

Navigating Middle School - Dunloggin MS

WORKING TOGETHER
FOR A SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION
TO MIDDLE SCHOOL



Meet the Staff

Antoinette Roberson - Principal

Debra O'Byrne - Assistant Principal

Ebony Peppers - Counselor

Tiffany Madison - Counselor

Kathleen Goffaux - 6th Grade Team Leader

Susan Thomas - 6th Grade English Teacher

Lois Han - GT Teacher

Haley Ahn - ESOL Teacher

Sung Kim - International Liaison

Melissa Faulisi - Related Arts Team Leader

Nancy Stefan - Physical Education Teacher

Meron Girma - Media Specialist



In order to
teach a
child well
we must
know a
child well.



Learning and Leading with Equity

The Fierce Urgency of Now

VISION: Every student and staff member embraces diversity and possesses the skills, knowledge and confidence to positively influence the larger community.

MISSION: HCPSS ensures academic success and social-emotional well-being for each student in an inclusive and nurturing environment that closes opportunity gaps.



Four Overarching Commitments

VALUE

ACHIEVE

CONNECT

EMPOWER

**Middle school is a
defining point for
students in the
college and
career readiness
process.**




Source: The Forgotten Middle: Ensuring that All Students Are On Target For College and Career Readiness Before High School, ACT, 2008.



Preparing Students for the Future



**High
School
Readiness**



**College
and
Career
Readiness**

**21st
Century
Skills**

**Academic
Behaviors**

**High
School
Readiness**

**College
and
Career
Readiness**



21st Century Skills

Academic
Behaviors

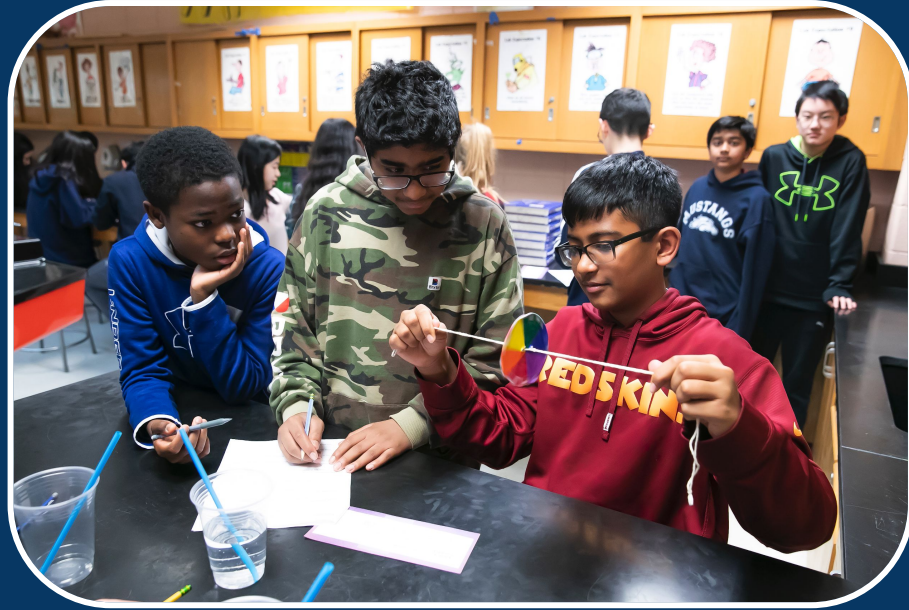
- Life and Career Skills
- Learning and Innovation Skills
- Information Media and Technology Skills

High
School
Readiness

College
and
Career
Readiness

Academics





The level of academic achievement that students attain by eighth grade has a larger impact on their college and career readiness than anything that happens academically in high school.

Source: The Forgotten Middle: Ensuring that All Students Are On Target For College and Career Readiness Before High School

The Middle School Schedule



All students are enrolled in seven 50-minute classes every day.



Grade 6 Example Schedule

Course 1	English
Course 2	Mathematics
Course 3	Science
Course 4	Social Studies
Course 5	Physical Education/Health/Tech
Course 6 (Fine Art Choice)	Band, Chorus, Orchestra, or Art, Music, Theater, and Family and Consumer Science (FACS) (each one quarter (or similar sequence))
Course 7 (Elective/Intervention)	1 Quarter - Digital Citizenship, 21st Century Learning, Boost Your Brain, Art, Music, Theater, FACS, Reader's and Writer's Cafe 2 Quarters - GT Research Year-long - ESOL, Special Education/Mathematics/Reading Intervention

In accordance with state requirements, each year middle school students receive instruction in the following areas:

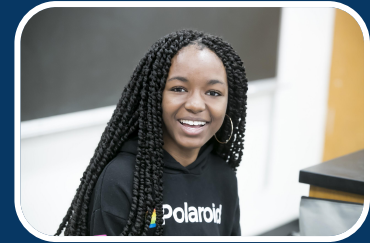
- English Language Arts
- Fine Arts
- Health
- Mathematics
- Physical Education
- Science
- Social Studies



English Language Arts, Social Studies, Science, and Mathematics offer a Gifted and Talented (G/T) option for instruction. Mathematics has an above-grade level course in addition to the G/T options.

Students are also required to receive instruction in the following during their middle school experience:

- Technology
- Financial Literacy
- Careers





Fine Arts Options

Students in grade 6 will choose from the following options:

- Band
- Chorus
- Orchestra
- Art/General Music/Theater Arts combination

Additional Course Options

- Family and Consumer Science
- Technology Education
- G/T Research or Seminars/Interventions in reading and/or mathematics
- Reader's and Writer's Workshop
- Additional Fine Arts Classes
- Other Elective Course Offerings



Finding the Right Balance Between

- Course Placements
- Rigor
- Personal Interests
- Student Success





Academic Behavior

Motivation and behavior, combined, have more impact on a student's readiness than academic achievement.

-LearnED by Pearson

The earlier a student develops important academically-related behaviors, the more likely these behaviors are to become a habit.



We Support POSITIVE Behaviors

At Dunloggin MS, staff and students provide positive supports for social, emotional, academic and behavioral success through the following...

- **PBIS**
- Quarterly FIRE Awards
- Spirit Day Activities & Awards
- Quarterly Rewards Activities
- Honor Roll Celebrations



3 Ways To Support The Whole Child

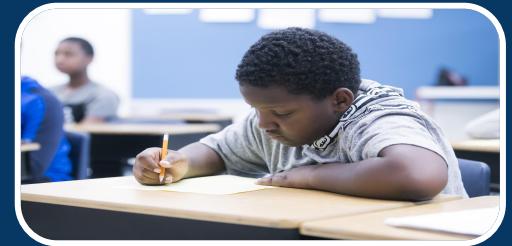
LearnED by Pearson



1. Teach kids that intelligence isn't fixed. They can grow their brains through lifelong learning.
2. Talk to students about college and potential careers. Tell them you believe in them and in their success.
3. Keep the communication lines open - set aside time to regularly talk about feelings and friendships.

Tips For Parents: Supporting Your Child's Development Of Positive Academic Behaviors

- Ensure that your child has the supplies and a place to study at home
- Work together to create an afterschool schedule that includes a consistent homework, freetime, and bedtime routine
- Regularly monitor grades, supporting your child in study habits and academic responsibilities
- Provide your child with a range of experiences to allow him/her to identify areas of strength
- Keep the lines of communication open with your child's teachers and counselor, especially if there are any major changes in the household



Frequently Asked Questions about Middle School

What does a typical day look like?

- Students are dismissed from the lobby to their lockers at 7:27.
- Seven minute announcements through first period.
- Seven 50 minute classes every day.
- Related arts classes are typically split up throughout the day.

Will my child get lost in the building?

- Absolutely! But staff will be there to help.
- Time between classes to find their way.
- Many 6th grade teachers located near each other.
- Teachers will help them for quite a while.
- Late to class will not begin for a few weeks into the year for 6th graders.

What supplies will my child need?

- Middle school supply list is generated and approved by the county. We can only make some edits.
- It may be wise to hold off buying *everything* until teachers indicate what your child will need.
- ONE big binder is discouraged.
- Just the basics the first week- paper, pencil, folder.

Is there homework every night?

- Homework is given from most classes nightly (yes, weekends too).
- Nightly homework is NOT accepted late.
- It comprises no more than 10% of total grade.
- Homework may also include long term projects and studying for tests and quizzes.
- Monitor agenda books *and* Canvas for assignments.

What tests will my child take during the year?

- Next year your child will take:
 - Measure of Academic Progress (MAP)
 - Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP)
 - Unit tests/quizzes
- No more than three from academics on a given day

How is Canvas used in Middle School

- Canvas is used as:
 - A gradebook- grades should be checked about once/week. A blank grade does not mean the assignment is missing
 - A forum for announcements/homework/resources- students should check these pages nightly or as needed.
 - Online assignments- Some teachers will use Canvas for assignment submissions

How do I contact my child's teachers?

- MOST teachers prefer an email to address a concern. Please allow them 24 hours to respond.
- Certainly call the school for subject matter that is more urgent or sensitive.
- Conferences are in the Fall only. Parents may choose THREE content teachers for the conference window.
- Immediate concerns **do not** need to wait until conferences. Contact your child's teacher or guidance counselor if you'd like to schedule one sooner.

Important Dates

Date	Activity
2/3/21 - 2/15/21	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Course Recommendations for rising 6th graders available in Synergy for parents to review.• Parents will enter student course requests in Synergy no later than 2/15/21.• Parents will complete a Course Placement Review (CPR) as appropriate.
5/17/21	Virtual Rising 6th Grade Visit



thank
you

Any Questions?