



6th Grade Center (2019-20 School Year) Questions & Answers

What time will school start and end?

The 6th Grade Center will have the same start and end times as our middle schools. School will start at 8:15 am and end at 2:30 pm.

How will transportation work?

While specific bus routes won't be finalized until mid August, the plan is for Brentwood, Evergreen and Farwell 6th graders to ride the bus with Northwood students. These three schools are feeder schools for Northwood so 6th graders will simply exit the bus with 7th and 8th graders and go directly to the old Northwood building.

We are still working on the transportation plan for Midway students and will share it once it is finalized.

What about after school sports?

Student athletes will return to their home elementary school at the end of the school day for after school sports. This plan has worked well for Prairie View 6th graders for the past three years.

What about before school band, orchestra and choir?

Students will have the opportunity to participate in before school music programs just like in previous years. We are still working on the specific logistical details of participation and will share them once they are finalized.

Who will the teachers be?

Our priority is to staff the 6th Grade Center with teachers passionate about teaching 6th graders. We plan to announce teachers who will move to the 6th Grade Center by Spring Break.

What about Special Education (resource room, OT/PT, SLP) services?

Special Education services will be provided just like at our current schools.

(Over)

How will class assignments be determined?

The district is committed to maintaining current school communities as much as possible. Therefore, the 6th Grade Center will have three teams/groups: (1) Prairie View - (2) Midway & Farwell - (3) Brentwood & Evergreen. Based on their home elementary school, students will be assigned to a teaching team. 6th graders will rotate within their team for core academic instruction, which is our current practice at all elementary schools.

What about 6th Grade Camp?

Students will have the opportunity to participate in 6th Grade Camp. However, camp may look somewhat different than the current structure. The following school year (2020-21), when 6th graders are part of our middle school communities, the district will no longer sponsor this activity.

How many students will be at the 6th Grade Center?

Enrollment at the 6th Grade Center will be approximately 525 students.

Will there be parent-teacher conferences like at elementary schools?

Since the 6th Grade Center will operate on a middle school schedule, traditional elementary parent-teacher conferences will not take place in the fall and spring. However, other opportunities for parent-teacher engagement will be scheduled. As always you are encouraged and welcome to contact your child's teacher at anytime.

How will students be graded?

Student report cards will reflect letter grades, which is a change from the standards-based report card used at our elementary schools. Middle school students receive letter grades.

Will the 6th Grade Center be self-contained?

Yes, all instruction will take place in the old Northwood building.

What community activities are planned?

In late May (exact date tbd) there will be a Parent/Student Orientation and, prior to the start of school, there will be a special *Welcome Back Day* for students.

Additional questions?

If you have questions we have not addressed please email those to jolene.andres@mead354.org. Not only will we answer your specific question but, when appropriate, will add your question with the answer to the list posted on the district homepage.