WELCOME

6th Grade Parent Orientation 2014
A message from the PTA...

Jennifer Ransaw-Smith, 2013-2014 President
Moving to Middle School
Building the Foundation for High School and Beyond
Our Goal

To ensure that all middle school students attain the knowledge and skills to be prepared for their future.
Who is the principal?
A brief introduction...
Who is the principal?

- Mr. Robert A. Motley
  - B.A. – University of Maryland – College Park
  - M.Ed. – The George Washington University

Teaching Career

- French & Spanish Teacher – Prince George’s County
- Upper Level French Teacher (Honors and AP) – Atholton High School
Who is the principal?

* Administrative Career
  * Assistant Principal
    * Howard High School
    * Centennial High School

* Principal
  * Patuxent Valley Middle School
FAMILY

• Wife (native French speaker) and Daughter (5 yrs old)
• French spoken at home
Who is the principal?

Interests
Meet the Staff

Robert Motley, Principal

Ms. Mary Mussaw, Assistant Principal

Ms. Megan Chrobak, Administrative Intern

Ms. Ashley Harig, 6th Grade Counselor
Meet the Staff

- Mr. Glanz, Social Studies (Geography), 6th Grade Team Lead
- Ms. Bosse, Special Education Team Leader
- Ms. Bickerton, GT Resource Teacher
Understanding middle school students
Social Changes
- Need to belong to a group
- Exhibit immature behavior
- Are in search of self
- Like fads
- Overreact to ridicule, embarrassment, and rejection
Young Adolescents...

- Emotional Changes
  - Experience mood swings
  - Need to release energy
  - Seek to become increasingly independent
  - Are concerned about peer acceptance
  - Are self-conscious
  - Believe that personal problems, feelings, and experiences are unique to them
Young Adolescents...

- Intellectual Changes
  - Transition from concrete thinking to abstract thinking
  - Are intensely curious
  - Prefer active over passive learning
  - Have a strong need of approval / may be easily discouraged
  - Are inquisitive and often challenge authority
Young Adolescents...

- Physical Changes
  - Experience rapid, irregular growth
  - Undergo bodily changes that may cause awkward, uncoordinated movements
  - Have varying maturity rates
  - Experience restlessness / fatigue
  - Develop sexual awareness
Realities of middle school...

- Larger student body across a larger geographic area—five feeder schools—Bollman Bridge, Deep Run, Forest Ridge, Guilford, Hammond
- Two feeder schools – Bollman Bridge and Forest Ridge
- Older students—some 8th graders may reach 14 in the spring
- Conflicts and bullying
What is our directive?
Fulfilling the Promise of Preparation

- Goal 1 – Students
- Goal 2 – Staff
- Goal 3 – Families and Community
- Goal 4 -- Organization
In collaboration with our community, Patuxent Valley is committed to academic excellence and will work towards empowering students to become responsible, productive citizens in a diverse society.
What the research says...

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.
Middle School Program of Studies

"We are preparing students for their future, not our past."

-- Daniel Pink
Author of *Drive* and *A Whole New Mind*
Middle School Program of Studies

- Prepares students to be college and career ready
- Embeds literacy into all content areas
- Provides more time for content instruction
- Provides consistency in programs and schedules across schools
Middle School Program of Studies

- Seven 50-minute classes each day
- Daily instruction in English Language Arts (ELA), Mathematics, Social Studies, and Science
- Innovation and Inquiry Reading Modules
- Additional seminar classes for students performing below grade level in reading and mathematics
Middle School Program of Studies

- Option for World Language study beginning in 7th grade
  - French or Spanish
- Physical Education every other day for an entire year
- A variety of Applied Academic classes
Opportunities for students to apply disciplinary literacy skills to real-life, problem-solving situations

Connections

Environmental Literacy: The Future of Water

Health Literacy: Taking Action To Change My World

Expanding & Exploring Career Options

Reading as a Scientist -- Inventions
MS Program of Studies at PVMS
## 6th Grade Schedule for 2013-2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>GRADE 6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HR</td>
<td>7:33 – 7:38</td>
<td>Homeroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>7:41 – 8:31</td>
<td>Period 1 (Core Class)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>8:34 – 9:24</td>
<td>Period 2 (Core Class)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3A / 3B</td>
<td>9:27 – 10:17</td>
<td>Applied Academics Sem 1 Class / Sem 2 Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>11:46 – 12:36</td>
<td>Period 5 (Core Class)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>12:39 – 1:29</td>
<td>Period 6 (Core Class)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7A / 7B</td>
<td>1:33 – 2:23</td>
<td>Applied Academics Sem 1 Class / Sem 2 Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DISMISSAL</td>
<td>2:25</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Everyday, ALL students have:

- Homeroom
- Lunch
- Seven classes
Everyday, ALL students have...

- English Language Arts
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Studies

Levels and time of day may vary.
Other options...

Band / Orchestra
Other options...(no band / orchestra)

Reading Modules:
1. Connections
2. The Future of Water
3. Taking Action to Change My World
4. Expanding & Exploring Career Options
5. Reading as a Scientist

ELA Seminar
and / or
Math Seminar
Reading Modules:
1. Connections
2. The Future of Water
3. Taking Action to Change My World
4. Expanding & Exploring Career Options
5. Reading as a Scientist

Connections + 1 additional Reading Module are required of all 6th graders who do not have an above grade-level reading profile and who are not in a reading seminar.

This was determined by your child’s elementary school / 5th grade teachers.
Connections + 1 additional Reading Module are required of all 6th graders who do not have an above grade-level reading profile and who are not in a reading seminar.

This was determined by your child’s elementary school / 5th grade teachers.

“Expanding and Exploring Career Options” includes the COMAR-required career education content.
ELA Seminar
and / or
Math Seminar

These courses are for students who need support in meeting on-grade level expectations in math and/or reading.

This was determined by your child’s elementary school / 5th grade teachers
What’s left? 2 classes—Applied Academics

- Applied Academics classes meet every other day
- A day / B day for a semester (1/2 year)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Class</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3A</td>
<td>A-Day AA1 Sem 1</td>
<td>A-Day AA1 Sem 2</td>
<td>3B</td>
<td>B-Day AA2 Sem 1</td>
<td>B-Day AA2 Sem 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7A</td>
<td>A-Day AA1 Sem 1</td>
<td>A-Day AA1 Sem 2</td>
<td>7B</td>
<td>B-Day AA2 Sem 1</td>
<td>B-Day AA2 Sem 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6/7 of 7
Applied Academics Options...

- Technology Education
- Physical Education
- Family & Consumer Science
- Health
- Music
- Art
- GT Research Class*
- World Language

Note: Some students may repeat an applied academics course.

* Open to selected GT students
Let’s See a Schedule...

- Sixth grade student (all GT)
- World Language– French
- Band
- Above grade level reading
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Class</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>English Language Arts GT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Science GT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Pre-Algebra GT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Geography GT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Band</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6A1</td>
<td>Physical Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6A2</td>
<td>Physical Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7A1</td>
<td>French</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7A2</td>
<td>French</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6B1</td>
<td>GT Research Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6B2</td>
<td>GT Research Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7B1</td>
<td>Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7B2</td>
<td>Family &amp; Consumer Science</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Let’s See a Schedule...

- Sixth grade student
- World Language– Spanish
- On grade level reading
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>English Language Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>MSM II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Geography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Connections / Reading Module</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6A1</td>
<td>Physical Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6A2</td>
<td>Physical Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6B1</td>
<td>Elective (Tech Ed, Reading Module, Music)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6B2</td>
<td>Art</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7A1</td>
<td>Spanish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7A2</td>
<td>Spanish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7B1</td>
<td>Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7B2</td>
<td>Family &amp; Consumer Science</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Let’s See a Schedule...

- Sixth grade student
- Below grade level reading
- Below grade level mathematics
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Class</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>English Language Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>MSM I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Geography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>ELA Seminar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6A1</td>
<td>Math Seminar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6A2</td>
<td>Math Seminar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6B1</td>
<td>Math Seminar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6B2</td>
<td>Math Seminar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7A1</td>
<td>Physical Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7A2</td>
<td>Physical Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7B1</td>
<td>Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7B2</td>
<td>Art</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Academic Skills
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, ACT, 2008.
Middle School Success

- Academic Skills
- Academic Behaviors

High School Readiness

College and Career Readiness
Finding the Balance

Course Placement

Course Rigor

Course Success
Supports for Academics

- **Reading**
  - **Below Grade Level**
    - Seminar Class
    - Interventions – SOAR, Spell Read
    - 8th Period After school Program
      - Invitation
      - Rewind Program
    - Co-Teaching
  - **On / Above Grade Level**
    - Writer’s Guild
    - Reading Modules (Grade 6, 7, 8)
Supports for Academics

Mathematics

- Below Grade Level
  - Seminar Class
  - Moving with Math Program
  - 8th Period After school Program
  - Co-Teaching
  - Math Assistant in classroom

- Above Grade Level
  - Review and testing of students to move to next level
  - After school or seminar for advancement
Supports for Academics

- Additional Supports
  - History Day
  - Science Fair
  - Spelling Bee
  - GT Seminars
    - Debate, Creative Writing, Black Saga, Stock Market, Book Club, News Crew, I-Movie/Podcasting, Drama, Musical Productions
Measures of Academic Progress Testing

- MAP – adaptive test
- Fall – Oct/Nov
- Winter – Jan
- Spring – May

- RIT Score
  - Norm-referenced
  - performance level

- Data for teachers
Supporting Academics

Tips for Parents

- Stay involved in your child’s education
- Attend parent conferences
- Stay aware of your child’s homework and school demands
- Attend school events
- Try to connect outside experiences to school learning to increase interest and relevance
Academic Behaviors
What the research says...

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

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

- Academic Discipline
- Orderly Behavior
- Positive Relationships
- Attendance
Supporting Academic Behaviors...

- PBIS – Positive Behaviors, Interventions, and Supports
- Bark Bucks
- Silent Auction
- School Store
- School-wide events
Supporting Academic Behaviors

- Ensure that your child has the materials and place to study at home
- Set a regular time for homework
- Encourage your child to be responsible for chores and homework
- Provide your child with a range of experiences to allow him/her to identify areas of strength
- Talk to your child
Communication

- HCPSS Family Portal
  - Monitor student progress for each class

- Bulldog Gazette
  - Bi-weekly publication of school and community events, awards, etc.

- HCPSS News
  - Updates, news, notifications, last minute changes from the school—daily, weekly, as needed

PVMS Bulldog Gazette
Main Office: 410-880-5840
Main Office Fax: 410-880-5843
Guidance Office/Fax: 410-888-8820
pvms.hcps.org
Patuxent Valley Middle School
- Main: 410-880-5840
- Guidance: 410-880-5846

Robert Motley, Principal
- rmotley@hcpss.org

Mary Mussaw, 6th Grade Assistant Principal
- mmussaw@hcpss.org

Ashley Harig, 6th Grade Counselor
- aharig@hcpss.org
Outdoor Education--Please stop by Room 173 (portable area) for a short video and question/answer session on our Outdoor Ed Program.

Special Education--Please stop by Room 144 (near Guidance) for a question/answer session on our Special Education Program.
Upcoming Activities @ PVMS

- Reading Adventure
- Enrichment Fair
- International Night
- Spring Fling
- 5th Graders Visit, April 23, 2014
Welcome Video
THANK YOU!!

Thank you ...

Thank you

THANK YOU

Thanks!

Thank You

Thank You

Thank You

Thank You

Thank You