Welcome to Parcells Middle School!

FIFTH GRADE
PARENT ORIENTATION MEETING
Parcells Middle School
Administrators

Dr. Cathryn Armstrong
Principal

Mr. Steven Wolf
Assistant Principal
Parcells Middle School
Counselors

Mrs. Sherman
Counselor for students with last names beginning A through K.

Mrs. Palffy
Counselor for students with last names beginning L through Z.
Parcells Middle School Standards Of Excellence

- **Respect** - We are respectful of each other & our school
- **Responsibility** - We exhibit personal responsibility in meeting our obligations
- **Self Discipline** - We behave in a way that does not interfere with our own learning or that of others
- **Integrity** - We demonstrate honesty and ethical standards in decision making
- **Personal Best** - We give our best effort in school work and behavior
Overview of Middle School

- Organization and good study habits—assignment books, study buddies, before or after school help from teachers.

- **Structured** Homework help is available on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays in our Library. Math help available M/T/Th

- Grades and GPA’s are given recognition for student achievement and behavior/conduct is monitored and recorded through P3.

- Assistance is always available from counselors, teachers and administration.

- Parent-Teacher conferences are scheduled for November and March.
• System of rewards and interventions for recognizing and rewarding positive behavior.

• 40 minute P3 class sessions for ALL students and ALL staff, every Tuesday.
  – Staff works to teach and encourage responsible skills and behaviors.

• Each quarter 9 Pride Points are given to every student.
• Positive reinforcements include: pep rallies, assemblies, before or after school snack rewards, cafeteria privileges.

• Panther Power coupons, additional Panther Pride points, Panther gold cards and year end fun reward field trips.

• Consequences for poor behavior include Options Room visits. Pride Points are also deducted for negative behavior.
P3 - Why does it work?

- Improved conduct resulting from learned expectations.
- Fewer distractions which result in higher achievement.
- Positive environment for student growth.
- Life long lessons about self, others, and responsibility.

*We believe all students have the right to a positive learning environment every day, every class, every place.*

*We believe that all students can exhibit positive behaviors every day, every class, every place.*
What are students’ “new” responsibilities?

• Lockers - gym and hallway
• Increased homework and testing
• Increased expectations and accountability
• Meeting deadlines
• Working independently
• Working cooperatively
• Time management
• Passing time
• Safety
• Respect for others
How is lunch different?

- Lunch menu’s online - Sodexo tab
- Add $ to your child’s account
  - Parent Portal: Cafeteria Payments
- Lunch Period - 30 minutes + passing time
- Student Lunch - $3.00
- A la carte - purchase individual items
- Snack Line or ‘Brown Bag’
- Recess for about 10 minutes
  ...if students are well-behaved and clean table
Extra-curricular activities for 6th graders

• Intra-district basketball
• Student Council representatives
• 6th grade reading/book club
• All-school musical and Drama club
• Computer club
• Running club and Swimming club
• Spelling Bee Competition
• Geography Bee Competition
• Other clubs and activities listed on website

*Club fees required
Future Opportunities

• Honors classes available at North (8th Grade)
• National Junior Honor Society
• Washington DC trip (8th Grade)
• 7th-8th Grade Girls Volleyball
• 7th-8th Grade Boys/Girls Basketball
• WPBC
• Track
• Wrestling
• Yearbook
Honor Roll Recognition

- Academic Hall of Fame, 4.0 to 4.33
- Merit Honors, 3.5 to 3.99
- Academic Achievement, 3.0 to 3.49
- Counselor’s Award, all 1’s and 2’s in conduct, and work habits
- Conduct Honor Roll, all 1’s and 2’s in conduct
- Honors Night recognition by invitation in May
### Late-Start Monday Bell Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:05 – 9:56</td>
<td>* 1st Hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:56 -10:03</td>
<td>Students stay in 1st hr class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:08 – 10:59</td>
<td>2nd Hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:04 – 11:55</td>
<td>3rd Hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 – 12:30</td>
<td>A Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 – 12:51</td>
<td>4th Hour B Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:35 – 1:26</td>
<td>4th Hour A Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:56 – 1:26</td>
<td>B Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:31 – 2:22</td>
<td>5th Hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:27 – 3:18</td>
<td>6th Hour</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Tuesday - P3 Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:20 – 9:00</td>
<td>** 1st Hour P3/Advisory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:05 – 9:56</td>
<td>** Announcements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:56 --10:03</td>
<td>** Students stay in 1st hour class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:08 – 10:59</td>
<td>2nd Hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:04 – 11:55</td>
<td>3rd Hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 – 12:30</td>
<td>A Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 – 12:51</td>
<td>4th Hour B Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:35 – 1:26</td>
<td>4th Hour A Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:56 – 1:26</td>
<td>B Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:31 – 2:22</td>
<td>5th Hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:27 – 3:18</td>
<td>6th Hour</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Wednesday – Friday Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:20 - 9:18</td>
<td>** 1st Hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:18 - 9:28</td>
<td>** Students stay in 1st hour class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:33 – 10:31</td>
<td>2nd Hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:36 – 11:34</td>
<td>3rd Hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:39 – 12:09</td>
<td>A Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:39 – 12:37</td>
<td>4th Hour B Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:14 – 1:12</td>
<td>4th Hour A Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:42 – 1:12</td>
<td>B Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:17 – 2:15</td>
<td>5th Hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:20 – 3:18</td>
<td>6th Hour</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Orientation and Registration Timeline

- Admin visits elementary schools with students this week
- Online registration with our counselors begin next week
- “Coffee with the Counselors” at 6:00 pm on April 1\(^{st}\), 2014
- Students tour Parcells during the week of May 12\(^{th}\), 2014
- Registration packet mailed week of August 4\(^{th}\), 2014
- Online registration opens August 4\(^{th}\), 2014
- Registration is August 20\(^{th}\), 2014: 9:00am to 12:00 p.m.
- Registration Make-ups are August 25\(^{th}\) and 26\(^{th}\)
- First day of school is September 2\(^{nd}\), 2014: 8:20 a.m.
- Back to School Night, September 10\(^{th}\), 2014: 6:30 p.m.
- 6\(^{th}\) grade Welcome Party, September 12\(^{th}\), 2014: 3:30pm—5:30pm
Course Selection Process:

- Students will complete course selection worksheet at home and hand in to their 5th grade teacher:
  - Due date at the bottom of worksheet.
- Read 6th Grade Transitions Booklet your child brings home
  - Also available on our webpage.
- Middle School Program of Studies on our webpage.
- Online registration with counselors - dates and times:
  - Mason - Tuesday, January 21st at 1:00 p.m.
  - Ferry - Monday, January 27th at 1:30 p.m.
  - Monteith - Wednesday, January 22nd at 9:15 a.m.
  - Poupard - Thursday, January 23rd at 2:00 p.m.
Parent and Student Online Resources

- Middle School Program of Studies - *Site Shortcuts*
  - Course Descriptions

- Student Handbook (Assignment Book) - *Student tab*
  - General Info & Important dates
  - Code of Conduct
  - P3 / Behavior

- Parent Connect Portal
  - Parent Portal:
    - Report Card Grades
    - Cafeteria payments
    - Attendance
    - Transcripts
    - Schedules
  - Pinnacle:
    - Assignments & current grades in real time
Core Course Requirements for All Students:

- ELA: Narrative (Reading) 1 unit
- ELA: Informational (Writing) \( \frac{1}{2} \) unit
  Every other day, year-round
- Mathematics 1 unit
- Science 1 unit
- Social Studies 1 unit
- 6th grade computer skills \( \frac{1}{4} \) unit

4 \( \frac{3}{4} \) units total
Elective Classes

Choices:
- Art 0.25 units
- Lifeskills 0.25 units
- Industrial Technology 0.25 units
- Physical Education 0.25 units
- French Introduction 0.50 units
- Spanish Introduction 0.50 units
- Choir 6 0.50 units
- Explorations in Drama 6 0.50 units
- Instrumental Music 0.50 units

Total elective classes: 1.25 units
Elective Courses
2014 - 2015

- Students have 5 semester-long electives in addition to the required computer literacy course.
  - All electives meet every-other-day.

- Students have the option of a year-long elective in one of the performing arts:

- Students can also choose a year-long foreign language elective which counts as 2 electives.

- Elective classes are offered on an every other day (A/B) basis.
Step 1:
Select your first choice elective courses by placing a ‘P’ (PRIMARY) next to the appropriate course numbers listed below.
Be sure your Primary choices add up to 1 ¼ units.

Step 2:
Select a 2nd set of elective course choices (ALTERNATES) by placing an ‘A’ next to the courses numbers listed below.
Be sure your Alternate choices add up to 1 ¼ units.+
(While every effort will be made to schedule your primary choices, placement in specific classes or courses cannot be guaranteed.)

Step 3:
Write PRIMARY and ALTERNATE choice elective courses in the Sample Worksheet (located on back of attached letter).

### GRADE 6 ELECTIVE COURSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course #</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Course #</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>04666</td>
<td>French Introduction 6</td>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>04662</td>
<td>6th Grade Art</td>
<td>1/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04667</td>
<td>Spanish Introduction 6</td>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>04664</td>
<td>6th Gr Lifeskills</td>
<td>1/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04672</td>
<td>Choir 6</td>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>04665</td>
<td>6th Gr Technology</td>
<td>1/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04675</td>
<td>Explorations in Drama 6</td>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>04668</td>
<td>6th Gr Phys Ed</td>
<td>1/4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Instrumental Music**
Please check the course number and instrument you play.

*Changing instruments requires teacher approval. (see below)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Orchestra 6</th>
<th>Band 6 (WW)</th>
<th>Band 6 (BR)</th>
<th>Percussion 6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>06686</td>
<td>06687</td>
<td>06687</td>
<td>06684</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Violin
- Flute
- Trumpet
- Percussion
- Cello
- Clarinet
- Trombone
- Viola
- Saxophone
- Baritone

**Instrument Change Approval**
- □ This is a change from my 5th grade instrument
- Current Music Teacher signature ____________________________

*6th grade is the first year in which students are offered the opportunity to play French horn, oboe, percussion, saxophone, tuba, or string bass. Students interested in beginning one of these instruments in 6th grade are strongly encouraged to enroll in the 2012 summer school instrumental program prior to beginning 6th grade.

**Number of Primary Units:** (Should equal 1 ¼) ______

**Number of Alternate Units:** (Should equal 1 ¼) ______

**PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THIS FORM TO YOUR FIFTH GRADE TEACHER**

**DEADLINE:** Monday, January 21, 2014

___________ **Student Signature** __________________________

___________ **Parent Signature** __________________________
Course Selection Sheet

Parent Homework:

- Verify that boxes in both columns A and/or B total 1.25 electives
- Primary (P) courses are first choices and must total 1.25 electives.
- Alternate (A) courses are back up choices and must also total 1.25 electives.
- Be sure you sign at the bottom of the registration sheet
- Students return completed sheet to their 5th grade teacher for registration next week
QUESTIONS?

This presentation is available on our webpage –

We thank you for visiting Parcells and look forward to your child becoming a Panther next year!