South Woods MS
Grade 6 Parent Orientation
2019
South Woods PTSA Welcomes You!

Join our email blasts!
Send an email to
SOUTHWOODSPTSA@GMAIL.COM
You will receive weekly
e-mail blasts and timely
PTSA information.

PLEASE INCLUDE:
✓ Your name
✓ Your email address
✓ Name of student(s)
✓ Grade of student(s)

Please join! Membership is our single largest fundraiser and proceeds go to programming for our students.
Close your eyes and picture. . .

What does Middle School look like to you?
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Connected Missions:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>AMLE: “This We Believe”</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“An effective middle level curriculum is distinguished by learning activities that appeal to young adolescents and create opportunities to pose and answer questions that are important to them. The curriculum of a successful middle school must be relevant, challenging, integrative and exploratory.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Syosset “Why”</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We have an obligation to prepare our students to be responsive to a continually changing world and take agency of themselves, their communities, and society as a whole.”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Keep in Mind . . .

☑ The incoming 6th grade has 239 students.
☑ Students are TEAMED and assigned to two or three teachers who share responsibility for teaching Math/Sci/ELA/SS.
☑ Students are assigned to teams BY COMPUTER. Input from elementary teachers is taken into account.
☑ The World Language choice you make for Grade 6 will stay in place until Grade 10 ("Checkpoint B" Regents level).
☑ Music assignments are determined by elementary teacher recommendation.
Developmental Guidance

In middle school, your child will have a **Guidance Counselor**

- Counselors focus on academic success, social-emotional growth, and college/career readiness
- Will be with your child for all three years of MS
  - Prepares schedules, coordinates transition
  - Gets to know each child
  - Integral part of teaching team
Making Connections

Our Advisory Program is designed to:
★ Foster relationships
★ Facilitate communication
★ Builds positive school culture

Students “check in” with each other and teacher advisors once each day. Special “Extended Advisory” sessions focusing on social-emotional learning are planned by a teacher committee.

We believe working in a small group setting allows teachers and students to develop a strong sense of belonging to their school, increases desirable student behavior, and improves student engagement and learning.
Instructional Program

What are we going to learn?
# Grade 6 Instructional Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Social Studies</th>
<th>Science</th>
<th>English/Reading</th>
<th>Math</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✓ History, geography, and</td>
<td>✓ Inquiry approach to science</td>
<td>✓ Balanced approach to comprehension,</td>
<td>✓ Algebraic and statistical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>culture of Eastern</td>
<td>learning (NGSS)</td>
<td>literacy, and a love of literature</td>
<td>thinking, mathematical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hemisphere</td>
<td>✓ Structure and function of</td>
<td>✓ Continuation of TC Readers and</td>
<td>reasoning and problem-solving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Research, critical</td>
<td>living things</td>
<td>Writers workshop model</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>thinking skills, and</td>
<td>✓ Human organization of cells</td>
<td>✓ Vocabulary building, writing</td>
<td>✓ Number sense and operations,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>evidence-based argumentation</td>
<td>through the different systems</td>
<td>from sources, and the creative writing</td>
<td>rate, division of fractions,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Current events</td>
<td>✓ Heredity and DNA</td>
<td>process</td>
<td>rational numbers (including</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>negatives)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Grade 6 Instructional Program

## Explorations and Support
- Physical Education
- Computer Applications
- Music
- Family and Consumer Science
- Health
- Technology
- Art
- Instructional Support
- Math Lab
- Reading Lab
- Project Beyond

## Classroom Extensions
- DNA Learning Center Visits
- Arts Assemblies
- Fire Island Sunken Forest Trip
- MakerSpace
- KidOYO
- LEGO Robotics
- Digital Citizenship Lessons
- Spirit Week
- South Woods CARES Events
- Many Many Clubs!!!
## A Typical Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HR</th>
<th>RED DAYS</th>
<th>WHITE DAYS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td><strong>Computers</strong> <em>(Project Beyond/Learning Labs)</em></td>
<td><strong>Music/Chorus/Orchestra/Band</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td><strong>Social Studies (Team)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Social Studies (Team)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td><strong>ELA/Reading (Team)</strong></td>
<td><strong>ELA/Reading (Team)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td><strong>Skills.comm</strong></td>
<td><strong>ELA/Reading (Team)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td><strong>Lunch</strong></td>
<td><strong>Lunch</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td><strong>Physical Education</strong></td>
<td>**Technology <em>(Fall)</em>/Family and Consumer Science <em>(Spring)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td><strong>Mathematics (Team)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Mathematics (Team)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td><strong>Science (Team)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Science (Team)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td><strong>Chinese/French/Italian/Spanish</strong></td>
<td><strong>Art6/Health 6</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
All In a Day!

Warning Bell:  8:02
Advisory:  8:05-8:10
Periods 1-9:  8:14-2:46
School Day FAQs

✓ Five minute multi-grade level Advisory stays together all three years
✓ Nine period day/40 minute periods/4 minute passing time
✓ Daily core subject classes; Explorations/support classes meet on alternating “Red/White” days
✓ All students receive a district-provided ChromeBook
✓ Scheduled Extra Help one morning/afternoon each week
✓ Homework serves as reinforcement and practice
I’m Hungry!

✓ Lunch is 40 minutes long. Outdoor recess is encouraged.
✓ Students can prepay for hot and cold food or bring their own lunch.
✓ Passes for MakerSpace, KidOyO, Independent Study and Library.
✓ Supervised by teachers and lunch monitors.

Lunch
Period 5
11:10 AM-11:50 AM
Time to Go!

Dismissal is at 2:46 PM.

✓ School faculty provide supervision at arrival and dismissal.
✓ Passes are required to go home on a different bus.
✓ Students may only stay after for supervised activities

Regular PM buses depart in two waves beginning at 2:55.

Late buses for students attending clubs/extra help are at 3:45 PM. These routes are different!
Expectations

Code of Conduct

Dignity for All Students Act

Digital Citizenship

Acceptable Use Policy

Dress Code

Attendance Policy

Cell Phones “Off and Away During the Day”
We Talk About What Matters...

✓ We are a “No Place for Hate” School.
✓ We teach students to respect difference.
✓ Clubs such as “Action, Awareness, Acceptance” plan events to foster kindness and inclusivity.
✓ We live our mission...

South Woods CARES . . .
Compassion, Awareness, Respect, Empathy, & Service
Coming Soon!

✓ Optional Summer Orientation August 27th...
  ○ Tour the school
  ○ Meet classmates
  ○ Get locker assignment

✓ School supply lists: This June
✓ Course Verifications: This June
✓ Student Schedules
  ○ Distributed to students directly on opening day
  ○ Posted on Campus Backpack Parent Portal after school begins