

Script: 6th Grade Visits to GSMS May 2022

Counselor:

Welcome 6th graders! We are so excited you are here today! We have been preparing for you in many ways. Today you toured the building, heard from our technology department and learned about the cafeteria. Now you will hear from a few of our 7th grade students, myself and the principal about a typical day at the middle school! (7th graders introduce themselves at this time)

Counselor: Who are the 7th grade teachers?

Student: Here are some of the teachers you will have during 7th grade. You will have the same teacher for the same subject the entire year, with the exception of Humanities classes.

Counselor: Who are the electives teachers?

Student: Here are some of the electives teachers: Mr. Blackwell - Technology classes and Broadcasting, Mr. Herr - Art, Mr. Long - PS 21 and PS22, and Computer Programming, Mr. Smith - Global Social Problems and Ice House.

Student: In addition, there are teachers for German/Spanish, Genius Hour, Music classes, and PE/Health

Counselor: This is what our current daily schedule looks like. Each year, there are some changes to the times, but this gives you a general idea of how things run in the middle school.

Counselor: How many periods are there in a day?

Student: There are 5 periods each day. You start your day with a 5 minute homeroom. Next you go to period 1 through 4, followed by SALSA, iSpartan, and lunch. After lunch you go to period 5, before the end of the day.

Counselor: How will I know when to go to my next class?

Student: Bells ring throughout the school when it is time to end or start the next class. There is also a one-minute warning bell that rings before the start of each class to help you not be late.

Counselor: When do 7th graders eat lunch?

Student: You will be assigned Lunch A or Lunch B based on your iSpartan placement. Approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ of the 7th graders and $\frac{1}{2}$ of the 8th graders eat each lunch period.

Counselor: How do I know which lunch period I have?

Student: Your lunch period will be listed on your PowerSchool schedule. Lunch periods change each marking period based on your iSpartan placement.

Counselor: Where do 7th graders sit during lunch?

Student: 7th graders eat on the 7th grade side of the cafeteria. Students can ask the lunch monitor for a restroom pass in order to use the restroom during lunch.

Counselor: What is SALSA?

Student: SALSA happens before lunch. You can go to the cafeteria and hang out with friends, go to the gym (or go outside if the weather is good) to play sports, or go to the library for maker space. Space is limited for the library and gym.

Counselor: Does everyone go to SALSA?

Student: Students can choose if they want to go or not. If you don't choose to go to SALSA, you stay at your lunch table and visit with friends.

Counselor: Do you have to change for PE class?

Student: No, students do not change clothing for PE class.

Counselor: Do you need to wear a uniform?

Student: No, you do not need to wear a uniform, but you do need to wear school appropriate clothing that you can exercise in, including sneakers.

Counselor: How often do you have PE class?

Student: You will have Health and PE class for one marking period. Health will meet two days per week and PE will be three days per week.

Counselor: When do new 7th graders find out their locker number?

Student: At the August tours you will receive your locker combination so you can practice. Your homeroom teacher will also give you time to practice during the first several weeks of school.

Counselor: Are you allowed to carry backpacks to the middle school?

Student: Yes, you are allowed to carry a backpack to the middle school. But you must put it in your locker for the day. Your laptop comes with a carrying case, so you carry that all day. There is room to put pencils and small things in the computer case.

Counselor: Can you go to your locker any time during the day?

Student: Yes, you may go to your locker any time during the day but you don't want to be late to class, .so plan your trips to your locker wisely!

Counselor: Do students make new friends in the middle school?

Student: The nice thing about middle school is that you get to keep your old friends from elementary school and make new friends!

Counselor: How do you meet new friends?

Student: You will have many opportunities to make new friends: Homeroom, clubs, classes, sports and music programs.

Counselor: When are clubs?

Student: Currently clubs are held every week on Thursdays.

Counselor: When do 7th graders choose their clubs?

Student: Clubs are chosen during the first few weeks of school. You will have the chance to choose a new club at the beginning of each semester.

Counselor: Give me a few examples of clubs that are offered at GSMS

Student: Coloring Club, Student Council, Recycling Club, Fellowship of Christian Athletes or FCA, Yoga, Board Games, Art, Project Linus, Friends Helping Friends, Movie Clubs, and more.

(Students now tell the 6th graders what clubs they personally are involved in)

Counselor: Is there homework in 7th grade?

Student: Yes, there can be homework in 7th grade.

Counselor: How do you know how much homework you have to do?

Student: Students can check PowerSchool for missing assignments AND also access the Spartan Learning Portal for class assignments and due dates. Students can have 1 hour homework each night, but this varies. Any classwork that is not completed, becomes homework.

Counselor: How do students find out about the sports that are offered at GSMS?

Student: You can go to the ELANCO website listed on this slide to learn about the sports. Some of the sports are soccer, football, volleyball, track and field, basketball, field hockey, wrestling and lacrosse. You can also learn about school sports on Spartan Notes.

Counselor: How do I participate in musical groups or theatre at the middle school?

Student: You can sign up for band, orchestra, or chorus at the beginning of the school year. You can sign up for the fall and spring theatre productions by listening to the announcements about when and how to sign up.

Counselor: When do the musical or theatre groups rehearse?

Student: Band, orchestra, and chorus meet during iSpartan. Theatre productions rehearse after school.

Counselor: What are Spartan Notes?

Student: Spartan Notes are daily online announcements that you read each morning during homeroom. Your parents can also read the announcements from home. Additionally, the Broadcasting class produces video announcements that are shown during iSpartan.

Counselor: What are some of the special events that students can look forward to?

Student: We typically have dances, School-Wide Rewards Days, Family Fun Night, and assemblies.

Counselor: Summer Self-Guided Tours – Monday, August 22: 10:00 a.m. – noon, or 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Contact me with any questions: nancy_schwabe-fry@elanco.org