

Making a Successful Transition to Middle School

April 1, 2019

Asheboro City Schools

...the subject is excellence!

South Asheboro Middle School

Mr. Ron Dixon, Principal

Ms. Betsy Hammond, Assistant Principal

Mrs. Leslie Smith-Moore, Counselor



336-629-4141

<http://sams.asheboro.k12.nc.us/>

Transition from Elementary to Middle School

- New Students, New Friends
- Testing socialization with peers & opposite sex
- Early developments of becoming young men and women
- Creating his/her own unique identity
- Beginning to identify his/her own unique talents, abilities and aptitudes
- Struggling between dependence of childhood and independence of young adulthood.
- Thinking more critically and abstractly



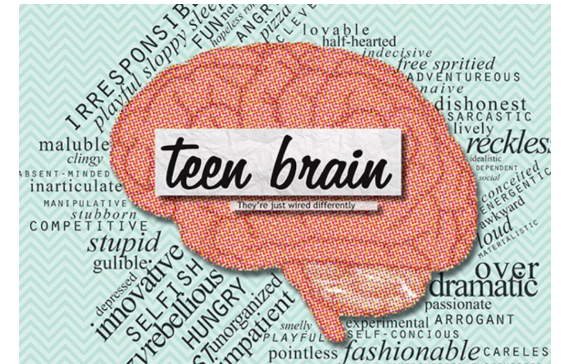
Transition from Elementary to Middle School

- Team Approach - 4 Core teachers
- School Day 8:20-3:20
- Car Drop-off
- Attendance is Important
- Tardies - being late can disrupt a students day.
- Student Responsibility include:
 - Work
 - Lockers
 - Technology



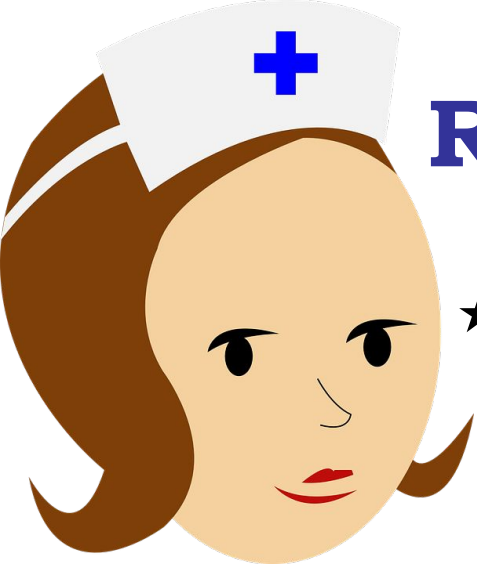
Facts about Middle Schoolers

- Brains are growing! The brains of middle schoolers need 1 to 2 hours to disconnect from screen time.
- SLEEP is important! Adolescents need 8-10 hours a sleep a night.
- They Smell!! Hygiene routines that worked in elementary school will need to be adjusted in middle school.
- They're Moody!!! Puberty results in lots of changes for middle schoolers causing great confusion.



Mental Health in Middle School

- Middle school age is the prime time for mental health health issue to surface.
- Anxiety is a normal part of childhood, and every child goes through phases. A phase is temporary and usually harmless. Children who suffer from an anxiety disorder may begin to struggle in school. about 80 percent of kids with an anxiety disorder are not getting treatment.
- While depression affects all ages and both genders, girls are more likely to develop depression during adolescence. As many as 2 to 3 percent of children ages 6 to 12, and 6 to 8 percent of teens may have serious depression, and an estimated 2.8 million adolescents (ages 12 to 17) in the United States had at least one major depressive episode in 2014. About 60 percent of kids with depression are not getting treatment.
- Social media can intensify mental health issues for your child.



Reminders from the Nurse

- ★ All students entering the **7th grade** must have the Tdap & Meningococcal vaccine prior to the first day of school. These can be given during your child's 6th grade year.
- ★ If your child has a health issue and can impact them at school please notify our school nurse, Kim Richau at school 336.629.4141 or krichau@asheboro.k12.nc.us prior to school starting. ex. asthma, allergies, seizures, mental health
- ★ If your child needs to keep medication at school (prescription or over-the-counter) you will need to complete the medication form. If questions, contact your school nurse.

Vaping

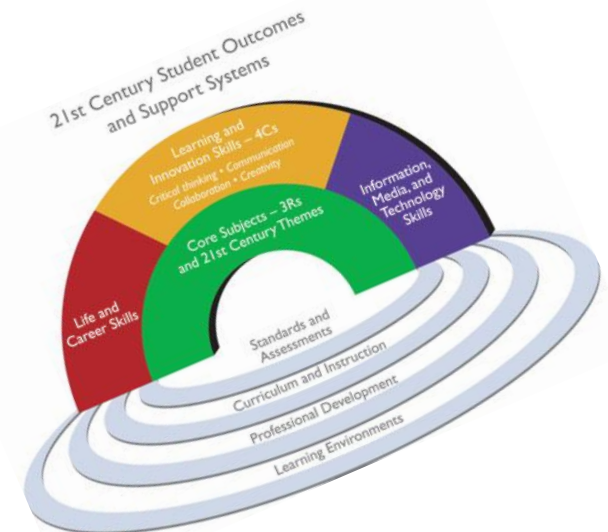
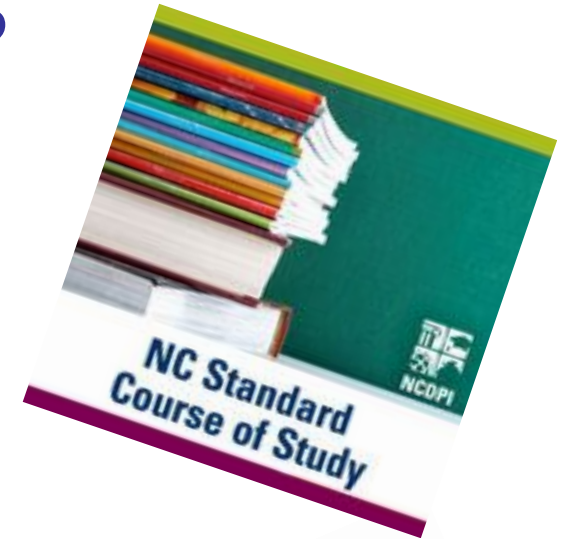
- According to the CDC, E-cigarette use increased among middle school students, from less than 1 percent in 2011 to nearly 5 percent in 2018.
- Vaping by high schoolers jumped from just 1.5% in 2011 to 20.8% in 2018. Even more concerning is the fact that e-cigarette use by high schoolers increased by 78% from 2017-2018 (from 11.7% to 20.8%).
- **EDUCATE YOURSELF**



We Need You!!

- Parent Involvement is still important in Middle School
 - Connection with Teachers
 - Read at home with your student and talk about the classroom assignments
 - Powerschool Parent Portal
 - Extracurricular activities and special events

College & Career Readiness



Begin with the End in Mind

- Middle School sets the foundation for High School and beyond.
- Help your student develop good work habits
- Encourage the development of
 - LEADERSHIP
 - INITIATIVE
 - INNOVATION
 - ENTHUSIASM



Match Your Interests To Your Future

- Middle School provides students with the opportunity to begin exploring their interests through their class selection and extra curricular opportunities
 - ▶ ELECTIVES
 - ▶ CLUBS
 - ▶ SPORTS
- Get Plugged in and GET CONNECTED!

Athletic Participation

- 6th graders are allowed to tryout for middle school sports **EXCEPT** for football.
- Must have a physical and concussion form completed before tryouts start or you will not be allowed to tryout.
- AHS Physical Night is **Tuesday May 23rd** from 4pm-6pm. Cost is \$10.
- SAMS Cheerleading Tryouts will be in May. Time TBA
- Grade Policy is that a student cannot fail more than 1 class in order to be eligible to play in the following semester. All 6th graders get a clean slate to play.
- Attendance Policy is that a student can not miss more than 13.5 days per semester in order to be eligible to play.

ELECTIVES

Chorus

Spanish

ART

Band

Physical Education

CTE

Cultural Arts

Band - 6th, 7th, & 8th grade

- Students will develop instrumental technique & range
- Students begin in the 6th grade on either flute, clarinet, trumpet, or trombone
- Group performances
- Course is **year-long**



Chorus - 6th, 7th, & 8th grade

- Students will will develop their vocal performance skills
- Group performances
- Course is **year-long**



General Music - 6th grade

- Learn about composers
- Learn to read and write their own music
- Study the instruments of the orchestra

Cultural Arts

Art - 6th, 7th, & 8th Grade

- Explore and discover of visual arts
- Development and exploration of creative experiences
- **Advanced Art** is available in 7th & 8th grade by teacher selection to further explore and develop artistic talent

Performing Arts - 7th & 8th grade

- Introduction to theater arts
- Participation in improvisational activities to become comfortable in front of an audience
- Introduction to the elements of acting technique
- Students may write and perform plays



Spanish

Beginning Spanish

- Explores the Spanish language & culture of Spanish-speaking countries
 - Emphasis on listening, speaking, and pre-reading/writing

Future courses include:

Beginning Spanish (7th & 8th)

- Same as 6th grade course for those who did not get to take it in 6th grade

Continuing Spanish (7th & 8th)

- Continues to Explores the Spanish language & culture of Spanish-speaking countries
- Emphasis on listening, speaking, and pre-reading/writing

Spanish 1 (8th grade)

- Year-long high school course in which you earn credit for Spanish while in middle school.

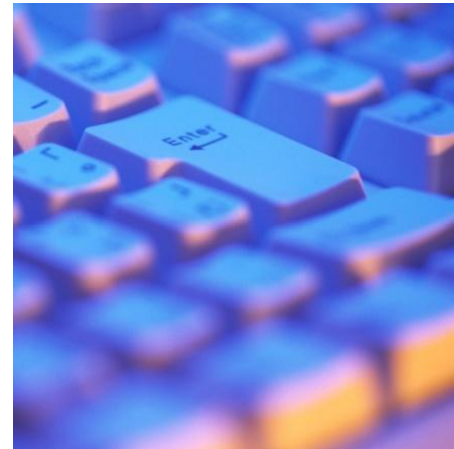


Hola - Hello
Gracias - Thanks
Por Favor - Please
De Nada - You're Welcome

Business & Marketing

Keyboarding & Basic Microsoft Word Application

- Hands-on instruction
 - Basic keyboarding skills
 - Computer concepts
 - Software applications



Business & Marketing

Future courses include:

Microsoft Office Applications - 7th grade

Hands-on instruction

- Basic keyboarding skills
- Computer concepts
- Software applications



Exploring Business & Entrepreneurship- 8th grade

- Business in an international economy
- Related careers in marketing, financial services, informational technology, public relations and promotion, travel and tourism, office systems technology, and entrepreneurship

Health Science

Exploring Careers in Biotechnology

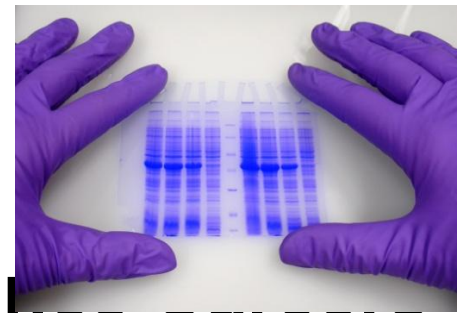
- Understand how interests, values and personalities influence career choices
- Explore the careers in biotechnology



Health Science

Fundamentals of Biotechnology - 7th

- Medical Terminology & math
- Lab Safety
- Infections Control
- Cellular Design & DNA



Biotechnology & Health Science

- Learn about Biomedical Research
- Bioethics
- Careers in health science field of Biotechnology.

Agriculture Education

6th Grade--Exploring Agriculture and Natural Resources

- Exploration of different types of agriculture utilized in past, present and future societies
- Understand how agriculture has developed and improved over time.
- Learn how social and cultural needs and/or wants impact agriculture

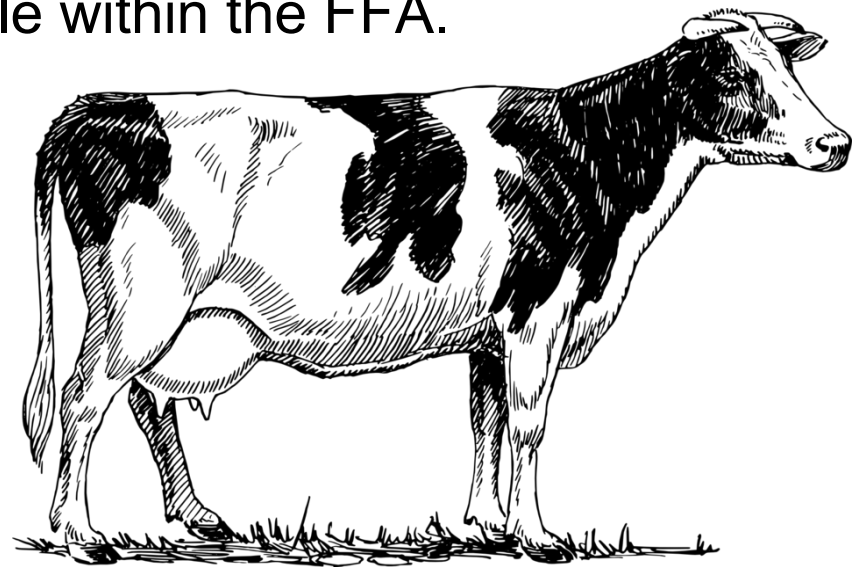


Agriculture Education

7th Grade--Exploring Plant and Animal Science

8th Grade--Exploring Agricultural Issues & Products

- Understanding the handling elements and products that are derived from animals and plants.
- Researching and explaining the issues within the agricultural industry as well as the things that affect the industry.
- Exploring opportunities available within the FFA.



Club and Enrichment Opportunities

- ★ Literature Circles
- ★ Seminars
- ★ Geography Bee
- ★ Spelling Bee
- ★ Accelerated Reader
- ★ Battle of the Books
- ★ Junior Great Books
- ★ Student Council
- ★ Math Fair
- ★ Science Olympiad
- ★ STEAM
- ★ Coding Club
- ★ Math Competitions
- ★ Beta Club (6th-8th grade)
- ★ Duke TIP program (7th grade)
- ★ Yearbook staff
- ★ Art Club
- ★ Science Fair
- ★ Honors Chorus
- ★ Honors Band Competitions
- ★ International Club
- ★ Writing Club
- ★ FFA
- ★ Dynamic Life

Meeting Students Needs

6-8 classroom teachers will differentiate instruction that may include the following modifications:

- ★ Appropriate classroom grouping strategies
- ★ Increased pace of instruction
- ★ Differentiated activities/lessons/units
- ★ Content modification
- ★ Alternative products/assignments
- ★ Enrichment opportunities
- ★ Curriculum compacting
- ★ Independent Projects
- ★ Extended Practice

Academically Gifted Program at the middle school

- ★ AIG Specialist collaborate and plan with AIG cluster classroom teachers (ELA/Math) weekly.
- ★ AIG Specialist support teachers and students in order to provide differentiated instruction, resources, and materials.
- ★ AIG Specialist will be an advocate for all AIG students.
- ★ Middle school is a transitional program. AIG specialist may include differentiation through co-teaching in Math and Language Arts classrooms, flexible grouping, or small group work like literature circles, or differentiated projects.

Parents of AIG students will be invited to attend a meeting in early fall to review student Differentiated Education Plans. Look for letters to provide meeting time, location, and date.

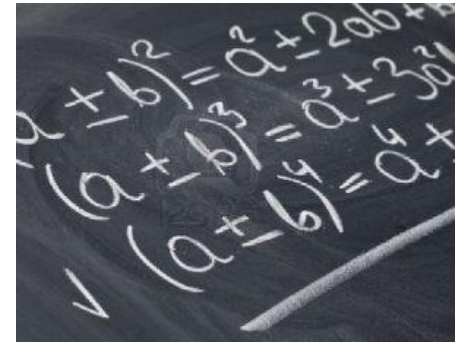
Accelerated Classes in Middle School

Current accelerated class for middle school (not high school credit, compacted)

- Math: Core plus 6th, 7th grade
- Pre-AP ELA

Current High School* courses offered at middle school

- World History (7th)
- Math I
- Earth & Environmental Science
- Spanish I
- English I



** Allows students to earn high school credit in middle school. Students can start high school almost a semester ahead of their cohort peers and advance at a faster pace.*

Early College Academy

Starting in 8th Grade, students begin advancing towards an Associate Degree at Randolph Community College by taking high school courses in middle school as well as summer school.

Students may graduate with **BOTH** a high school diploma AND an Associate Degree after 4 years of high school with *no additional costs!!*

Also, students continue to be part of the Blue Comet community!

**Applications due February/early March*



REGISTRATION INFO

- ★ Students began middle school visits last week!!
- ★ Students will receive his/her registration cards. Look for the YELLOW card.
- ★ Cards due April 8th
- ★ For questions, please contact Leslie Smith-Moore, Counselor
lsmithmoore@asheboro.k12.nc.us

REMINDERS

- ★ Special 6th grade Back to School Open House will be held in August (date and time will be posted on school websites)
- ★ Supply lists will be posted on school websites
- ★ First day of school, August 26, 2019



Wrap Up and Q & A

for questions please contact Ms. Smith-Moore at
lsmithmoore@asheboro.k12.nc.us

or call SAMS at 336-629-4141