

December 12, 2018

Dear 5th Grader and Family,

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to middle school! The next three years will be inspiring and rewarding times for both you and your child. We are really excited to help make the transition from elementary school into middle school as smooth as possible.

Fifth Grade Open House

All middle schools will hold an open house for incoming fifth grade students and their parents in our auditoriums on **Thursday, January 10, 2019 from 5:00pm- 6:00pm**. Come learn about the middle school structure and the many opportunities your child will have once they start middle school. Families will have the opportunity to tour their boundary school and visit with 6th grade classroom teachers, the counselor and administration.

Sixth Grade Course Requests

As we begin third quarter, our current students have selected their classes for next school year. We would like your child to do the same. Please complete the sixth grade course request form and return it back to your elementary school's secretary no later than February 2, 2019. (COURSE REQUEST FORM WILL BE SENT SEPARATELY, AT A LATER DATE.)

Here are your fifth graders options for sixth grade:

- Band-Choir-Orchestra students will select their music area.
- Non- Music students will experience the elective wheel and will choose one delivery style for world language. Spanish 6 is taught by a classroom teacher. The other languages are a computer-base program called TELL ME MORE.

Most students and parents too, are anxious as they get ready to enter a new school and wonder what it will be like. We are excited to share with you some information that will ease some of the anxiety and questions you may have about middle school.

Gear - Up for Middle School

Gear-Up is a class that introduces new students to the various aspects of middle school. This class helps students transition to their new school. The purpose of Gear-Up is to familiarize new students to their school. Students will get a chance to meet fellow classmates, tour the building, learn schedules, policies, how to open lockers, and ask questions related to the upcoming school year. It is highly recommended that all students attend so that the transition from grade school to middle school will be a positive one.

Gear-Up is now one 3 hour session. **Gear-Up forms will be sent to elementary schools to distribute the week of April 29, 2019.** Choose your most desired session, including a second choice and return this form to us during open house. If your child will be carpooling with another student, please note this along with the other student's name on your Gear-Up form. **You will receive confirmation from the middle school as to which Gear-Up session your child will be attending.**

Gearing Up for Middle School for First -Time Parents

Parents will get a chance to meet other parents, tour the building, learn how to read their child's schedule, house information, policies, pick-up/drop-off routines, calling your child in ill, lunchroom operations, review our online resources (Infinite Campus, mylunchbox.com., and more), ask questions related to the upcoming school year. **Gear-Up for First Time Parents forms will be available at Open House.**

It is highly recommended that all 'First-time to Middle School Parents' attend this workshop so that the transition from elementary school to middle school will be a positive one! Forms will be available at our open house.

We look forward to meeting with you on Thursday, January 10th at 6:00pm and to answer any questions you may have about middle school.

Sincerely,

Andy Baumgart, Bullen Middle School Principal
Chad Dahlk, Lance Middle School Principal
Star Daley, Lincoln Middle School Principal
Terri Huck, Mahone Middle School Principal
Shane Gayle, Washington Middle School Principal