

Pearson 6th Grade Center



Opening Pearson 6th Grade Center

- Growth in the district
 - 630 6th grade students this year
 - Around 675 students for 2015-16 school year
- We see 6th Grade as a transition between elementary and junior high schools
- Secondary School
- Building Realignment



What's different from Elementary school?

- 7 different teachers every day
- About 46 minute classes
- Lockers
- Some classes change at quarter
- More homework and responsibility
- No recess
- Technology

School Day

- 7 period day
- 7:30 arrival or Homework Zone 7:00
- Monday and Friday Advisory during 5th hour
- WIN time Tuesday - Thursday
- 25 minute lunch
- 4 minute passing times between classes



6th Grade Discipline

- Purpose

To teach young adolescents to make better choices and to show them that for every action there is a consequence, either positive or negative. We are not in the business of punishment but of education.

**Parents and School Should
Work Together!**

How can I be supportive?

- Be patient
 - Some may struggle with 6th grade in the beginning
- Be involved
 - Sign up for volunteer and e-mail opportunities
 - Check your student's grades regularly
- Be encouraging

How can I be supportive?

- Register Log In information on Infinite Campus
 - Used to monitor grades
- Visit team and individual teacher websites
 - Calendar of upcoming tests and assignments
- Ask your student about their day



Field Trips



- **Courage Retreat**
 - Students go to the community center for a day of games and bonding time with their team
 - Learn about having the courage to be their self and stand up to bullies
 - Fall fundraiser helps provide this opportunity
- **Highland Ski Trip**
 - Highlight of the year
 - Teaches perseverance, team bonding, physical activity, connects with science curriculum



Electronics



- Students are allowed to have electronics during passing time and in the lunch room
- School is not responsible for lost or stolen electronics, students use at their own risk
- If the device needs to be taken away because of inappropriate use the child may lose his/her privilege to have electronics at school and an adult may need to come pick the device up from school

1:1 Learning Environment

- iPADS
- Policies and Procedures
- “Roll out” Nights in September
- District Wide Technology Plan

Conferences

- Twice a year: Fall and Late Winter
- Arena Style Conferences
 - Four hour time slot to rotate to different teachers
 - Up to 5 minutes to discuss student grades, concerns, highlights, etc.
 - Always welcome to schedule a longer conference with the teacher at any time

School Climate

- Project Wisdom
 - Character building curriculum taught in advisory
- Courage Retreat
- Digital Citizenship Curriculum
- Anonymous Bullying Report Online
- Steps to Respect taught in Health
- Anti-Bullying District Day
- Saber Pride Tickets



High Potential

Pearson 6th grade Center

Secondary Advanced Courses

- Honors – begins 6th grade
- Accelerated – begins 6th grade
- Advanced Placement (AP) – begins 9th grade
- College In the Schools (CIS) – begins 11th grade
- Project Lead the Way– begins 6th grade
 - (U of MN credit begins 10th grade)
- Healthcare (Normandale credit) – begins 11th grade

6th Grade Honors/Accelerated

- Honors Reading & Language Arts
- Accelerated Math - Pre Algebra
- Twice Accelerated Math - Algebra

Secondary Selection Criteria

- Student selection of honors, accelerated, Advanced Placement, & College In the Schools courses.
- Students are placed based on:
 - test scores (test history on MAP/MCA)
 - AP profiles of successful students
 - CIS identification criteria
- Multiple data points are used to gather a holistic picture of the student
- Invitation letters will be sent home in June regarding Honors Reading and Language Arts and Accelerated Math for 6th Grade

Additional Opportunities 6th Grade Students (Open to ANY student)

- Breakfast and Books
- Young Ambassadors to new students
- Knowledge Bowl
- Science Olympiads
- Power Patrol
- Spelling Bee
- Young Author's Conference
- Yearbook
- Student Council
- Continental Math League
- Skittles
- Homework Zone



The left side of the slide features a decorative design consisting of several vertical bars of varying shades of gray and blue, and a cluster of five blue circles of different sizes arranged in a roughly vertical line.

CURRICULUM AND TEAMING

SCHEDULING

- Two day rotation (Day A and B) made to accommodate band, choir and music production
- Seven Periods
 - 46 minute classes
 - 4 minute passing time



REQUIRED CLASSES

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Math	Math	Math	Math
Social Studies	Social Studies	Social Studies	Social Studies
Science	Science	Science	Science
Reading/ Language Arts	Reading/ Language Arts	Reading/ Language Arts	Reading/ Language Arts
Music Production/Choir/Band every other day Physical Education			
Health	Arts & Communication	Science & Technology	Human Services



GATEWAY AREA CLASSES

- Arts & Communication – HEROES
- Human Services – BE THE CHANGE
- Science & Technology – PROGRAMMING IS ELECTRIC



READING BLOCK

- Two teachers per team assigned to Reading/Language Arts
- Your student will have one of the two language arts teachers for two periods of the day (92 minutes total)
- Benefits
 - Differentiation
 - Cross-Curricular
 - Personal Connections to students & their learning



TEAMING

- Each student randomly assigned to one of four teams
 - Voyagers
 - Explorers
 - Discovery
 - Trailblazers



ADVISORY & WIN

- Advisory is on Monday and Friday, same as 5th hour teacher
- Project Wisdom lesson on Monday
- Grade checks on Fridays
- WHAT I NEED time Tuesday-Thursday
- Go-to person for any concerns



Music at Pearson

6th grade offerings



Two Paths

- Non-performance based
 - Music Production
- Performance based
 - Band
 - Choir

Music is required for 6th
grade

Both paths provide an opportunity to *create* music, *perform* music, *analyze* music, *read* about music, and *write* about music.

Music Production

- Every other day – full year
 - Physical Education the opposite day
- Musical Instruments
- iPad Technology
- 21st Century Music
- Garage Band – Digital Music Recording
- Foundations of Music

Band and Choir

- Meet every other day – full year
 - Day A / Day B cycle
- PE on the opposite day
 - Unless both are selected – PE Quarter Class
- Lessons in addition to rehearsals
 - Every 8-10 school days
 - 15 minutes, small groups
- Groups determined by team
 - Four bands and choirs

Performance-based Curriculum

- In order for our groups to be successful, students must want to be there. They must positively contribute to the group process.
- Once student has made their music choice, they are committing to that for the year.

Extra-curricular Music Options

- Jazz Band
 - AM rehearsal
 - Once a week
 - Two concerts
 - Other performance opportunities outside school
 - Auditioned
- Saber Singers
 - AM rehearsal
 - Once a week
 - Three concerts
 - Other performance opportunities outside school
 - Auditioned

Important Dates

- February 18th– Registration forms due to 5th grade teacher
- Website always has important dates posted as well
- Look for information over the summer about Technology information nights

Registration Form

Please read and discuss the following information with your student and complete this form. Please return it to your child's classroom teacher by February 18, 2015.

Music

Please select one of the following choices for the 2015-16 school year:



<input type="checkbox"/>	Please enroll my son/daughter in CHOIR
<input type="checkbox"/>	Please enroll my son/daughter in BAND
<input type="checkbox"/>	Please enroll my son/daughter in MUSIC PRODUCTION



Honors/Accelerated Courses

In Math and English there are a number of opportunities designed to challenge the high potential learner. Students may be invited to register for the Honors Reading and Language Arts course, and/or an accelerated Math class. An invitation will be based on results from nationally-normed achievement tests (MAP) and state tests (MCA). To register for Algebra, students will be required to take an entrance test and earn a passing score.

Assignment letters will be sent home in late May. At that time, options for taking the Algebra entrance test will also be communicated.

Reading\Language Arts

Enrollment requirements

Reading & Language Arts 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Designed for majority of incoming 6th graders (typically ~75% of students)
Honors Reading & Language Arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 85th percentile average rank or greater on the last 4 MAP or MCA tests• Students close but not meeting the standard may appeal<ul style="list-style-type: none">▫ Review of past Language Arts grades and work habits▫ History of strong classroom performance in Reading & Language Arts



Math Courses

Enrollment requirements

Math 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Designed for majority of incoming 6th graders (typically ~75% of students)
Pre-Algebra (1-year acceleration)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 87th percentile average rank or greater on the last 4 MAP and MCA math tests.
Algebra (2-year acceleration)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 97th percentile average rank or greater on the last 4 MAP and MCA math tests.• Passing score on Algebra entrance test

Students who do not meet the criteria outlined above will not be considered for placement in honors and accelerated courses unless a parent completes the Appeals Process (see the policy on the other side of this sheet).

Continuation in the honors and/or accelerated course sequence will be automatic for students who successfully complete the previous course. A student with a low grade may be asked to meet with the teacher, parents, high potential coordinator and/or administration to determine appropriate placement going forward.

Parent Signature _____

Date _____

If your student has an IEP please, work with their case manager on this process so that we can ensure they get in the best classes related to their educational needs.



Questions??