Welcome Future George Washington Parents and Caregivers!





2024-2025 Administrative Team - Principals









School Principal

Ms. Vinson

6th Grade Academic Principal

Ms. Ortiz

7th Grade Academic Principal

Ms. Muse

8th Grade Academic Principal

Ms. Gullette

GWMS Deans & Director of Counseling





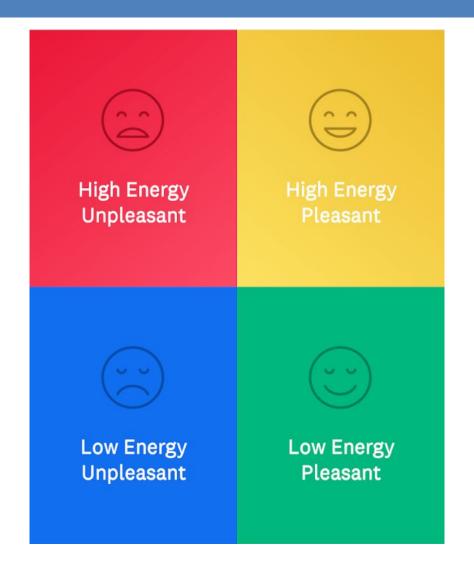


Dean of Students Mr. Perkins

Dean of Students Mr. Malone

Director of Counseling Mr. Forbes

Audience Check-in



School Facts and Structure

- 1,361 student attendG.W.
- Student Body Diversity
 - □ 40% Hispanic
 - □ 35% White
 - □ 19% African American
 - □ 6% other
- Complete State
 Accreditation in SOL
 tested areas

- □ Each grade level occupies its own space- 6th grade is on the 3rd floor
- □ Elective Wing (2nd floor) and Electives are 6th and 7th periods at the end of the school day.
- 6th graders eat lunch first and together
- □ Organized by 4 randomly assigned teams (6-1, 6-2, 6-3 and 6-4)
 - ☐ 1 Academic Principal per grade (travel)
 - ☐ 2 School Counselors (travel)

Bell Schedule- A and B Day

Advisory 8:30-9:00 (30 min)				
6th Grade	7th Grade Advisory 8:30-9:86 (30 min +6 min movement)	8th Grade		
1st/2nd Period 9:03 - 10:33 (90 min)	1st/2nd Period 9:09 - 10:39 (90 min)	1st Period elective 9:03 - 9:48 (45 min)		
(CS IIII)	V V V V V V V V V V	2nd Period elective 9:51 - 10:36 (45 min)		
Anchor (5th) Period 10:36 - 11:32 (50 min +6 min movement)	3rd Period elective 10:42-11:27 (45 min)	3rd/4th Period 10:39-12:09 (90 min)		
Lunch: 11:35 - 12:05 (30 min)	4th Period elective 11:30-12:15 (45 min)	,		
3rd/4th Period 12:09 - 1:39 (90 min)	Lunch: 12:18 -12:48 (30 min)	Anchor (5th) Period 12:12-1:02		
	Anchor (5th) Period 12:52-1:42 (50 min)	(50 min) Lunch: 1:05-1:35 (30 min)		
6th Period elective 1:42 - 2:27 (45 min)	6th/7th Period 1:45-3:15 (90 min)	6th/7th Period 1:39-3:15 (90 min +6 min movement)		
7th Period elective 2:30 - 3:15 (45 min)	(SO MIII)	(30 mill +0 mill movement)		

- □ GW is on a modified block schedule (A and B day) and Anchor period and Electives meets daily.
 - ☐ A day- 1st, Anchor, Lunch, 3rd, and 6th and 7th periods
 - □ B Day- 2nd, Anchor, Lunch, 4th, and 6th and 7th periods
- □ Rotates EVERYDAY

Course Selection Process



- How do I select courses for my child? 5th Grade School Counselor will hold a conference with your child.
- What does the timeline for course selection look like?- January 29 to March 14 is the window. Your current School Counselor will have specific dates.
- How are Electives chosen?
- Which Electives are High School Credit Courses?
- What if I don't get my first choice of Electives?

How Credit-Bearing Languages Work

6 th grade World Language IA		.5 credi
7 th grade World Language IB		.5 credi
8 th grade World Language II		1 credit
3 years of credit-bearing language classes		2 total credits

2023-2024 –Dual Language Program Course Offerings

6th Grade

Spanish Language Arts 1

Spanish U.S. History 1

6th Grade English Language Arts

7th Grade

Spanish Language Arts 2

Spanish U.S. History 2

7th Grade English Language Arts

8th Grade

Spanish Language Arts 3

Spanish Civics and Economics

8th Grade English Language Arts

Spanish Dual Language

- Students are required to be enrolled in Spanish Language Arts AND the Spanish Social Studies course for their grade level.
- Students will receive a 1.0 high school credit for successfully completing the Spanish Language Arts course (in total students can earn up to 3 high school credits in grades 6-8)
- There are no high school credits for the social studies courses.

Advanced Academic Services (AAS) at GWMS

- Current rising 6th graders identified for AAS in Math will take Honors Math 7 with other 6th grade identified AAS Math students.
 - Prerequisite for Honors Math 7 is successful completion of Math 6.
- Rising 6th graders identified for AAS in Language Arts, Science, and/or History will enroll in Honors sections.
- The middle school advanced academic service (AAS) for Language Arts, Science, and/or History is a DEP (differentiated educational plan).
- Students identified for AAS will complete a DEP (differentiated educational plan) each quarter for each subject that they are identified in.
 - The DEP highlights how the teacher will differentiate for the student to meet their educational needs. DEPs are located on the teacher's Canvas page.

AAS Resource Teacher & Screening Lead- Ms. Stacy Palmer

Honors Courses

- Honors courses provide a challenging curriculum to motivated students with strong interests in particular subject areas.
- Honors course are accelerated in both pace and content, is rigorous and relevant, assumes a mastery of the basic skills related to the subject area and has the expectation of high-quality student work.
- □ Students enrolled in one or more Honors courses should:
 - Be highly motivated, independent learners
 - Demonstrate intellectual curiosity and a willingness to accept higher levels of challenge
 - Have a strong interest in the subject area
 - Demonstrate the ability to link new knowledge to prior knowledge quickly
 - Use the time management and task commitment skills to perform consistently at an advanced level
- Entrance Expectations:
 - Students should have passed previous SOL tests in the required content area for which they are seeking Honors placement.
 - For rising sixth graders, a recommended 3 or 4 in the Honors content area is advisable.
 - Strong Writing skills and ability

AVID and **AVID** Excel

Advancement Via Individual Determination: AVID/AVID EXCEL

The mission of AVID is to ensure that ALL students, and most especially the least served students who are in the middle, will succeed in rigorous courses that will prepare them for a four year college

Some Requirements to be Accepted Into AVID:

- An Average of "3" on the Standards Based Report Card
- Must be a motivated hard worker, have a positive attitude, and be collaborative in nature.
- Must be enrolled in an honors or a high school credit bearing course
- Typically underserved in a four year college, usually first in family to attend college

Special Education Services at GWMS

- Rising 6th grade families are introduced to their students Case Manager in August
- Rising 6th grade families invited to attend WEB
 Orientation in August
- Student schedules are developed according to what's specified in their IEP
- Some students may attend their Advisory period with their case manager (organization skills, etc)
- Some students may be assigned an intervention reading or math class an one of their electives depending on services written in their IEP

Academic Advisement Tips

- Students will choose a totalof 7 full year classes.
- Make sure to pick alternative electives.
- Must take German, Latin or Chinese in 6th grade if interested.
- Can't request certain teams or teachers.
- Schedules will be available in PowerSchool and mailed home mid-August.

Program of Studies can be found here:

HOME > ACADEMICS > PROGRAM OF STUDIES & GRADUATION PLANNING **Program of Studies & Graduation Planning** ACPS program of studies course catalog and other **TEACHING & LEARNING** information EARLY CHILDHOOD (PRE-K) Planning your child's middle and high school program of studies is essential to ensure your child's success in meeting graduation requirements under Virginia's Standards of Learning, preparing for the future, and exploring his/ FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION her talents, abilities, and interests. Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS) planning guides are designed to provide you and your child with information about academic requirements and options to assist in the planning process. HOME SCHOOLING GRADUATION PLANNING 2024-25 Program of Studies ADVANCEMENT VIA INDIVIDUAL Translations coming soon. **DETERMINATION (AVID) ▶** DOWNLOAD PROGRAM OF STUDIES PROGRESS REPORTS PROMOTION, RETENTION 8

5 Required Courses for 6th Graders

Language	Language Arts 6				
Arts	Honors Language Arts 6				
	*Language Arts- Dual Language				
	Math 6				
Math	Honors Math 6				
	Math 7 (Advanced Math Concepts-				
	AAS Math Students)				
Science	General Science				
	Honors General Science				
Social	US History I				
Studies	Honors US History I				
	*U.S. History- Dual Language				
Health/PE	Physical Development & Family Life				

Choose Equivalent to 2 Full Year Elective Courses

Full Year Courses

- World Languages
 - Spanish
 - German
 - French
 - Chinese
 - □ Latin
- Literacy Enrichment
- Math Enrichment
- Band
- Orchestra
- Choir
- AVID and AVID Excel

Semester Courses

- Visual Art
- Speech and Drama
- Family and ConsumerScience
- Make it Your Business
- Intro to Technology

Your GW Middle School Student Support Team (SST)





Mr. Greg Forbes Director of School Counseling Email: gregory.forbes (703) 706-4500 Main Office: B100



Mr. Robert Cook Rising Higher School Counselor Email: robert.cook (703) 706-4500 Room/Office: A201



Mrs. Ansley Shackelford 6th Grade School Counselor Student Last Names A-L Email: ansley.shackelford (703) 706-4515



Mr. Delano Green 6th Grade School Counselor Student Last Names M-Z Email: delano.green (703) 706-4515



Ms. LaShawn Ricks 7th Grade School Counselor Student Last Names A-L Email: lashawn.ricks (703) 706-4534



Mrs. Verline Jackson
7th Grade School Counselor
Student Last Names M-Z
Email: verline.jackson
(703)706-4534



Ms. Amanda Najjar 8th Grade School Counselor Student Last Names A-L Email: amanda.najjar (703) 706-4518



Ms. Stacey Thomas 8th Grade School Counselor Student Last Names M-Z Email: sthomas (703) 706-4518



Ms. Shawna Hampton Social Worker Student Last Names A-L Email: shawna.hampton (703) 706-4562 Room/Office: A215



Ms. Tania Ferran Social Worker Student Last Names M-Z Email: tania.ferran (703) 706-4527 Room/Office: A215



Mr. Andrew Sabinash School Psychologist Email: andrew.sabinash (703) 706-4500 Room/Office: A215

Mrs. Shannon Mertsock School Nurse Email: shannon.mertsock (703) 706-4516 FAX (703) 706-4554 Main Office: B100

What Do Counselors Do?

- Focus on Academic,
 Social/Emotional Health, and
 Career/Post-Secondary Planning
 so that every student achieves to his
 or her potential.
- Help students evaluate their abilities, interests, talents, and personality characteristics in order to develop realistic academic, behavioral/social, and career goals.
- Provides classroom guidance lessons, small group, and individual counseling.



Achieving Academic Success

- Academic Supports: All GW Counselors meet with students to:
 - Review student data: attendance, discipline, SOL testing history, MAP and other benchmark data, current academic performance, and GPA.
 - Develop an academic, behavioral/social goal for the school year.
 - Identify current interventions or supports needed to support goal attainment and student success.
 - Counselors also...
 - Monitor student progress and meet as necessary.
 - Meet with all students for Academic Advisement from January-April.
 - Attend team meetings to discuss student academic concerns
 - Connect students to after school academic support

Social & Emotional Health

Counselors...

- Help students develop strong decision-making abilities and self confidence in order to encourage students to make positive decisions.
- Work with students who are dealing with tragedy or exceptional stress to develop coping strategies.
- Work with students to resolve conflicts and create positive peer relationships.
- Help students with behavioral issues find success in the classroom by working on strategies with the students, teachers and parents.
- Help students develop positive character traits.

Counseling Groups

- Organizational/Study Skills
- Social Skills
- Decision Making
- Communication Skills
- Self-Esteem,
- Problem Solving/Conflict Resolution
- Emotional Regulation
- Anger Management
- Leadership Development



Individual Counseling:

- Social/Emotional Health
- Grief & Loss
- Divorce
- LGBTQ+
- Peer Mediation,
- Executive Functioning
- Coping Skills
- Healthy Relationships.

SST Role in Advisory

Mindfulness Monday	Mindfulness Matters		
	Clearing Cache and Cookies - English		
Technology Tuesday	Clearing Cache and Cookies - Spanish		
Wellness Wednesday	Bullying Prevention Mood Meter		
AVID & College/Career Thursday	Qtr. 1 Interim Reflection & Goal Setting		
Prexie Pride Friday (PBIS) with Community Circle	Secure the Building Deans Lesson + Harvest Festival		
Mindfulness Monday	NO SCHOOL		
Technology Tuesday	My Digital Values- Lesson Plan Link to Form Student Slides- English Student Slides- Spanish		
Wellness Wednesday	<u>Self-Care</u>		
AVID & College/Career Thursday	AVID WICOR - Organization		
	7th Grade Teachers: Please sign on to this zoom for your class to see at 8:40		
Prexie Pride Friday (PBIS) with Community Circle	Deans (Malone and Perkins) Lesson Here		
Mindfulness Monday	UPSTANDER or BYSTANDER Mood Meter		
Technology Tuesday	Teen Voices- Pressure to Stay Connected- <u>English</u> Teen Voices- Pressure to Stay Connected- <u>Spanish</u>		
Wellness Wednesday	Is It CYBERBULLYING? Mood Meter		
AVID & College/Career Thursday	Preparing for the end of 1st quarter		
Prexie Pride Friday (PBIS) with Community Circle	Self-Awareness Student Survey- REQUIRED		
Mindfulness Monday	FRIENDSHIP BULLYING Mood Meter		
Technology Tuesday	7th Grade Only: Please play this message from Ms. Gullette before the rest of the SEAL lesson Positive Tech Habits- English Positive Tech Habits- Spanish		

Mindfulness Monday	NO SCHOOL		
34	Please share this presentation first about accessing Zoom- English Spanish		
Technology Tuesday	Online Tutoring - English - Spanish		
Wellness Wednesday	6th Grade Naviance Career Interest Profiler 7th Grade Naviance Career Cluster Finder 8th grade Naviance Strengths Exploration		
AVID & College/Career Thursday	Preparing for the end of second quarter		
Prexie Pride Friday (PBIS) with Community Circle	10 M		
Mindfulness Monday	Setting Goals for 2024 Mood Meter		
Technology Tuesday	"Please share this presentation first about accessing Zoom- English Spanish Searching in Canvas - English - Spanish		
Wellness Wednesday	Got Body Odor? Mood Meter WIDA Assembly List (see email from Ms. Gullette)		
AVID & College/Career Thursday	Bellwork & Growth Mindset		
Prexie Pride Friday (PBIS) with Community Circle	Mid Year Reset Lesson		
Mindfulness Monday	NO SCHOOL		
Technology Tuesday	Creating a Drawing App with Scratch		
Wellness Wednesday	H.A.L.T. Mood Meter		
AVID & College/Career Thursday	Preparing for the end of second quarter		
	View your S2 Course English Spanis		



Academic Supports

- Access to your counselors
 - Academic and Organizational goals
 - Self Advocacy
- ASPIRE Academy
- LINK Club
 - academic tutoring and engaging project-based learning activities
- After school office hours
 - With ANY teacher
- ACPS 24 hour tutoring Access through Canvas
- Intervention Course
 - Reading and Math
- Stay connected with CANVAS, PowerSchool and CLEVER, Securly, ParentSquare, Informational Parent Facebook Group (all for parents/caregivers)



Parent Quick Links

2023-2024 GWMS PARENT QUICK LINKS

Technology			
Parent Square Parent Power School Account Support Family Technology Guide	Parent Square Parent Power School Account Support Family Technology Guide		
Open House 2023	-2024		
Open House Presentation 6th Grade Open House PowerPoint Kick-Off to an Excellent Year (IEP/s			
Staff Directory 202	3-2024		
Staff Contact Information Student Support Team Directory (use to contact Counselors, Social Workers and the Nurse) Grade Level Office Contact Information (use for early release, reporting absences and more)	Staff Contact Information-all staff members Student Support Team Directory GWMS Grade Level Office Contact List		
Student Condu	ıct		
ACPS Student Code of Conduct Cell Phone Policy Dismissal Procedure GWMS is a Closed Campus	ACPS Student Code of Conduct Cell Phone Policy Dismissal Procedure GWMS is a Closed Campus		

Academic Support Re	esources		
Teacher Academic Support Hours (before, during and afterschool)	Academic Support Offerings		
24/7 Online Tutoring	Free 24/7 Online Tutoring for students in grades 6-12 is available <u>Linked here is more information</u> related to how students access free online tutoring and which subjects are available.		
Middle School Orientation & T	Fransition Events		
Middle School Orientation & Transition Events	Orientation & Transition Events 2024		
Monthly Parent New	sletters		
Prexie News	January Prexie News November Prexie News October Prexie News September Prexie News		

Daily Bell Schedule GWMS Bell Schedule GWMS A-day/B-Day Calendar GWMS Advisory Lesson Calendar	Student Template Block Schedule GWMS Bell Schedule GWMS A-day/B-Day Calendar GWMS Advisory Lesson Calendar		
ACPS Academic Calendar	ACPS Academic Calendar SY 2023-2024		
Back to School Forms	Eack to School Forms		

Parent Teacher Association			
Parent Teacher Association	Join the PTA, read the GWMS PTA Newsletter, and purchase GWMS Spirit Wear sponsored by the PTA		

What are your extra-curricular, intramural, and high school sports offerings?

Sports – Intramural/High School

·Fall Season:

Rugby, Softball and Soccer

Winter Season:

Basketball and Floor Hockey

Spring Season:

Flag Football, Volleyball, and Track & Field





Get involved in YOUR School!

Example Clubs and Activities

- Fall and Spring Plays
- Drama Club
- Debate Team
- Harry Potter Club
- Yoga Club
- Prexie Aviators
- Legend of Zelda
- Grammar & Writing Club
- Sewing Club
- Homework Help
- Dungeons and Dragons

Late bus Monday-Thursday at 4:15 p.m.

- After School Soccer
- Line Dancing Club
- Latin Club
- STEM Club
- Robotics Team
- Book Club
- Arts & Crafts Club
- Underwater Robotics
- Screen FREE BoardGames
- History Club

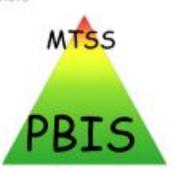
Opportunities for Student Voice and Student Choice

- Students need to shape their educational experience
- Dean's Leadership Council (Student Government)
- WEB Leader
- Student Ambassadors
- Service Learning

Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS)

PBIS includes School Wide Procedures and Processes Used for:

- All students, All staff and in All settings.
- Non-classroom settings within the school environment (e.g., hallways, cafeteria, bathrooms)
- Individual classrooms and teachers
- Small group interventions for the approximated 5-15% of students that require a more specialized approach to social skills and behavior instruction
- Individual student supports for the estimated 1-5% of students who present the most challenging behaviors



Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support TIER THREE: Few Functional Behavior Assessment White Component Behavior Fleis THER School Board Wagsersand **Strengency Intervention Flans** Intensive Academic Support TIER TWO: Some Check in Check Out. Adult Meeters the Data for Decision Walled Today a Brook Targeted Social Skills Instruction - Works School Plans : Classroom Management Eupport TIER ONE: All Teach schooladds positive behavior expectations and procedures Feel Size reinforcement for all students. Consistent opiniogument for problem behaviors Effective procedures and repervision In non-discussion areas. Offective treatmention and diseasesem **PERSONAL PROPERTY** Expect Respect Bully Proyention PRIS Clubs Alternatives in Suspension

Three-Tiered Model of

Prexie Pride

			SETTING					
	1	Classroom	Hallways/ Stairs	Bathroom	Cafeteria	Auditorium	Gym/ Field	Library
EXPECTATION	Preparation	- Arrive on time - Have all materials ready - Follow directions - Be ready to learn w/ an open mind - Keep all electronic devices silent and out of sight	Move efficiently to destination Walk with purpose Stay to the right Keep all electronic devices silent and out of sight	Have a pass Get in and get out quickly Keep all electronic devices silent and out of sight	- Walk at all times - Sit at table and wait to be called - Keep all electronic devices silent and out of sight	- Keep food and drink out of auditorium - Enter and exit in proper manner - Keep all electronic devices silent and out of sight.	Arrive on time Bring and wear uniform Keep all electronic devices silent and out of sight	- Enter quietly - Have a pass or signed agenda - Bring materials needed - Come w/ staff permission only - Keep all electronic devices silent and out of sight
	Respect	Use inside voice Listen to others Use polite language (slows, think you, ctc.) Be kind Keep food and drinks out of classroom	- Use inside voice - Use kind words - Keep hands and feet to self	- Clean up behind yourself - Dispose of personal items appropriately - Take pride in clean walls and dry stalls	- Follow adult directions - Show kindness to others (including all adults and peers) - Honor personal boundaries	Follow adult directions Honor personal boundaries Keep remarks and gestures positive and appropriate	Follow adult directions Honor personal boundaries Cooperate with others	Treat books and materials with care Keep food and drinks out of library Maintain a quiet atmosphere
	Integrity	Complete all assignments with honesty Make good choices	Go directly to your assigned location Respond appropriately to adult requests	Avoid horseplay and socialization Keep clean wells and dry stalls Use nearest bathroom	- Use good manners - Touch your food/ tray only - Sit in your seat only - Sit in your seat.	- Be an active listener (eyes and ears open, mouths closed)	Use equipment safely and appropriately	Remain on task Practice academic honesty Cite and use all resources appropriately
	Dedication	Be an active participant Be cooperative Challenge yourself	Keep hallways, floors and walls clean Admire displays with eyes only	Take care of business and return to class promptly Report any problems quickly	Clean up after yourself Keep food on your tray	- Show appreciation by clapping appropriately	- Display good sportsmanship - Participate to the best of your ability - Try to learn new activities - Return equipment	Ask for assistance Challenge yourself Read new books
	Excellence	- Support and encourage others - Follow school dress code - Always do your best and never give up - Use class time efficiently	Use the quickest route to destination	- Wash hands thoroughly - Use hall pass at all times	- Invite others to your table - Exit at appropriate door - Recycle when possible	- Be seated in appropriate manner	- Include others - Encourage peers - Be fair - Work as a team	Return books in timely manner Return materials and furniture to proper place

Recognizing Positive Behavior

-Students Receive Prexie Pride Bucks for Displaying Positive Behavior

-Weekly PBIS Raffles

-Monthly Prexie Pride Store

-Quarterly School Wide PBIS Events



General Supply List

- Backpack
- Notebooks for each class (or AM or PM)
- Pens, Pencil, Erasers and Highlighters
- Pencil sharpener, Ruler, Glue Stick, Post-it Notes
- Earbuds for instructional purposes
- 3-4 Composition Notebooks
- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " Binder for AVID (if applicable)
- 1 package of dividers
- Loose-lead paper
- Chromebook (provided by ACPS)

Other Helpful Tips

- Practice with a lock over summer for hallway assigned locker. Locker is assigned near advisory teacher.
- Gym fee is \$20.00 (lock rental fee and purchase of gym uniform).
- Lunch pin is the same all throughout ACPS. Lunch is currently \$2.35 a day.
- Student arrive at Door 8 before 8:25 a.m. Students who arrive after 8:25 a.m. enter through Door 1.
- Students report to the cafeteria (where breakfast is served.
- Students have abatement screening (BLUE- Binder, Laptop, Umbrella, and Eyeglass case)

Upcoming Academic Advisement Dates

 Open Houses- February 2, February 23 and March 8 at 9:00 a.m.- Only need to attend one Open House.
 Electives Fair and Curriculum Night- Monday, February 5, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.- Learn about all of our various elective offerings and core course offerings and settings (Honors vs. General Education).

GW Open House for Rising 6th grade Spanish speaking

families- February 21, 2024 at 5:30.

A GW Glimpse! Students from the following schools will attend a virtual program at 9:00 a.m. to discuss middle school life! A student panel will also take place.

- February 6th- MacArthur and Barrett
- February 7th- George Mason, Lyles Crouch, Cora Kelly, and Naómi Brooks
- February 9th- Mount Vernon and Jefferson Houston

Start of the Year Programs- Dates TBD





6th Grade

and New to Alexandria City Public Schools 7th and 8th Grade Students

Orientation Party

(also known as Middle School Orientation)

What is WEB?

WEB, Where Everybody Belongs, is a program that welcomes the sixth grade class to our middle schools.

Every sixth grader will be assigned an eighth grade WEB Leader who will continue to support him or her throughout the first year of middle school. The WEB Leaders have been identified as students on campus who are positive role models, responsible, possess leadership qualities, are kind, and, most importantly, have the desire to give back to their school community.

Welcome GWMS Students and Families

Kick-Off to an Excellent Year



Thank you attending!

Questions???

