Jericho Middle School

Incoming 7th and 8th Grade Parent Informational Meeting
PTSA Meeting

H.S. Little Theatre
Thursday, January 10, 2013
7:00 p.m.
Agenda

- **PTSA General Business:**
  - Jennifer Gross, President
  - Jennifer Stoler, Vice President

- **Welcome:**
  Donald F. Gately, Principal

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

- **The Role of the STA:**
  – 7th Gr. STA – Martha Sammartano

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

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

- **Guidance Overview:**
  Guidance Counselors
  - Meredith Richman
  - Joan York

- **Middle Level Education:**
  Donald F. Gately

- **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 Offerings

FALL – September – beginning of November
- Cross Country
- Football
- Boys & Girls Soccer
- Girls Swimming
- Girls Tennis

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 – End of March – 1st week of June
- Baseball
- Boys & Girls Lacrosse
- Softball
- Boys Tennis
- Track & Field

ALL SCHOOLS WE PARTICIPATE AGAINST ARE DECIDED ON A GEOGRAPHIC BASIS.

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.
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. English Language Arts
2. Social Studies
3. World Language
4. Art/Health
5. Technology
6. Lunch
7. Science
8. 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 electives
  (Band and Orchestra count as 2 electives)
Creating a Student Schedule
Grade 8

**DAY 1**
1. 
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. 
2. Technology
3. Mathematics
4. Science
5. 
6. Lunch
7. English Language Arts
8. Social Studies
9. World Language
Please complete the registration 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

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 the March deadline!
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
  - Integrated Algebra
Additional Information available at:

http://www.nysed.gov/

New York State Education Department Website
Guidance Overview

- Guidance Counselors
  - Meredith Richman
  - Joan York
SEL Programs

- OLWEUS
- BRAVE
- Quality Circles
- Personal Best Initiative
- V.A.L.U.E.
- Community Service
- Mentoring
- Monthly Themes
- Partnership with CSEE & CASEL
- Social and Emotional Learning Resources
Jericcho 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
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

How does my child know what is expected of him/her?
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: _______________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Your e-mail address: ____________________________________________

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