**Transition to Middle School**

Materials: “Moving On” Booklets

“Future Quest”- Transition to Middle School Video

Extension- Example Schedule

Counselors will receive the “Moving On” booklets to use for this lesson. These are typically dropped off early in the spring semester. Often, middle school counselors (Registrars) will reach out to set up a time to visit with the incoming 6th graders. You can use this lesson to follow up after their visit.

Focus: Have students use a piece of paper to write down questions that they have (possibly even after the Registrar visit) as you are conducting this lesson. As you go through the lesson, encourage students to check off questions that they had as they get answered. At the end, you can take questions that they still have remaining.

Lesson: Share the “Moving On to Middle School video”. <https://youtu.be/ASm-JXn06pU>

Hand out the “Moving On” middle school transition books to students. Take some time to skim through the book, briefly touching on important topics such as dress code, arrival/dismissal times, etc. so that students can become familiar with what the transition book contains. Encourage students to review the book at home thoroughly with their families.

As you go through the workbook, the following are key points to point out and discuss throughout the lesson:

* Talk to your kids about "holding" things for friends. Well behaved kids who typically make good choices can sometimes find themselves receiving consequences due to holding items that they were completely unaware contained illegal substances. They thought they were simply helping out a friend, but it resulted in trouble.
* Be careful with social media. Anything that is posted is out in the social media universe, even if you delete it. There may be device sharing of some sort, so students should be sure to logout of all accounts.
* Students should not buy items from other students, no matter what it is (tic tacs, gum, drinks, food). Although you may be under the assumption it is something simple and doesn’t appear to have a negative consequence, you can’t be sure of what it really is.

Close: Give students a moment to review the questions they wrote down at the beginning of the lesson and allow them the opportunity to share out.

Extension Activity: Give the students two minutes to answer the following questions on their own, “What do I love to do?” and “What are my strengths?” Next, allow time for the students to share their answers. The counselor and teacher can start by sharing their answers with students.

Explain to the students that this can be a springboard for their future career. Begin the discussion about scheduling. Be sure to tell the students that they should have the two questions they just answered to drive their decisions that they are about to make with the scheduling. Also, encourage the students to not base their decisions on what their peers choose. At this point in the lesson, walk the students through the schedule step by step.

Encourage the students to take the practice schedule home to begin discussion with parents.

Congratulations!

You are one step closer to middle school! In a few short months you will be starting a new chapter of life. During the next semester, we will be focusing on transitioning to middle school.

I have created this sheet to help you start thinking about your schedule for next school year and to begin to plan for your future beyond middle school and even high school.

Here’s where we will get started…

Ask yourself…

1. What do I love to do?
2. What are my strengths?

These two questions will help you now and throughout your life to pursue your passions and dreams.

We are excited to take this first step towards middle school with you!!!

Let's get started!

Mrs. Madison, one of the Kimbrough Middle School counselors, will be sharing a video with Austin Elementary on **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.She will discuss the registration process for 6th grade. Registration is what you will do for the rest of your academic career. You will help make your class schedule. Let’s practice below.

**Here is my practice schedule:**

1. English Language Arts
2. Math
3. Science
4. Social Studies
5. Circle One:
   1. Physical Education
   2. Pre-Athletics
6. Circle One:
   1. Beginning Choir
   2. Beginning Orchestra
   3. Beginning Band
   4. Beginning Art
   5. Beginning Theatre