Welcome!

INCOMING 6TH GRADE PARENTS TO JOHN JAY MIDDLE SCHOOL!

April 24, 2019
Introductions

- Jeffrey Swiatowicz- Principal
- Monica Bermiss- Assistant Principal – 6th Grade
- Shantel Brooks – Assistant Principal – 7th and 8th Grade
- Jeff Tepper, Guidance Counselor
- Instructional Leaders:
  Kendra Collins, Liz Ferrara, Mark Grossman,
  Gregg Kastanis, Elissa Leventhal, Tina Russo, Jesse Weiss
- PTO Co-Presidents:
  Kristen Condon and Sarah Brummel
- Our 6th Grade Student Volunteers
JJMS Commitment

To develop lessons which emphasize knowledge about individual students to increase intellectual engagement.
Overview of Tonight’s Presentation

- The Middle School Experience
- Middle School Life: Presented by our 6th Grade Students
- Core Academic Areas
- Unified Arts
- Counseling Center
- PTO
- Questions and Answers
Security at JJMS

- Entering JJMS
  - Greeter – Ray
  - Parking
- All visitors must have a badge to enter the building
- Recess- Monitors and Administrators
- Dismissal – Notes for anything other than bus
### JJMS/JJHS School Start Time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Start</th>
<th>End</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JJMS</td>
<td>8:10</td>
<td>2:48</td>
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6th Grade Experience

- Administrator – Ms. Bermiss
- Counselor – Mr. Tepper
- Amazing Teaching Staff
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Periods</th>
<th>Courses</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>ELA</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Math</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>World Language</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Social Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Music and PE</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Unified Arts</td>
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6th Grade Sample Schedule
Students will get to know each other and become more independent learners within the John Jay Middle School community.

- Communication
- Time Management
- Character Strengths
Our 6th Grade Students

- Meet and Greet
- First Day of School
- Becoming more independent
- Academic Classes
- Lunch and Recess
- Our Music Program
- Friendly People
- Extra Help
- Clubs
Building a Vocabulary-Rich Environment

- exile
- adversary
- disheveled
- stoic
- gregarious
- epitome
- ostracize
Short Stories

Story Elements
Author’s Purpose
Writer’s Craft
Questions Development
Discussion Skills
Close Reading
Character Strengths
Connections Across Stories
Nonfiction / Research

Possible Organizers for Main Idea and Details

Possible Organizers for Cause and Effect / Problem and Solution (next two slides)

Possible Organizers for Time Order / Sequence

Possible Organizers for Compare and Contrast
Biography: We Are Our Stories

- What’s in a life?
- What stories did the author of your biography choose to tell? Why?
- What are your stories?

- facing adversities / challenges
- developing beliefs
- big and small successes
- moments of inspiration
- important / difficult decisions
- regrets about actions / decisions
- influential / important relationships
- impact on others / the world
Whole Class Reads

A Long Walk to Water

Good Masters! Sweet Ladies!
Voices from a Medieval Village

Laura Amy Schlitz
Illustrated by Robert Byrd
Professional Development
**Social Studies: Units**

- Geography / Maps – throughout units
- The Beginnings of Civilization
- Mesopotamia
- Egypt
- India
- China
- Greece
- Rome
- The Middle Ages
- Curiosity- Driven Learning
6th Grade Mathematics – Mr. Weiss

NYS Common Core Curriculum with EnVisions

Ratios & Proportional Relationships
The Number System
Expressions & Equations
Geometry
Statistics & Probability
Shared Experiences in Making Math Fun

- Cooperative Group Activities
- Study Skills Manipulatives (online math tools and foldables)
- Project-based learning; real world connections.
- Common assessments and projects to create real-world applications.
Making Thinking Visible
Making Thinking Visible
6th Grade Science – Mr. Kastanis

STC Carolina Units
**Exploring the Properties of Matter
**Weather and Climate
**Exploring Plate Tectonics

Teacher/Consultant Developed Units
**Rocks and Minerals
**Scientific Practices (method)

New K-12 standards (NYSSLS) adopted 12/2016
6th Grade Students as Scientists

Title: Dry Ice Challenge
Problem: What happens when you put a small piece of dry ice in water?
Hypothesis: The dry ice will melt and then, moment by moment, turn the tube into a cup. Some of the water will drip out of the cup. The bubbles form quickly. There is some ice on the side of the cup where the ice is touching.

Observations: Before

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>cup</th>
<th>dry ice</th>
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Observations: During

The dry ice is turning into bubbles. Then, the ice is melting. The ice is touching the side of the cup. A lot of the water is dripping out of the cup. The bubbles form quickly. There is some ice on the side of the cup where the ice is touching.

Materials: (quantity, size, and type)
- 1 hand held stopwatch
- 1 measuring cup
- 2.5 cm paper clips

Science: Miss Warren
Title: Bugs-a-copter experiment
Problem: How does the type of paper affect the time it takes the bugs-a-copter to reach the ground?
Hypothesis: I think that the thicker paper will take longer to hit the ground because the paper will affect it as much as the weight of the paper.

Variables:
- Independent variable (changed): The type of paper
- Dependent variable (measured): The amount of time it takes the bugs-a-copter to reach the ground
- Controlled variables (factors kept the same): Same height, same starting point, same unit of time, same placement, same number of bugs-a-copter
6th Grade World Language
Mrs. Dini

- Speaking
- Listening
- Reading
- Writing
The Language Lab
Students begin to learn the design process in 6th grade technology classes.
Technology

- Engineering journals
- Do now books

- Topics covered in 6-8 Technology are:
  - Building
  - Programming
  - Energy

This concept follows students into 7th and 8th grade technology. The consistency in procedures helps students stay organized and helps foster independence.
6th Grade Home & Careers

In the culinary arts lab students:

- Problem solve and apply thinking skills.
- Learn culinary terms and techniques that are reinforced each year as well as enriched.
- This helps students become more independent learners.
Do now, exit tickets and reflective journals are a big part of the program at the middle school.

Design Thinking activities and projects that develop solutions based on user's needs. Students develop collaboration and problem-solving skills as they construct prototypes to communicate and share their ideas.

Cooking, Food truck projects and Spring Design Exhibition are some of the culmination projects created in Home and Careers.
• Students work from observation which allows young artists to become more independent learners by setting up their own still life with various objects.

• We also focus on character education. Students reflect on and illustrate one of their own positive character traits.

• Color theory is studied to create underwater sea creatures using watercolors.
Art – iPads in Action
6th Grade Band, Chorus, and Orchestra
Ms. Leventhal

New Technique in Lessons:
- Bowing and Fingerings
- Breath Support and Long Tones
- Posture, Placement and Embouchure
- Intonation and Tuning
- Develop Sight Reading Skills

*Learning is accelerated meeting every other day!*

Music Theory and History:
- Scales, Key Signatures and Accidentals
- Dynamic and Tempo Markings
- Composers and Varied Repertoire

*Students continue playing their instrument in an engaging and fun environment!*
In Discovering Music 6, Students Learn…

**Music Theory:**
- Note Reading in Treble and Bass Clefs
- Rhythm Reading Skills
- Piano Skills to Reinforce Learning

**Music History:**
- Popular Music
- Musical Theatre & Opera
- Musical Time Periods
- Introduction to Famous Composers

**Composition and Arranging:**
- Song Form using *Garage Band*
- Song Writing to Reinforce Learning
Physical Education
- Sports Education Model
Fitness Concepts
Changing
- Students are no longer required to change for PE. Must have sneakers on PE days.
Counselors provide consistency throughout the Middle School years

Counselors advocate for and support students

Communication with your child’s counselor (the person to call when you don’t know whom to call)

Mr. Jeff Tepper
6th Grade Counselor
(914) 763-7509
PTO – Co-Presidents
Kristin Condon and Sarah Brummel

- Communications
- Activities
- Volunteering
- JJMSPTO.COM
Upcoming Events

- **June 7:**
  5th Grade Student Orientation - 11:00 a.m.

- **Late August:**
  Team assignments, eChalk password and other pertinent information will be released on the parent portal.

- **Date - TBD:**
  6th Grade Meet and Greet - 4:00 p.m.
We look forward to welcoming your children into our community next year.

Communication: Twitter and Instagram

- @MrSwiatowicz

Encourage your children to finish the year strong and build positive momentum into their 6th grade year.