



GROTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ADMINISTRATION OFFICES

P.O. Box K, Groton, Connecticut 06340 • 1300 Flanders Road, Mystic, Connecticut 06355
PHONE (860) 572-2100 • FAX (860) 572-2107

February 4, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Your child will be among the first sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students to attend Groton Middle School when it opens its doors for the 2020-21 school year in September! As we plan to welcome students from across our entire community, the middle school faculties at West Side STEM and Cutler Arts and Humanities have teamed together to work on transition plans, including a new Middle School Course Catalogue and Schedule.

In preparing the student schedule, our primary goal is to provide high quality academic instruction and offer many opportunities for students to explore their passions. We are integrating the existing middle school themes and developing the magnet theme of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics). Groton Middle School is continuing on the path of attaining authorization as an International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program (MYP) school. Learn more at www.grotonschools.org/ib

Groton Middle School will be implementing a schedule similar to the high school with a four period Block A/B schedule for 2020-2021. Full blocks are 84 minutes and half blocks are 42 minutes. This allows for a variety of opportunities as well as additional academic supports. We will continue to work to ensure that all individual students are able to reach their full potential and enjoy a rigorous and relevant, inquiry-based education.

As we have done in the past, the middle school counselors will begin meeting with all incoming students to set up their schedule for next year. In preparation, it is important that you and your child complete the *Elective Course Interest Survey* found on our website at www.grotonschools.org/gms by February 10, 2020. You and your child are invited to a community-wide **Groton Middle School Information Night** at 6:00 p.m. on March 25, 2020 at Fitch High School.

Sincerely,

Michael H. Graner, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Susan L. Austin
Assistant Superintendent of Schools