10	
14	15	16	17	
21	22	23	24	
28	29	30	31	
		1 7 8 14 15 21 22	1 2 7 8 9 14 15 16 21 22 23	

JUNE				
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28



Schedule

- Bell Schedule includes general schedule, Wednesday, late start, early dismissal, etc
- ☐ Wednesday is Delayed Start day (check your child's school website Our School) most schools start at 10:20 a.m.
- ☐ Friday after the end of the trimester is an early dismissal day (Dec. and March)
- ☐ Last two days of schools are usually also early dismissal days.
- ☐ Student schedule will be available on Family Access the day before school starts
- ☐ Family Access schedule will include teacher name, room number, and bell time.
- ☐ Lunch period based on specific grade level or class
- ☐ Some schools have 3 lunch sections and others have 2 lunch sections

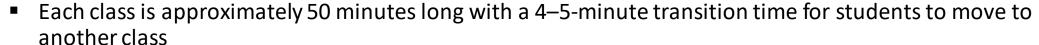


^{*}Note – Middle school students have additional or some different tabs in Family Access than Elementary School.



Schedule





- Example of Pine Lake Middle School Bell Schedule
- Homeroom class on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday (announcements made during this time)
- In Homeroom, Social Emotional Learning (SEL) curriculum lessons will be presented and school business such as announcements
- Elective classes More information about specific electives offered at each middle school will be presented at the 5th grade Transition night at each middle school in February
 - Some are Yearlong electives (same class all year) Band, Chorus, Orchestra
 - Required elective PE/Health 1 Health and 2 PE
 - Students with non-yearlong electives may have different elective each trimester





Day in middle school

- ❖ A school day is divided into 6 period days each period is 50 min long with a lunch and a "Homeroom*
- Students move classrooms each period.
- ❖ Different set of classmates each period.
- Class sizes between 24-35
- ❖ Core classes stay the same all year same teacher (Math, Science, Social studies and English Language Arts)
- ❖ Homeroom teacher is the same all year.
- ❖ 6 weeks progress reports ½ way through trimester, teachers are required to update **Canvas** so parents are aware of the child's progress, Skyward grades are the official grades
- ❖ Final trimester grade available approximately 1 week after the end of each trimester
- Canvas in an important tool used by teachers to communicate with students and families.
- The school year is divided into three trimesters. Each trimester is 12 weeks long. Report cards are available on Family Access at the end of each trimester.
- ❖ End of trimester: Trimester 1 November 28 (½ day school on Dec. 1st)
 - ❖ Trimester 2 March 18, 2024 (½ day school)
 - ❖ Trimester 3 June 18, 2024 (June 14 and June 18th are ½ days)
 - ***On Friday after the last day of trimester Early release days, check schedule



Middle School – 1:1 laptops

- ➤ All students in the middle schools are provided a district issued laptop.
- ➤ All ISD students have an Office365 account that they use frequently to complete and submit assignments. This is the same account they may have used in elementary school.
- ➤ Many of the school textbooks are online so students can access their textbook from their Canvas account using their laptops.
- > Students need to take their fully charged laptops to school each day.



Canvas

- > Learning Management System (LMS) used at ISD middle and high schools
- > All course information, grades, syllabus, and expectations for each teacher is posted on Canvas
- ➤ Primary ways families can check weekly progress of the student weekly grade, missing assignments, comments from teachers, etc
- ➤ Student and Family account access is different the families do not have access to class rosters, class discussions, ability to post or conduct assignments.
- > Students use Canvas daily to see daily assignments, projects, submit assignments and access textbooks, other apps used in class
- Teachers in 6th grade will teach all students how to use Canvas and more specifically navigate their Canvas site
- > Canvas parent workshop event will be held by Family Partnership Team in September (check ISD website or bulletins)
- ➤ 6th grade students will learn about and access their Canvas account the first week of school.
- ➤ 6th grade families will be able to set up their Canvas account the first week of school.
- Monitoring your child's academic progress on Canvas is the best way to support your child in 6th grade.



Role of School Counselor

- Usually, middle school counselors are the main point of contact for general support (not Homeroom teacher).
- Academic Counseling (discuss course selection)
 - Scheduling for courses, advanced class choices and selection of pathways, elective questions
 - Liaison between teacher and parents
- Point of contact for financial assistance and basic needs
- Social and Emotional Counseling
 - Not a stigma to talk to counselor support person in high school
 - Talk to students about social and emotional issues
 - Connect students with mental health resources available on campus
 - Rise of anxiety and depression in schools around the country and world



Counseling and Mental Health

- **❖** Two school counselors at each building.
- Counselors are assigned based on last name.
- ❖ Student will have same counselor for all middle school years.
- ❖ Students can request to see a counselor by requesting a meeting with counselor.
- ❖ Social Emotional Learning
 - **Second Step curriculum** used to teach skills during Homeroom time at the schools
 - ❖ <u>Social Emotional Resources for Families</u>
- ❖ School Based Swedish Mental Health counselors available at each middle school.



Homework

- Read the class syllabus for each class (posted on Canvas) at start of year.
- Homework is often assigned in core classes most frequently in math and science
- Amount of homework dependent on teacher
- Assignments and due dates posted on Canvas page
- Grades frequently updated on Canvas.
- Parents and students need to check Canvas. It is the main method of communication with parents.
- When absent, work needs to be made up. Check with teacher.
- Teachers have policies regarding missed work, late work or absent work
- Some homework is graded, other marked for completion, depending on assignment and teacher decision.





Required Classes in 6th grade

- ✓ Language Arts (full year)
- ✓ Social Studies (full year)
- ✓ Math (full year)
- ✓ Science (full year)
- ✓ Health and PE 1 trimester of Health and 2 trimesters of PE
- Homeroom class for all students school business, daily announcements, etc
- ☐ Most students can take one elective class each trimester in 6th grade
- ☐ Band, Chorus, Orchestra are year-long elective
- ☐ Other elective based on each Middle School some schools offer electives such as leadership, drama
- \Box Students who are in the Multilingual/ELL program will take an MLL class for their elective class.



Middle School Curriculum and Pathway

- Following the registration event at each middle school, your child will have an opportunity to select their classes for 6th grade year.
- ☐ Students **self-select** the classes recommended that you use SBA and iReady scores to help with course selection.
- ☐ For math and science, once a student starts a path above grade level it is not possible to change course without repeating content at some point in time.
- ☐ Please consider the possibility that by skipping courses in math and science your student may have some gaps in content knowledge.
- ☐ Consider the increased time commitment to studies outside of the school day. Please consider all responsibilities, including sports, music and club affiliations.

Science Pathway options

Grade Level	Curriculum		
K-5	Amplify Science		
6-8	MS Science Path I	MS Science Path II	
6	Life Science	Earth and Space Science	
7	Earth and Space Science	Physical Science	
8	Physical Science	High School Biology	
9-12	For most	students:	
9	Biol	logy	
	Chemistry		
10	Chemistry Lab Methods and Physics Lab Methods		
10	For additional science options,		
	please refer to your hig	h school course catalog	
	Chemistry, Physic	s; AP or IB Courses	
11	For additional s	science options,	
	please refer to your high school course catalog		
10	For additional science options,		
12	please refer to your hig	h school course catalog	



Testing and Grading system

- > Teachers in all classes may have tests and quizzes periodically.
- ➤ SBA tests in 6, 7 and 8th grade (like 3rd, 4th and 5th grade SBA test) -(SBA Smarter Balanced Assessment the state assessment)
- ➤ Grading scale in schools letter grade based on percentage (no longer 1, 2, 3 or 4 scale)
- ➤ Letter grades A, B, C, D and F (D is considered below average but passing, F is failing)
- > No ranking of student (Grade Point Average will help determine if student is eligible for honor society).
- > Students may have projects they will need to complete individually or in small group.
- > Colleges don't see middle school grades (except for high school credit 8th grade classes)



Attendance





- Punctual attendance is a key component to student success.
- Students are accountable for being in class on time and prepared to learn.
- Students may be subject to school consequence if frequently tardy (Check school's attendance policy in the School Handbook on the website).
- To participate in any after-school activity, sports, theatre, concert, etc., a student must attend class for at least one-half of the school day.
- Students are typically allowed one day for each day of absence to complete homework/classwork (check school policy).
- Students responsible for work missed when absent.
- Extended absences for travel are discouraged in middle school.



MLL (Multilingual Learners) Program

- For students who are in 5th grade MLL and not proficient – they will continue in the MLL program in 6th grade
- WIDA (annual English language test) in February/March to check student's level of English language proficiency — only given to students who qualify for the MLL program (students who took screener test when they started at a school).
- In middle school, MLL students take one English Language Development class from a certificated MLL teacher.
 - Class focuses on academic language needed for content classes so students can succeed in math, language arts, social studies and science
 - Reading, writing, listening and speaking of academic English language critical for students' success in school





Health room and SCHOOL NURSE

- **❖** All school in the Issaquah School District have a health room (nurse full time?).
- **❖** A school nurse supports students in the following ways:
 - Protects and promotes student health
 - Facilitates optimal development
 - Advances academic success

***** Reach out to your school nurse if:

- ❖ Your student has an allergy that a doctor has prescribed an Epipen.
- Your student has diabetes
- ❖ Your student has asthma and an inhaler has been prescribed
- Your student has a seizure disorder
- Your student has any medical condition that impacts school performance
- ❖ Your family needs assistance with resources, such as food, clothing or medical insurance.



Sports Physical and Immunization

- Sports Physical If your child is planning to play middle school sports, a sports physical is required.
- The physical needs to be completed on or after January 1 to be eligible for the upcoming school year. (Next year's 6th graders Jan 1, 2023)
- ➤ All 7th grade students are required to have the Tdap vaccination prior to the first day of school

Parents— Are Your Kids Ready for School? Required Immunizations for School Year 2021-2022 Instructions: To see which vaccines are required for school, find your child's grade in the first column. Look at the matching row across the page to find the amount of vaccines required

instructions: To see which vaccines are required for school, find your child's grade in the first column. Look at the matching row across the page to find the amount of vaccines required for your child to enter school.

	Hepatitis B	DTaP/Tdap (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis)	Polio	MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella)	Varicella (Chickenpox)
Kindergarten through 6th Grade	3 doses	5 doses*	4 doses*	2 doses	2 doses OR A health care provider verified the child had the disease
7th Grade through 12th Grade	3 doses	5 doses DTaP * AND 1 dose Tdap	4 doses*	2 doses	2 doses OR A health care provider verified the child had the disease

* Vaccine Doses may be fewer than listed depending on your child's situation.

Additional Information: Students must get vaccine doses at the correct timeframes to be in compliance with school requirements. Talk to your health care provider or school staff if you have questions about school immunization requirements.

There are important vaccines for children that are not required for school entry. Find information on these vaccines at www.immunize.org/cdc/schedules/



ASB

- ASB Associated Student Body (IMS) (CMMS)
- Group of students at each school who contribute to a fund that helps support clubs, sports and other events at the school
- Students are elected to represent the grade levels and group to run the organization, plan and support student engagement on campus.
- Students who plan on participating in sports, clubs and attend ASB sponsored events need to pay and have an ASB card (can pay online during the Enrollment Verification Process (EVP) or anytime during year)
- \$35 membership fee for ASB (part of Fees and Fine payment in August and can pay anytime through the year)
- Financial aid available for ASB, sport and other fees. Speak to the school counselor.



Fees and Costs



- ASB card usually required for all sports, clubs, and music programs (\$35)
- Sports fee \$50 for Junior Varsity (JV) and Varsity and \$20 for intramural per sport
- PE uniforms (check with individual school)
- Yearbook
- Science/Lab fee
- Elective class fee depending on type of elective (art, drama, etc usually 7th and 8th grade)
- Instrument rental (as needed for students taking Band or Orchestra as an elective)
- Financial assistance is available to families who qualify check with school counselors.

*Most fees and expenses paid in August during Enrollment Verification Process (EVP) or before school begins families can go to the school office.



Clubs and Afterschool bus

- ❖ All middle schools offer a variety of afterschool club opportunities.
- Students must have an ASB card to participate in clubs (pay in August during EVP as part of school material fees)
- Check the school's website Student Life Activities Clubs to learn more including the clubs, times and dates club meets, room location
- Each year, the club opportunities may vary since club availability depends on student interest and advisory availability.
- ❖ If students would like to start a club, contact school ASB teacher.
- After school buses are available for students (who take a school bus) who participate in clubs and sports.
- ❖After school buses do not stop at the regular bus stop so please check the bus route all school bus information on Programs and Services Buses tab on ISD website.
- Additional after school opportunities available through PTSA and the Issaquah Community Center.



Sports/Athletics

The following sports are offered at the middle school level:

<u>FALL</u>	WINTER I	WINTER II	SPRING	
Cross Country (Co-Ed)	Basketball (Girls)	Basketball (Boys)	Track (Co-Ed)	
Softball (Co-Ed)	Wrestling (Co-Ed)	Soccer (Girls)		
Volleyball (Girls)	9	1		

- <u>Eligibility</u> includes ASB membership card (\$35) required (Fees and Fines online)
- Activity bus (with limited stops for student who take bus). Students must be picked up on time from school if it is a parent pick up.
- Sport fees Sport-specific fees for Cross Country, Softball, Volleyball, Wrestling, Basketball, Soccer, and Track are \$50.00.
- Intramural opportunity to play a sport for fun (Volleyball, Basketball, Soccer)
- Intramural sport fee \$20.00 per intramural sport.
- Sports Physical required to participate in sports at ISD.
- ALL incoming 6th grade athletes must have a **physical evaluation** dated on or after June 1st of this school year. Physical evaluations are valid for 24 months.
- Download Physical Evaluation form from website. Medical professional signature required on form. Keep original copy for each season. You will need to upload a scan of the physical evaluation form during the sports registration process before the sport season begins.
- Practices are held immediately after school Mondays through Thursdays no Friday practices.



^{*}Check school website –Athletics - for other requirements/forms, etc.





Advice from parents

- ➤ Understand that MIDDLE SCHOOL is a transition year they are learning how to be organized, develop good studying skills, personal skills, etc.
- ➤ Help your child be organized strategies for binder, locker, classroom behavior
- ➤ Time management strategies when to go to bathroom, locker, lost and found, office or counselor
- ➤ If you and your child need support who to talk to for help? School counselor
- Check students' planner and teacher websites frequently with your child in 6th grade for the first few months
- > Help them learn how to open their lockers
- ➤ Remember no specific parent-teacher conference date, if you need to communicate with teacher or counselor, you need to initiate contact with specific teacher or a school counselor.



Middle School Welcome Events

(Dates are posted in the elementary school bulletin – check the elementary school bulletin for more information Middle schools will be sending emails to families with this information also.

Check your email (junk folder)



Questions?



Please contact a Family Partnership Liaison if you have additional questions!

For questions about course selection in middle school, please wait till after the information night at each school before contacting the <u>elementary school counselor</u>.

Questions can be directed to the middle school counselors starting in late August.

<u>Liliana</u>

Medina (Español)

Family Partnership

Liaison

\&: 425-837-7141

: 425-331-9555

Wenli Mithal (中

文)

Family Partnership

Liaison **⊗** : 425-

837-7106

: 978-252-3686

Ina Ghangurde

Family Partnership

Liaison **⊗**: 425-

837-7008

: 252-563-3498



5th grade transition events at the schools

	Date	Students	Families
MMS	January 31st	10-11am	Parent/Guardian 6-7:30pm
CMMS	February 2nd		Time 6pm – 7:30pm
	January 31st	10-11am	
PCMS	February 9th		Time TBD
	February 13th	ZOOM TBD	
	February 16th		Zoom Q & A
IMS	January 26th		Experience Music Night 6:30
	January 31st	10-11am	
	February 1st		Parent/Guardian (A-K) 5:30-7:30
	February 2nd		Parent/Guardian (L-Z) 5:30-7:30
BLMS	February 13th	Time TBD	Parent/Guardian 7-8 Zoom
	February 27th		Zoom Q & A
	TBA	Music and Elective Info	
PLMS	February 13th	Zoom SH 10:30-11:15am	
	February 13th	Zoom DI 1:00-1:45pm	
	February 13th	Zoom CS 2:00-2:45	
	February 13th		Zoom 6:30-7:30pm