Jericcho Middle School

Incoming 7th and 8th Grade Parent Informational Meeting

PTSA Meeting

M.S. Library
Wednesday, January 14, 2015
7:00 p.m.
Agenda

- PTSA General Business:
  - Jennifer Stoler, President
  - Christine Kasper, Vice President

- Welcome:
  Donald F. Gately, Ed. D., Principal

- Middle Level Essentials:
  Donald F. Gately, Ed. D., Principal

- The Role of the STA:
  7th Gr. STA – Michelle Vevante

- Middle School Athletics:
  John Mankowich,
  Curriculum Associate for Physical Education, Health and Athletics
Agenda

- **Course of Study:**
  Joseph Wiener,
  - Assistant Principal

- **NYS Assessments:**
  Joseph Wiener
  - Assistant Principal

- **Guidance Overview:**
  Guidance Counselors
  - Joan York
  - Kerri Schmitt

- **Questions and Answers**
Characteristics of Young Adolescents

- rebellious
- loyal to friends
- need frequent affirmation from adults
- moody, restless, self-conscious
- confused

- seek acceptance from peers (identity)
- egocentric
- highly curious
- seek relevance
- sensitive to criticism
- strong sense of fairness
- mature at varying rates of speed
Middle-Level Policy Statements

- This We Believe (1982, 1995)
  - National Middle School Association

  - Carnegie Corporation for Adolescent Development

- Essential Elements of a Standards Focused Middle School (1999, 2004)
  - New York State Education Department
Developmentally Appropriate Transition

Grade 6:
- Interdisciplinary Teams
  - 2 teachers
- Instructional Teams
- Move as a class

Grade 7
- Re-group for all subjects
- Instructional Teams
- Individual programs

Grade 8
- Instructional Teams
- Greater specialization
- High school credit
The Role of the Student Team Advisor (STA)

- Liaisons to other staff
- Student advocates
- Coordinators of team activities
- Support and promote SEL programs
- Attendance at CST, CSE and 504 meetings
- Weekly meetings with administration
Jericho Middle School
Interscholastic Athletic Offerings

**FALL** — September – Early November
- Cross Country
- Football
- Boys & Girls Soccer
- Girls Swimming
- Girls Tennis
- Girls Badminton*

**WINTER I** — Mid November –
  Mid January
- Boys Basketball
- Cheerleading
- Boys Swimming
- Girls Volleyball
- Co-ed Winter Track

**WINTER II** — Mid January –
  Mid March
- Girls Basketball
- Boys Volleyball
- Wrestling
- Co-ed Bowling

**SPRING** — Late March– Early June
- Baseball
- Boys & Girls Lacrosse
- Softball
- Boys Tennis
- Track & Field
- Boys Badminton*

* Boys and Girls Badminton are new for the 2015-16 school year and are contingent on the participation of other school districts.

Please note the dates shown are approximate.
Expectations for our Middle School Athletic Program

- Informational flyers are sent home before each season begins
- Attendance at orientation meetings prior to the start of each season
- Mandatory physical within one year in order to participate *
- Signed parent permission slip for each sport season *
- Commitment to practice 5 days a week from 2:45 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.
- 5 days of tryouts
- Once your child makes a team, they must bring in the permission slip in the Athletic Handbook before they play in their first game
- Returning home from an “away” event on the bus with the team and coach

**Please note:**
* Physical Forms and Parent Permission slips go directly to the nurse.
Other Important Information

- Students may go to extra help, the library or cafeteria before practice.

- This program is regulated by NYSPHSAA and we abide by their rules for Modified Athletics.
  - For example: before your child may participate they must have a minimum number of practices. Each practice must include rigorous activity. The number mandatory practices differ accordingly to the sport.

- Most teams are open enrollment. Others have cuts due to limited facilities and are roster driven.

- Possible cut teams
  - Boys and girls tennis
  - Boys Basketball
  - Boys and Girls Volleyball
  - Baseball
Scheduling
Grade 7 Course of Study

- English Language Arts 7
- Mathematics or Accelerated Mathematics 7
- Science 7
- World Language 7
- Lunch
- Art 7 (Alt. Day Fall or Spring)
- Health 7 (Alt. Day Fall or Spring)
- Technology 7 (Alt. Day)
- Home & Careers 7 (Alt. Day)
- Physical Education 7 (Alt. Day)

* If Chorus or Exploratory Music is selected, another elective must be chosen.
Creating a Student Schedule
Grade 7

**DAY 1**
1. Music
2. English Language Arts
3. Social Studies
4. World Language
5. Home & Careers
6. Physical Education
7. Lunch
8. Science
9. Mathematics

**DAY 2**
1. [Blank]
2. English Language Arts
3. Social Studies
4. World Language
5. Art/Health
6. Technology
7. Lunch
8. Science
9. Mathematics
Grade 8 Course of Study

- English Language Arts 8
- Mathematics 8 or Integrated Algebra
- Science 8 or Earth Science
- Social Studies 8
- World Language
- Lunch
- Art 8 (Alt. Day Spring or Fall)
- Health 8 (Alt. Day Spring or Fall)
- Physical Education 8 (Alt. Day)
- Technology 8 (Alt. Day)
- Electives — Each student must have 3 elective periods (Band and Orchestra fill 2 elective periods)
Creating a Student Schedule
Grade 8

**DAY 1**
1. Music
2. Health/Art
3. Mathematics
4. Science
5. Physical Education
6. Lunch
7. English Language Arts
8. Social Studies
9. World Language

**DAY 2**
1. Music
2. Technology
3. Mathematics
4. Science
5. Lab
6. Lunch
7. English Language Arts
8. Social Studies
9. World Language
Please complete the course selection process form online with your child by the due date indicated on the letter you receive.
Acceleration

- What is it?
- Why accelerate?
- How and when to accelerate.
- How acceleration might change the high school program.
Accelerated Courses: FYI’s

- Accelerated Courses are Open Enrollment:
  - Any student may take accelerated math and science
  - Students **must** take both
  - Recommendations
  - Very difficult to change after school opens

But you **MUST** request by the due date
Course Selection / Schedule Information

- Important decisions are based on information we get from students and parents:
  - District budget
    - The community votes on this budget
  - Staffing
  - Room assignments
  - Individual student schedules
  - Materials and resources
Schedule/Placement: FYI’s

- Parents may not request a certain team or teacher
- There are many good reasons for this
Schedule/Placement: FYI’s

- Equity and Fairness
- Don’t believe what you hear at Whole Foods (or the gym, or the beach, etc.)
- Every child’s experience is different
  - My least favorite teacher may be your favorite teacher
Schedule/Placement: FYI’s

- Information is good...let us know
  - If your child or a sibling had a negative/unresolved experience
  - If there is some other reason your child should not have a certain teacher
Schedule/Placement: FYI’s

*BUT you MUST let us know by June 1*st* !*
NYS Assessments

- Mandated Assessments (NCLB)
  - ELA and Math, grades 6-8

- Regional Assessments
  - Social studies Grade 8
  - World Languages Grade 8

- Regents
  - Earth Science Regents
  - Algebra 1
Additional Information available at:

http://www.nysed.gov/

New York State Education Department Website
Guidance Overview

- Guidance Counselors
  - Joan York
  - Kerri Schmitt
SEL Programs

- OLWEUS Bully Prevention Program
- BRAVE
- Quality Circles
- Personal Best Initiative
- V.A.L.U.E.
- Community Service
- Mentoring
- Monthly Themes and Quote of the Week
- Partnership with CSEE & CASEL
- Social and Emotional Learning Resources
Jericho School District Website

Please visit our school district website. It contains some of the following information:

- Middle School Chain of Communication
- Club Calendars
- Parent Newsletters
- PTSA Information
- Lunch Menus
- Progress Reports
- Report Cards
- E-mail: A vehicle for communication
- Updates on School Closings

[www.jerichoschools.org](http://www.jerichoschools.org)

Twitter: [https://twitter.com/JerichoMS](https://twitter.com/JerichoMS)

How are the 7th and 8th grade classes organized?
FAQ’s

Is there a lot of homework?

How much time should my child spend on homework each night?
FAQ’s

What does my child do after school?
FAQ’s

Is it hard to get to class on time?
FAQ’s

Why don’t you offer accelerated social studies and E.L.A.?
FAQ’s

Where can I get help?
Do Your Personal Best!

- Middle School Goals
  - Academic
  - Social/Emotional Development

- High Expectations
  - Academics
  - Behavior
  - Character
Parents

- Communicate with school
- Stay involved
- Join PTSA
- Open door policy
- Support your child
Thank you!!
Incoming 7th & 8th Grade Parent Informational Meeting Follow-up Questions

Name: ____________________________________________

Questions: ____________________________________________

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________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Your e-mail address:__________________________________________

Please tear-off and hand to one of the administrators on your way out.