6th grade Parent/Student Orientation

Dear Sixth-Grade Parents:

SAVE THE DATE: Tuesday, August 25, 2026, 8:00am – 12:00pm

Your child will begin their Middle School experience soon! We are looking forward to a great year. We are approaching the start of this year, as we have in the past, by asking the 6th grade parents (at least one parent per student) to join us on the first day. Our goal is to provide an overview of expectations, talk about how the Middle School and 6th grade operate, facilitate discussions of successful habits and routines, and share some thoughts on how to help students make this transition smoothly.

The orientation will run on the first day of Middle School: Tuesday, August 25, 2026. We encourage families to arrive around 8:00-8:10 a.m. You can drop off your child in front of the Upper/Middle School or walk them in after you park. Due to limited parking and bus arrivals, we ask that you park at the Errol Schmidt Athletic Center (ESAC). Once you and your child get into the Middle School building, there will be time for students to socialize and check their lockers, etc. There will be coffee for you in the Dragon Room/Peter's Garden. At 8:20, students will convene in the Theater for a quick gathering that you are welcome to attend, or you can stay with the other parents and visit with the Parent Ambassadors. After that, I will meet with you all in the Dragon Room at approximately 8:55, then you will be with your children and the Sixth-Grade Team until lunch. The orientation will be completed by noon, after which you will be Certified Sixth-Grade Parents™. Your children will have an afternoon of classes after that and will be released at 3:10.

Wear comfortable shoes that you can use to walk on grass. We will be active for short periods of time, but nothing too strenuous.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. We are looking forward to welcoming you.

Sincerely,
Joelle Neiwert and the 6th grade Team, Brad Kirsch, Heidi Schillinger, and Morgan Russell

Joelle Neiwert
Head of Middle School
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