

Sixth Grade Orientation 2007-2008



#### Everything a Parent Needs to Know About Middle School

#### <u>Agenda:</u>

- ❖ Jericho Middle School Introduction Donald F. Gately
- ❖ Middle School Counseling Lois Smith, Kerri Schmitt, Joan York and Meredith Pollack-Richman
- ❖ Middle School PTSA Ilene Joachim and Rhonda Starr
- ❖ Middle School Assistant Principals Patricia Bany and Benny D'Aquila
- ❖ Teamwork Makes the Difference Patricia Bany
- ❖ Student Scheduling and Course Registration − Benny D'Aquila
- ❖ World Languages Elaine Margarita
- ❖ Learning Center Dorothy Vann
- ❖ Middle School Intramurals and WISE START Mark Burkowsky
- ❖ Middle School Essentials Donald F. Gately
- Questions and Answers



### Middle School

I'm looking forward to going to Middle School.

I'm excited and a little nervous.

Somehow all the kids seem to like it, but they love telling horror stories about what goes on there.

My parents are the ones who are really nervous. If they ask me once more if I'm scared, I think they'll convince me that I am.



- Author Unknown

#### Counseling Services

- Transition to Middle School
  - ❖ Articulation meetings with faculty at elementary schools in February.
  - Counselor visitation with elementary students in April.
  - ❖ 5<sup>th</sup> grade visitation to the middle school in May.
  - High School Project AIM, the first week of school.

#### Counseling Services

Individual Counseling

Group Counseling







## The role of the Counselor is to advise/coordinate/guide...



- ✓ Social/Personal Development
- ✓ Educational Growth
- ✓ Career Exploration

#### A Counselor is a:

- ✓ Student Advocate
- ✓ Parent Advocate
- ✓ Staff Advocate



# "Everything I Need to Know I Learned in Middle School"

# PRESENTED BY: 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE PANELISTS



What were you worried about most when you moved from the elementary school to the middle school?



# What aspect of Middle School do you enjoy the most?



# Clubs Offered Could Include:

Chess Club Cartoon & Animation Games Club Craft Club Jazz Band Wing Chun Kung Fu Diversity Club Science Club Community Service Homework Club First Lego Robotics

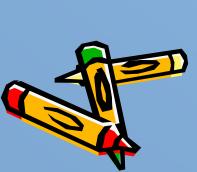
Computer Repair Drama Club Decorating Club Create-a-Game Young Inventors Mathletes Newspaper Student Council Spanish Club Italian Cooking Set & Scenery Design

Italian Club French Club Stock Market Yearbook Web Team Advertising Desk Top Magic Scrabble SADD Calligraphy Club Study Skills



# Jericho Middle School PTSA





#### Jericho Middle School Assistant Principals



For any questions or concerns you may have, contact our Assistant Principals.

Mr. Benny D'Aquila (For last names A-K) Mrs. Patricia Bany (For last names L-Z)



# Teamwork Makes the Difference



- Team Design
  - \* 2 teachers
  - ❖ Social Studies/ELA and Math/Science
- ❖Team Focus
- Teaming advantages in middle school



### Scheduling







#### Creating a Student Schedule

#### DAY 1

- 1. Interdisciplinary
- 2. Music
- 3. English Language Arts
- 4. Social Studies
- 5. Lunch
- 6. World Language
- 7. Physical Education
- 8. Mathematics
- 9. Science

#### DAY 2

- 1. Interdisciplinary
- 2.
- 3. English Language Arts
- 4. Social Studies
- 5. Lunch
- 6. Home & Careers/Art
  (Alternating Semesters)
- 7. Physical Education
- 8. Mathematics
- 9. Science





Course registration forms have been sent to you.



Please complete the registration form with your child and return it to Mr. D'Aquila's office by February 9, 2007



### World Languages Presented by: Dr. Elaine Margarita

\* French

\* Spanish

\* Italian

The focus is on Communication, Culture, Connections, Comparisons, and Communities (reflecting the New York State and National Standards for World Languages). The students will also be prepared for the New York State Proficiency Exam at the end of the eighth grade.

#### Topics include:

Personal Identification

Family Life

Physical Environment

Health & Welfare

Earning a Living

Public & Private Services

House & Home

Community & Neighborhood

Meal-taking

Education

Leisure

Shopping

Current Events & Culture

Travel



#### The Middle School Learning Center

#### Academic Support

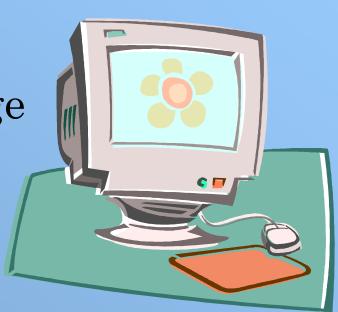
- Content Specific Class
  - ELA
  - Social Studies
  - Science
  - Language
  - Mathematics





#### The Middle School Learning Center

- English Language Learners
- Reading Services
- Speech and Language
- Technology
- Counseling
- OT/PT

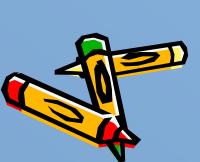




#### The Middle School Learning Center



- Organizational Skills
- Study Skills
- Writing Skills
- Test Taking Strategies
- Homework Strategies







#### Intramurals Grades 6→8 Co-ed

Monday through Friday Generally 2:10 pm - 2:50 pm (Depending on the activity)



#### Fall Offerings

Basketball

Bowling

Flag Football

Golf

Soccer

Tennis

Strength & Conditioning

Swimming





#### Winter Offerings

Basketball

Bowling

Ice Skating

Indoor Football

Intro. To Gymnastics

Strength & Conditioning

Ping Pong

Swimming

#### Spring Offerings

Basketball

Bowling

Diamond Sports

Football

Golf

Ping Pong

Soccer

Strength & Conditioning

Swimming

Tennis

#### 6th Grade WISE START Health Program



#### Content areas include:

AIDS - HIV

Refusal Skills

Risk Factors

Decisions & Actions

Self Concept

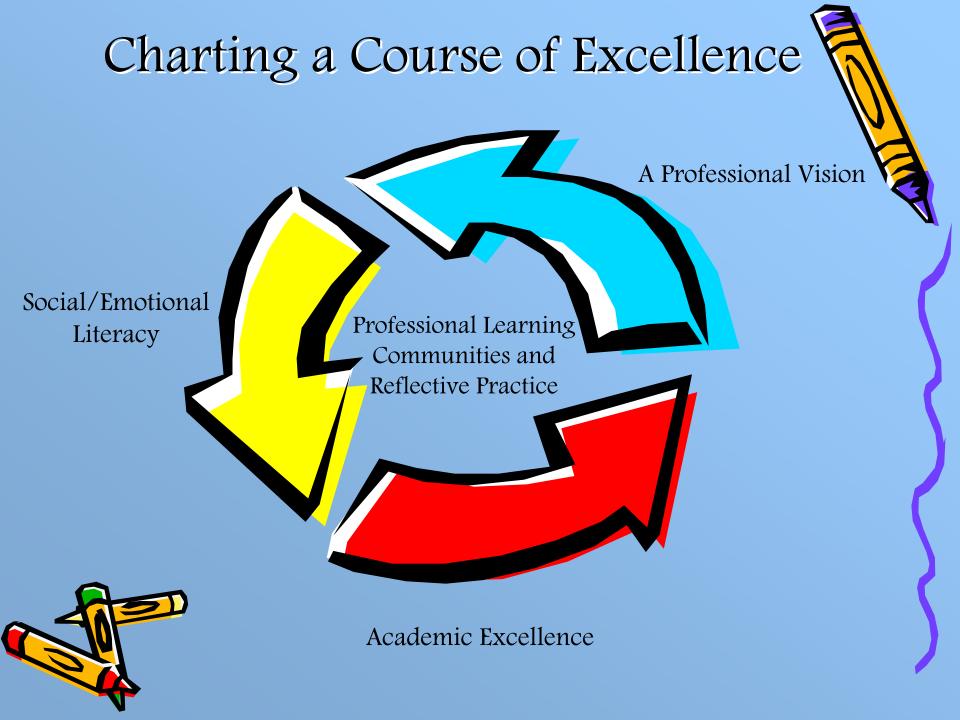
Stress

Responsibility

Peer Pressure

Wellness

Health Enhancing Behavior







### 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
- Turning Points (1989, 1998)
  - Carnegie Corporation for Adolescent Development
- Essential Elements of a Standards
   Focused Middle School (1999, 2004)
  - New York State Education Department

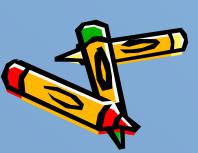
# Developmentally Appropriate Transition

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





- Instructional Teams
- Re-group for all subjects
- Individual programs
- Grade 8
  - Instructional Teams
  - Greaterspecialization
  - High school credit



# Social and Emotional Literacy is ...

- Knowledge of Self
- Caring for Others
- · Responsible Decision Making
- Social Effectiveness





#### Knowledge of Self



- Identifying and labeling ones feelings
- Personal
   responsibility to
   engage in ethical,
   safe and legal
   behavior
- Recognizing
   strengths and
   positive qualities



#### Caring for Others

- · Perspective-taking
- Appreciating diversity
- Respect for others





# Responsible Decision Making



- Managing emotions
- Problem Solving
- Goal setting and organizational skills
- Analyzing situations

#### Social Effectiveness

- · Communication
- Building relationships
- Negotiation
- Refusal
- · Help seeking





#### SEL Programs

- · BRAVE
- · Quality Circles
- · Voices of Love and Freedom
- Project Wisdom K-12
- Facing History and Ourselves
- · Life Lessons through Literature





#### SEL Programs

- · Community Service
- · Mentoring
- · Interdisciplinary Teaming
- · Monthly Themes
- · Partnership with CSEE & CASEL
- Social and Emotional Learning Resources

Quality Circles

Leaders Strategies

Student Ambassadors

Student A

Conflict Resolution

Communication

Believing in the Rights and Value of Every student is the foundation of the BRAVE Program









# Developing Relationships:

- > Administrators
- > Teachers
- > STA
- > School Nurse
- > Counselors
- > Social Worker
- > School Psychologist
- ➤ Support Staff
- > PTSA
- > SEPTA







# Communication is the name of the Game!





#### **Frequently Asked Questions**

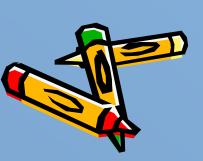


Is it hard to get to class on time?



Is there a lot of homework?







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





How can I make sure my child gets Mrs. (fill in the blank)?

#### What's on your child's mind?

- How will I find my way around?
- How long are the periods?
- How much time is there between classes?
- How do the late buses work?





# More Frequently Asked Questions



What is lunch like?



How many teachers will I have next year?

- What if I forget my locker combination?
- How does extra help work?
- What if I'm late for a class?







- How many tests will I take?
- How many kids in each class?
- What if I forget my lunch money?
- Where do we go when we get to school?
- When do we get to use the library?



- Do I keep my backpack in my classroom or in my locker?
- What should you do if an older kid bullies you?









- Are we allowed to wear hats?
- When will we find out our homeroom?
- Do we switch classes for every subject?
- Do we have recess?



# Do Your Personal Best!



- Middle School Goals
  - Academic
  - Social/EmotionalDevelopment
- High Expectations
  - Academics
  - Behavior
  - Character



#### Parents



- Communicate with school
- Stay involved
- Join PTSA
- Open door policy
- Support your child



#### Jericho School District Website

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

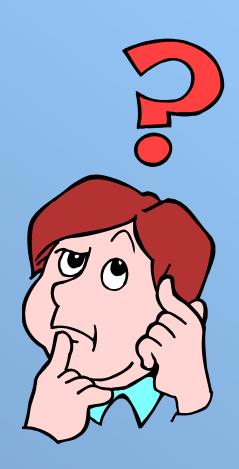
- Middle School Chain of Communication
- Club Calendars
- Parent Newsletters
- PTSA Meeting Minutes
- Lunch Menus
- Progress Reports
- Report Cards
- E-mail: A vehicle for communication
- Updates on School Closings





www.jerichoschools.org

# QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS



Reflection and Feedback

