



6th Grade – Frequently Asked Questions

Please check out this handy document for some of the common questions students and families have before entering middle school. If you have a question that is not answered here, please see the counselor contact information below, or call our offices at: (253) 298-4300, option 0.

1. Are 6th graders allowed to do band, choir, and art in the same year?

They would be allowed to do so! Band is the only yearlong elective and they will have 2 electives each semester! So, if they were to take Band, then they could take art and choir for the student's other electives! There are 2 semesters in the school year so in total, they have the opportunity to take 4 electives!

Example: 1st Semester Electives = Band and Choir; 2nd Semester Electives = Band and Art

2. Are the sports with only 6th grade or mixed grades?

MIXED! There were some 6th graders that demonstrated the skill level needed to make the Varsity Team last year! Students try out together and then teams are decided based on skill level and who would fit best on Varsity or JV team/teams!

3. Lockers? What is the process for storing books?

We do not have lockers at Keithley! Students are allowed to carry backpacks around to store their school supplies! We have digital access to most content books that you can access through DORA. The only location of lockers is in the gym where students who have PE will be issued a locker to keep their gym clothes!

4. Do you have to walk in the same place after class?

Because we usually have around 250-300 students using the hallway during passing, we ask that students use "One-Way Hallways". This means that you exit your class and move in one direction with everyone else (enter in the south end of the hallway, exit through the north end). You will get lots of practice in the first days of school!

With the uncertainty of COVID-19 and the safety guidelines put forth by the Pierce County Health Department, this will likely become a different process. We will do our very best in making sure we teach the expectations and do lots of practice for your safety.

5. When is lunch?

There are 2 lunches – one at 10:37 and one at 11:33. Sixth grade will have the 10:37 lunch which goes until 11:07.

For virtual learning, there will be 30 meal sites around the district where you can pick up lunch AND breakfast for the following day – for FREE! You and your guardians can find the list of those sites on the district webpage: www.fpschools.org

6. Can we get a map of the campus?

Sixth grade classes take place mostly in the 100 hallway (the red star). Other buildings 6th grade will use are the 600 (the Commons for lunch, band, choir, cashier, counseling center), the 700 (gym), and the Main Office (right across from 100 building). Be sure to check out the [virtual tour](#) for a live action look at our campus.



7. What's the bus situation like? What route will I take?

All Keithley students and Washington High School students ride buses together which is different than elementary school!

Transportation will contact families and will mail out bus card information once it is created! Once created, families can also visit this link below to find bus routes!

<https://www.fpschools.org/departments/transportation/bus-routes>

Click the E-LINK link, username: guest, password: guest, input student grade, address, and it will give the closest bus route and times for the student! If you change addresses once school starts or forget your route, we will have plenty of staff on hand to help you find your bus.

8. Do we have to eat lunch in the commons area?

YES! All 6th graders will eat together in the commons area. Lunch is 30 minutes long. Students will eat in the commons and then have the opportunity to go outside in the courtyard to play and socialize with fellow 6th graders!

Please keep in mind that the guidelines for community time will likely change while we are practicing safety guidelines during the COVID-19 closure. We will make sure and teach the expectations with lots of practice and signage.

9. What is detention? How do we get it? Do our parents get notified?

Parents are notified when you are assigned lunch detention or Club Friday. At PGK, we are working hard to be fair in our discipline practice. You will hear about how we do this in your first days of school with reminders throughout the year.

10. Can students have a breakdown of the schedule?

We are still finalizing a master bell schedule and as soon as that is finished, you will be able to find it on our webpage.

11. Will school start after Labor Day?

School starts Tuesday, September 8th! Please log in to Canvas according to your schedule. You can see a tutorial for how to log on Canvas [here](#).

When are my classes?

Here is our schedule for the *first TWO weeks*. Since school starts on a Tuesday, you will have Advisory, 4th, 5th and 6th period on the first day!

MONDAY/THURSDAY		TUESDAY/FRIDAY		WEDNESDAY (ALL students)	
Cohort A Advisory	8:30 – 9:15	Cohort A Advisory	8:30 – 9:15	Asynchronous Learning	8:30 - 11:00
Cohort A 1 st Period	9:20 – 9:50	Cohort A 4 th Period	9:20 – 9:50		
Cohort A 2 nd Period	9:55 – 10:25	Cohort A 5 th Period	9:55 – 10:25		
Cohort A 3 rd Period	10:30 – 11:00	Cohort A 6 th Period	10:30 – 11:00		
Lunch	11:00 – 12:00	Lunch	11:00 – 12:00	Lunch	11:00 – 12:00
Cohort B Advisory	12:30 – 1:15	Cohort B Advisory	12:30 – 1:15	1 st Period	12:05-12:30
Cohort B 1 st Period	1:20 – 1:50	Cohort B 4 th Period	1:20 – 1:50	2 nd Period	12:35 – 12:55
Cohort B 2 nd Period	1:55 – 2:25	Cohort B 5 th Period	1:55 – 2:25	3 rd Period	1:00-1:20
Cohort B 3 rd Period	2:30 – 3:00	Cohort B 6 th Period	2:30 – 3:00	4 th Period	1:25 – 1:45
				5 th Period	1:50-2:10
				6 th Period	2:15 – 2:35
					2:40 – 3:00

This schedule starts on 9/21

GRADES 6-12*		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:30 AM -11:00 AM	COHORT A	Teacher led core instruction (Periods 1-3)	Teacher led core instruction (Periods 4-6)	Teacher directed independent learning	Teacher led core instruction (Periods 1-3)	Teacher led core instruction (Periods 4-6)
	COHORT B	Teacher directed independent learning	Teacher directed independent learning	Teacher directed independent learning	Teacher directed independent learning	Teacher directed independent learning
11:00 AM-11:30 AM		Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
11:30 AM-12:00 PM	ALL	Office Hours	Office Hours	Office Hours	Office Hours	Office Hours
12:00 PM-12:30 PM		Advisory	Advisory	Advisory	Advisory	Advisory
12:30 PM-3:00 PM	COHORT A	Teacher directed independent learning	Teacher directed independent learning	Teacher led core instruction (Periods 1-6)	Teacher directed independent learning	Teacher directed independent learning
	COHORT B	Teacher led core instruction (Periods 1-3)	Teacher led core instruction (Periods 4-6)	Teacher led core instruction (Periods 1-6)	Teacher led core instruction (Periods 1-3)	Teacher led core instruction (Periods 4-6)

What is DORA?



You can find DORA on the desktop of a school issued laptop. Click here to find important links such as Canvas, Skyward, and Teacher Ease! If you are not using a school computer, you can find it [here](#) as well.

What is Canvas?



You will find your virtual learning classes here. To access Canvas, you will need to first log in to DORA.

How do I find my schedule?



To find your schedule, you will need to access Skyward through DORA. You can access your schedule here starting **September 4th**. Once you log in, select “schedules” on the left side.

Schedule changes are often made for several reasons. While schedule changes for your core content classes (ELA, Social Studies, Math, Science) will not be made, electives will. Be on the look out for schedule change request forms from your Advisory teachers during the first week of school.

How do I find my grades?



Your grades will be available here! Grades will be in the same format as elementary school.

I can't log into my computer!

The login for your computer is your 6-digit student ID number.

The password is your 8-digit birthday (for example: November 1, 2007 would be 11012007)

If this does not work, you can call the IT Help Desk at 253-298-4647, option 1. Say, "I'm having problems logging into my computer. Will you please help?" Be ready to give them your student ID number or your first and last name.

I can't log into Skyward!

Email Ms. Aquino at jaquino@fpschools.org, "I can't log into Skyward. Will you please help me reset my password?"

My parent or guardian would like to change my cohort.

Please click [here](#) to submit a cohort change request. Remember, only parents or guardians may make this request.

We are here to help!

It is perfectly natural to have LOTS of questions when you are starting middle school. Chances are you'll have lots more once you have a day of classes. Any of your teachers, counselors, or staff members can help. Do not hesitate to reach out. As a reminder, counselor assignments are below:

[Ms. Andrews](#) (last name A-L)

[Ms. Hester](#) (land name M-Z)