

MOVING UP TO MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Purpose of Meeting

- Middle school basics:
 - The transition
 - Programs
 - Courses
 - Schedules
 - Cyber safety
 - Other Changes
- Q & A

The Transition

- New building
- More/new students
- Student organization
- Switching classes
- More independence
- Challenging coursework
- Adolescence!

What Ms. Snyder will do...

- February Lesson – all students
 - Surveys & Electives – How are you feeling with regards to middle school, what are your questions, and discuss electives including a short video about middle school electives
- March Lesson – all students
 - Trying to schedule Mills Park Middle Band Director's visit
 - Your child's questions get answered! It's all about them! Everything from academics to dismissal will be discussed.
 - Meet with each 5th grader 1:1 to discuss and register for their middle school electives
- April Lesson – all students
 - Organization, Time Management, Grading Scale, and Discipline - Consequences
- May – upon request
 - Small group setting to ease worries

Middle School Programs

- Required Courses
 - Language Arts
 - Math
 - Science
 - Social Studies
 - Healthful Living (Health and P.E.)
 - Elective(s)



Language Arts

- Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening, and Language
- Mix of Fiction and Nonfiction Texts
- Teachers provide differentiated instruction based on students' levels of need.
- Students who are identified at AIG are noted in Powerschool and will be taught within the regular education class.

Math Placement Information

- Math Placement is based upon Middle School Math Placement Guidelines for 2024-2025. [English](#) [Spanish](#)
- 6th Grade math placements should put students where they have a chance to be successful but are also appropriately challenged.
- All placement decisions are subject to review once the final grades are available by the middle schools.
- Math recommendation were sent home the end of February via an email from your child's teacher. If you didn't get them, please email me.

Math Placement Guidelines

Placement Guidelines

For Rising 6th Graders to be eligible for **Math 6 Plus**

- Students must score a Level 4 or 5 on their most recent End-of-Grade (EOG) Test **OR** have an EVAAS Math 1 Probability of a 70% or higher.

For Rising 7th Graders to be eligible for **Math 7 Plus**

- Students must score a Level 4 or 5 on their most recent End-of-Grade (EOG) test **OR** have an EVAAS Math 1 Probability of a 70% or higher.
- OR**
- Students must have passed Math 6 Plus and scored a Level 3 or higher on their most recent End-of-Grade (EOG) Test

For Rising 8th Graders to be eligible for **NC Math 1**

- Students must have passed Math 7 Plus **AND** (a) scored a Level 3 or higher on their most recent End-of-Grade (EOG) Test **OR** (b) have an EVAAS Probability of a 70% or higher.
- OR**
- Scored a Level 5 on their 7th grade EOG ([HB986](#)), regardless of previous Math course.

Want more info? Click [HERE](#).

Math Courses Offered

Math 6	Math 6+	Math 7+
Will cover 1 full year of math	Will cover 1.5 years of math	Will cover 1.5 years of math
Will have time for additional practice	Faster pace	Successfully completed 6+ in 5 th grade
Grade level work	Less repetition	Teacher placement only
Delivery method: traditional model	Delivery method: traditional model	Delivery method will vary from school to school

*Students in Math 7+ will take Math 1..

Math Options in Middle School

- Important to Know...

- The content is the same no matter which course you take.
- The thing that changes is the amount of content included in one school year.

On grade level – this covers grade level content:

Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
Math 6	Math 7	Math 8

With acceleration:

Grade 6		Grade 7	Grade 8
Math 6+		Math 7+	NC Math 1
Math 6 Standards	Math 7 Standards	Math 8 Standards	NC Math 1 Standards

What happens after 6th Grade?

Typical Middle School Math Course Sequence

Current Math Course 2023-2024	School Year			
	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027	2027-2028
5 th Grade	6 th Grade	7 th Grade	8 th Grade	9 th Grade
	Math 6	Math 7	Math 8	NC Math 1 <i>(for high school credit)</i>
5 th Grade	Math 6 PLUS	Math 7 PLUS	NC Math 1 <i>(for high school credit)</i>	NC Math 2 Honors <i>(for high school credit)</i>
Math 6	7 th Grade	8 th Grade	9 th Grade	10 th Grade
	Math 7	Math 8	NC Math 1 <i>(for high school credit)</i>	NC Math 2 <i>(for high school credit)</i>
Math 6 PLUS	Math 7 PLUS	NC Math 1 <i>(for high school credit)</i>	NC Math 2 Honors <i>(for high school credit)</i>	NC Math 3 Honors <i>(for high school credit)</i>
Math 7	8 th Grade	9 th Grade	10 th Grade	11 th Grade
	Math 8	NC Math 1 <i>(for high school credit)</i>	NC Math 2 <i>(for high school credit)</i>	NC Math 3 <i>(for high school credit)</i>
Math 7 PLUS	NC Math 1 <i>(for high school credit)</i>	NC Math 2 Honors <i>(for high school credit)</i>	NC Math 3 Honors <i>(for high school credit)</i>	
Math 8	9 th Grade	10 th Grade	11 th Grade	12 th Grade
	NC Math 1 <i>(for high school credit)</i>	NC Math 2 <i>(for high school credit)</i>	NC Math 3 <i>(for high school credit)</i>	
NC Math 1	NC Math 2 Honors <i>(for high school credit)</i>	NC Math 3 Honors <i>(for high school credit)</i>		
NC Math 2	NC Math 3 Honors <i>(for high school credit)</i>			

Critical Questions to Ask

- How does your student learn math best?
- Do they need time to practice and process during class?
- Are they an independent learner?
- Are they organized in their school work?
- ***Important to Remember ...*** Answers to these don't rule rigor in or out but inform how and when to access rigor while supporting success!

Math Placement Resources

- Link to: [Wake County's Middle School Math Information](#)
- Parent Math Waiver Form. This form is found on the Wake County Math Information page or you can get a copy from my website. (The waiver states they are to be given to the principal, but I will be collecting them first then giving them to Mrs. Pauls.) Elementary school principals will approve or deny the waivers, those waivers move to the middle schools and the middle school principals will make the final recommendations after all 5th grade data has been received.

Students with Special Needs

- Individual Education Plan (IEP): Mrs. Ball and Mrs. Elchick will have transition meetings where the team will discuss and recommend placement for middle school.
- Academically Gifted (AIG): He/she will be served in 6th grade. Delivery looks very different.
- 504 plan: He/she will receive the needed services in 6th grade. Ms. Snyder will hold a transition meeting.
- Best Practice – communicate your child's needs to their middle school as soon as possible to open a line of communication.

Elective Examples – Mills Park Middle

Semester Classes - Choose 5. Participate in 2

- Arts Exploratory
- Introduction to Theatre
- Public Speaking and Debate
- Keyboarding and Basic Word Processing/Coding In Minecraft-Introductory
- Exploring Technology 1 and 2
- Spanish Beginning Less Than 1 Year
- Exploring Childcare/Exploring Nutrition & Wellness
- Understanding Personal Finance-Hospitality/Exploring Apparel & Interior Design

Year Long - Choose 1 Participate in 1

- Beginning Band:
 - Clarinet
 - Flute
 - Trombone
 - Trumpet
- Students must take Band in 6th grade if they want to take band in any middle or high school year.
- If you take band, you will NOT be able to take a semester elective.

Other Middle Schools

Mills Park Middle School:

- Parent Night: April 22 A-M, April 23 N-Z from 5:30 - 7:00
- **2024-2025 Elective Form**
- **MPM Elective Video**

Davis Drive Middle School

- Parent Night: March 14th, 6:00
- **2024-2025 Elective Form**

Salem Middle School

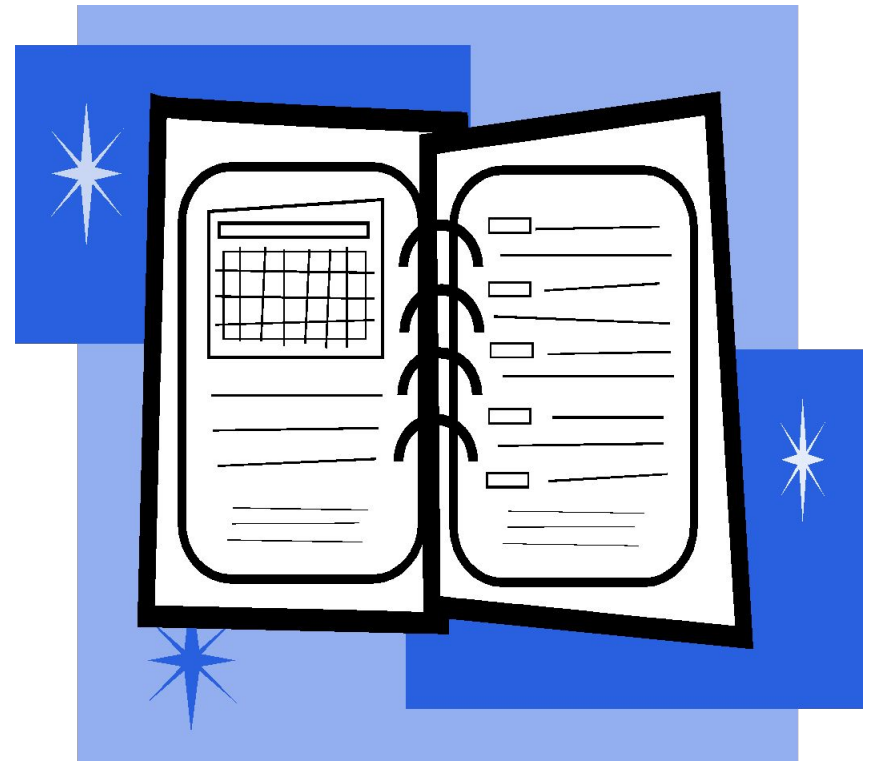
- Parent Night: Check with the school
- **2024-2025 Elective Form**

Carnage Magnet Middle School:

- Curriculum Night: March 7th, 4:30 - 6:30 (floating event)
- **Rising 6th Grade Overview**
- **2024-2025 Elective Form**

Sample Schedule

- 6 classes per day
- 4 Core Academic Classes
- 1 Elective
- PE/Health Class
- Lunch period
- 3-5 minutes between classes



Grading

Students receive grades of A, B, C, D, or F

- A: 90 - 100
- B: 80 – 89
- C: 70 – 79
- D: 60 – 69
- F: less than 60

It would be great to start teaching your child how to determine a letter grade on some assignments!

Homework

Elementary School

- Typically 50 Minutes a day
- Not calculated into subject area grades
- Looked at for completeness and mastery

Middle School

- 90 minutes a day or more
- Incorporated into grade point averages
- Graded more often for accuracy and completeness

Cyber Safety

- Educate Yourself First
- Talk to Your Child
- Set Up Guidelines/Contracts
- Monitor Your Child's Internet Use
- Discuss Safe & Unsafe Online Behaviors
- Teach Your Child to be a Good "Digital Citizen"
- Remind them to keep up with passwords and usernames - ***Never share passwords with friends.
- Technology can be a helpful study aid

A Successful Child

- Encourage your child to use their agendas and establish a set study/homework time each evening.
- Assist your child with organization.
- Get to know your child's new friends and communicate with parents of new friends.
- Expect some changes in behavior.
- Try to maintain an atmosphere at home with open communication.
- Become involved at school.
- Talk to your child's teachers when you have questions.
- Engage in conversations daily – both listening and talking!

Other Information

- Student Fears: not having anyone to sit with at lunch, getting lost, making friends, missing friends, etc.
- Teams: 4 teachers instead of 1 and movement within all classes with different peers
- Powerschool: Student & Parent Access to grades and more.
- Clubs: a great way to get your child involved and a way to meet new friends
- Attend: rising 6th grade events

Program Planning Guides

- A [Program Planning Guide](#) is available on the Wake County website. Use this for more information regarding core classes, electives, and future planning.

[Spanish Program Planning Guide](#)

Timeline moving forward

- February 26th - Email sent home with letters from Ms. Snyder and Mrs. Pauls and math recommendations
- March 11th – April 12th – Students will select Electives with Ms. Snyder
- March 22nd - Math Waivers due
- By April 8th – Student Recommendations and Requests sent home - please sign and return
- By April 11th – All Verification forms need to be returned to Ms Snyder signed

Questions, Concerns & Tips

- Visit: [The Counselor's Corner](#) and click on the “Middle School” tab for access to this presentation and middle school resources.
- Check your middle school's website for information regarding open houses and orientations.
- Make a copy of your child's Student Recommendations and Request form before you return it signed. I keep these too so do not hesitate to contact me next year if there is a question about placement.
- Feel free to contact me with concerns about your child's adjustment to middle school
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