

Parents of current fifth grade students coming to Moore Middle School as sixth graders:

We look forward to having your child (and you) with us next year. Parents and students always seem to have a lot of questions about scheduling. It is really quite simple, in that just like fifth grade, there are not a lot of choices as to what each student takes since the Virginia Department of Education dictates that your child takes: English 6, Math 6, Science 6, Social Studies 6, and Health and Physical Education 6. There are a few choices for exploratory classes, which are explained in detail on the course selection sheet that the elementary counselors will send home with your child. Please read that information closely, as we have tweaked it over the last several years and have answered many questions you will have on that information sheet.

Some other information that you will find useful. We schedule students by academic needs and those academics needs are the first priority as we schedule students. We divide students up based on the services they receive (special education, Advanced classes, band, talented art, talented choir, identified academic gifted, etc.). Students from all 5 elementary schools (as well as new students transferring into our district) are divided up among the six teams, meaning that we do our best to spread students out from each elementary school evenly among each of the six teams. Please keep in mind that students who have been together for years are likely to be separated (on different teams); we don't know who their friends are, and even if we did, we can't schedule based upon friendships -- we schedule based upon academics. Each team gets a variety of students with different academic needs. These student needs vary each year, thus necessitating changing the makeup of the teams, as well as the teachers on the team. Therefore, each year there is typically something that changes on the teams: either the student services (examples listed above) and/or the teachers assigned to the teams, or other needs.

It is impossible to explain all the different combinations and possibilities of schedules in one or two pages. However, **we have listed a few samples below** so you can have a general idea. We go over all of this in great detail with your children at orientation and the first couple days of school. When the students go to classes teachers escort them to and fro, ensuring your child knows where to go and when, as well as reducing "horseplay" in the hallways (we were once young, too!). We would like for you to keep in mind that while this may be a new experience for you and your child, we have been doing this every year, for numerous years, for over 1,000 students each year. Thus, we want you and your child to R-E-L-A-X! We've got this! During orientation and the first few days of school your children will have numerous people looking out for them until they understand the layout of the building and their schedule. Typically, after the first 3 days, the students have it down pat -- "*that was easy!*"

All schedules are examples, periods (class time) vary by student and team.

Example 1 of 4

Homeroom: a team, teacher, and room number assigned (10 minutes long)

1st period: English 6

2nd period: Math 6

3rd period: Health and PE 6

4th period: Band (full year course)

5th period: Academic Seminar (all students take this and rotate back to their English, Math,
Science and Social Studies teachers by quarter/each nine-weeks)

6th period: Science 6

7th period: Social Studies 6

(examples continued on next page.....)

Example 2 of 4

Homeroom: a team, teacher, and room number assigned (10 minutes long)

1st period: Math 6

2nd period: English 6

3rd period: Health and PE 6

4th period: Q1 - computer 6

Q2 - art 6

Q3 - Family and Consumer Sciences 6

Q4 - Introduction to Technology 6

5th period: Academic Seminar (all students take this and rotate back to their English, Math, Science and Social Studies teachers by quarter/each nine-weeks)

6th period: Social Studies 6

7th period: Science 6

Example 3 of 4

Homeroom: a team, teacher, and room number assigned (10 minutes long)

1st period: Math 6

2nd period: Science 6

3rd period: Health and PE 6

4th period: Q1 - PAAS Art 6

Q2 - PACE 6

Q3 - computer 6

Q4 - Introduction to Technology 6

5th period: Academic Seminar (all students take this and rotate back to their English, Math, Science and Social Studies teachers by quarter/each nine-weeks)

6th period: Social Studies 6

7th period: English 6

Example 4 of 4

Homeroom: a team, teacher, and room number assigned (10 minutes long)

1st period: Science 6

2nd period: Social Studies 6

3rd period: English 6

4th period: Math 6

5th period: Academic Seminar (all students take this and rotate back to their English, Math, Science and Social Studies teachers by quarter/each nine-weeks)

6th period: Health and PE 6

7th period: Q1 - choir 6

Q2 - Family and Consumer Sciences 6

Q3 - Introduction to Technology 6

Q4 - computer 6

Again, these are just a few samples. There are literally 100's of possibilities. **And in order to make things as fair and equitable as possible, the computer system scrambles courses (periods) and sections so that it is done randomly.** With over 1,000 students to schedule we are not able to honor select times for certain classes, etc.

Relax and enjoy your summer! Your child's schedule will be given to him/her on the first day of school in September and everything will work out so that he/she will get the classes he/she needs in order to earn the units necessary to be promoted to seventh grade the following school year!