

***Welcome to Walnut Creek Middle School
5th Grade Parent Orientation
Class of 2032***





Purpose for Our Presentation

1. Provide comfort and excitement with your child attending Walnut Creek
2. Ensure you receive the necessary information to assist you and your child in the transition
3. Extend our ongoing commitment to helping your child succeed
4. Answer any questions



Creek Administration Commitments

- Importance of Relationships
 - Positive School Culture
- Visible, Approachable, and Available
 - Standard for Student Behavior
- High Expectations for Staff and Students
- Focus on Academic and Social Growth
 - “Whatever it Takes” Attitude
 - Communication



A Day in the Life of a 6th Grader

- **Parent Drop Off Loop or Bus**
 - **Doors Open at 7:30**
 - **Breakfast at 7:45**
 - **Lockers – Access at 8:00**
 - **Start Time – 8:10**
 - **Four Core Classes – about 60 Minutes**
 - **Two Encore Classes – about 60 Minutes**
 - **Lunch- 30 minutes (Includes Recess) after 3rd Hour (11:15-11:45)**
 - **Passing Time – 5 Minutes**
 - **Dismissal Time – 3:00**
- Half Days: 8:10 - 11:40**

Walnut Creek Bell Schedule

<u>1st hour:</u>	8:10 AM - 9:11 AM
<u>2nd hour:</u>	9:16 AM - 10:13 AM
<u>3rd hour:</u>	10:18 AM - 11:15 AM
<u>A Lunch:</u>	11:15 AM - 11:45 AM
<u>4th hour:</u>	11:50 AM - 12:20 PM
<u>5th hour:</u>	1:00 PM - 1:57 PM
<u>6th hour:</u>	2:02 PM - 3:00 PM

Counseling Services



John Lewandowski: All 8th Grade Students

Connie Akins: All 7th Grade Students

Rosemary Garvin: All 6th Grade Students

- **Students sign up to see counselor**
- **Consult with parents and teachers**
- **Provide new student orientation**
- **Assist students with personal challenges and school related issues**
- **Support social emotional wellness**
- **Facilitate Career Guidance Program**
- **Provide referrals for outside services**
- **Provide academic guidance**



Sixth Grade Transition Activities

- Counselor and Principal visits to elementary schools and distribution of course selection forms:

Mary Helen Guest (March 4th)

Meadowbrook (March 5th)

Oakley Park (March 10th)

Pleasant Lake (March 7th)

- **6th Grade WEB Day at Creek
Monday, August 18th***
- **5th Grade Visit - May 2024**
- **Counselor & Admin Meet with 5th
Grade Teachers
May/June, 2024**
- **Creek Connection
Tuesday, August 19th***
- **Curriculum Night for all Creek
parents
Fall, 2025 Date TBD**
- ***Band or Orchestra Selections
Due via Google Form March 14th***



Core Curriculum

English Math Science Social Studies

Elective Curriculum

Art	10 Weeks
Communication Arts	10 Weeks
Design Technology	10 Weeks
Physical Education	10 Weeks
Vocal Music	10 Weeks
World Languages	10 Weeks
MS Success Skills	10 Weeks
Digital Literacy	10 Weeks
Band	Full Year Commitment
Orchestra	Full Year Commitment

Math Essentials	One Semester *Possible 10 week
Reading Essentials	One Semester *Possible 10 week

6th Grade Band or Orchestra Selection

B *I* U ☰ ✕

If you are interested in taking Band or Orchestra, please complete the following:

Last Name *

Short answer text

First Name *

Short answer text

Which elementary do you attend? *

Short answer text

Who is your 5th grade teacher? *

Short answer text

I want to take Band next year. ***This is a FULL YEAR commitment*** *

Yes

No



Walnut Creek Middle School's Avenues of Communication

- **Google Classroom: Learning Target and Homework in every class, every day**
- **Principal Weekly Newsletter - Friday by 5 PM**
- **Phone calls and emails with teachers**
- **Walnut Creek Website which includes Counseling and transition to Middle School Information**
- **Creek Connection, August 19th, 9am- 3pm**
- **Fall Curriculum Night**
- **Parent-Teacher Conferences in November**
- **Skyward Family Access, including paperless progress reports, report cards, and online registration**



Registration Process using Family Access

- **Registration process in the fall (Same as past practice - online through Skyward)**
- **Parents must have their Family Access ID and Login to complete the (online) registration process prior to Creek Connection.**
- **Watch for more information regarding (online) registration (June 2025). Please feel free to contact Walnut Creek with any questions.**



Parent-Teacher- Student-Association (PTSA)

President: Bobbie Sue Young

VP of Fundraising: Amy Attard

Vice President: Debbie O'Rourke

Secretary: Marlene Yono

Treasurer: Debbie O'Rourke

Membership Chair: Lauren Taboh

Teacher Appreciation Chair: Erin Higgins

***Monthly Meetings in the Creek Media Center**



6th Grade Student Activities & Proactive Initiatives & Connections

- **Hawk P.R.I.D.E Habits**
- **Creek Canteens (Dances)**
- **Spirit Weeks**
- **Recognition Assemblies**
- **School Connection Activities**
- **Upstander**
- **WEB**
- **Yearbook Club**
- **Various Clubs: Cupcake Club, Creative Writing, Chess club, etc.**
- **Xello - Career Readiness**

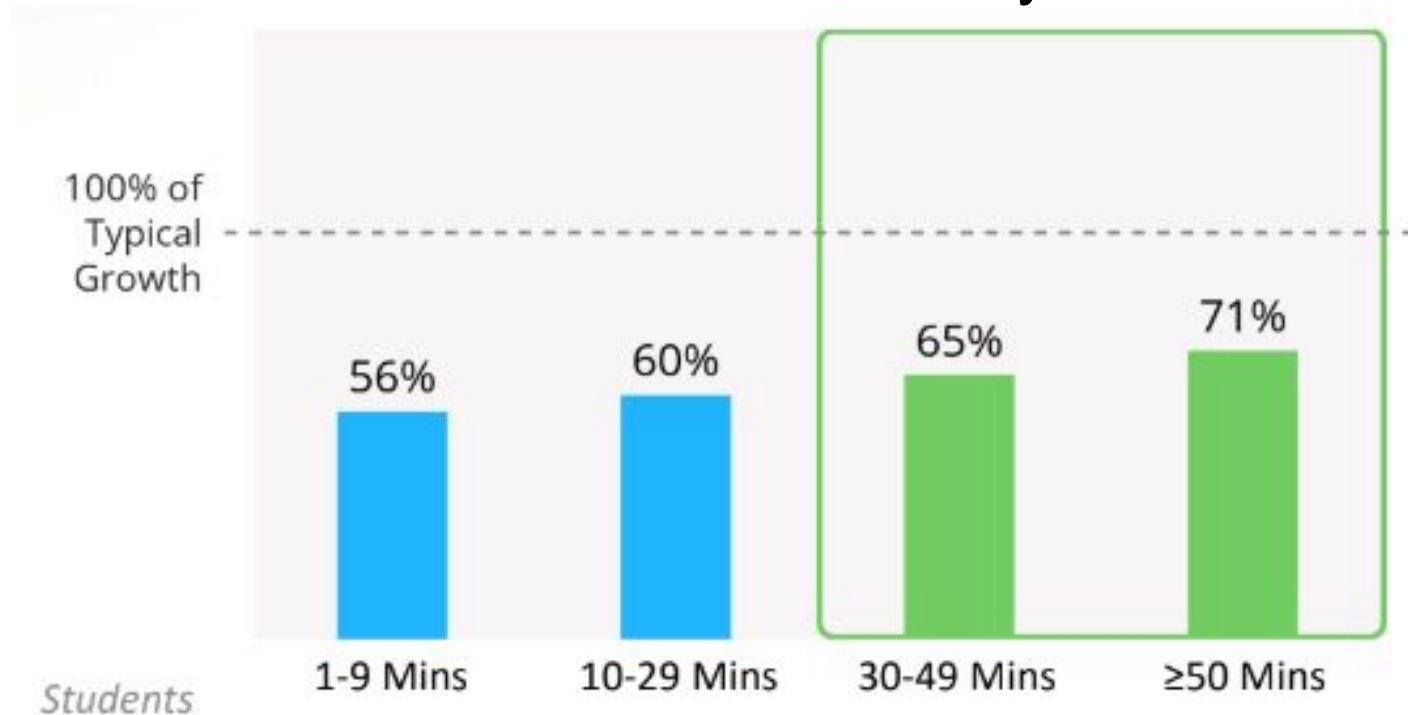


6th Grade Student Activities & Proactive Initiatives (academic)

- **Math Coaches (tutoring)**
- **Work Completion and Studying Support Before and After School and During Lunch**
- **Staff Mentoring**
- **MTSS Process**
- **iReady Intervention Program**
- **Summer Academic Engagement Program**

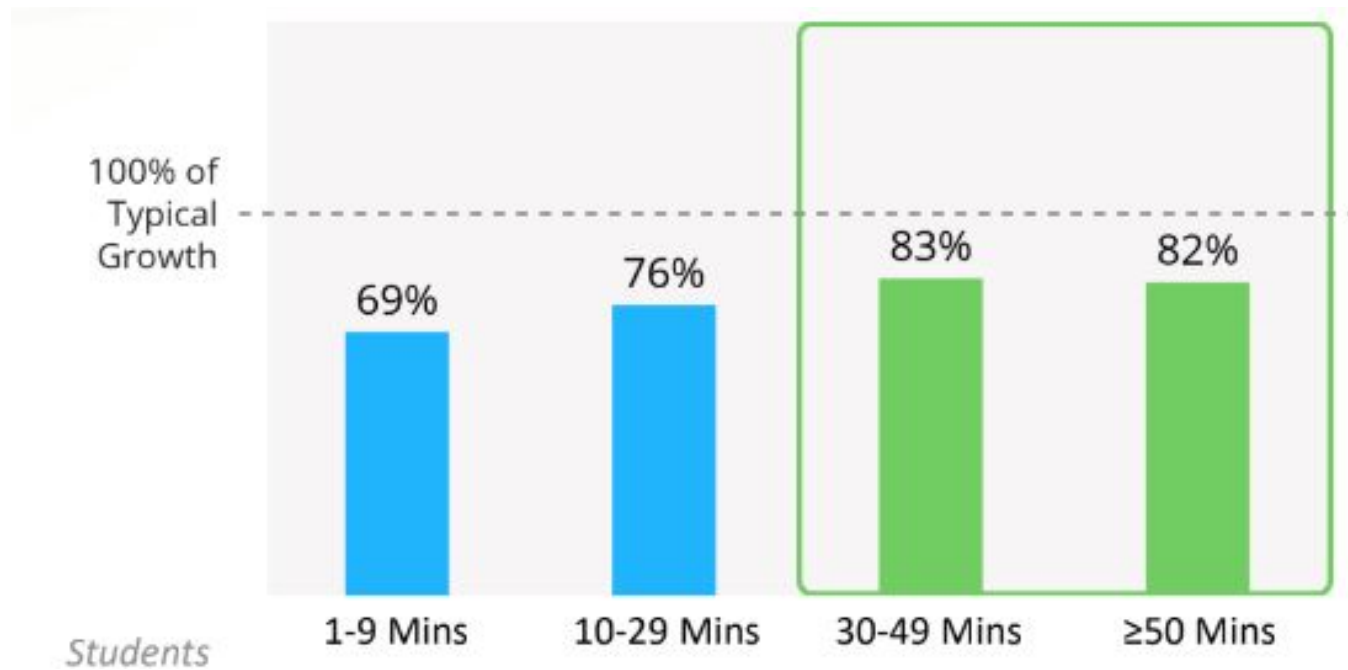
Walnut Creek iReady Data

Math Growth with iReady



Walnut Creek iReady Data

Reading Growth with iReady



AARI Performance Data



Summary Data

Each student's reading level, as measured by the Qualitative Reading Inventory (QRI)*, was collected at the beginning and end of the intervention to track reading growth. As a whole, AARI participants showed large increases in reading level and growth toward grade level proficiency.

Increases in Reading Level

96% of participants

increased 1 or more reading levels

83% of participants

increased 2 or more reading levels

Change in Reading Level	Percent	Number
Maintained	4.2%	2
+1 Levels	12.5%	6
+2 Levels	12.5%	6
+3 Levels	12.5%	6
+4 or more Levels	58.3%	28
Total Number of Students	100.0%	48

Growth Toward Grade Level Proficiency

0% to **71%**

The change in the percentage of students reading on grade level or within 2 grade levels.

■ On or Above Grade Level ■ 1 to 2 Grade Levels Below ■ 3 to 4 Grade Levels Below ■ 5 or More Grade Levels Below

Before AARI



After AARI





Sixth Grade Sports

Fall: Boys & Girls: Cross Country, Volleyball, Competitive Dance

Winter: Boys & Girls: Wrestling, Basketball, Swim/Dive

Spring: Boys & Girls: Track & Field

Every child must have a completed sports physical on file in order to participate.



WEB

- National leadership and mentorship program called Where Everyone Belongs (WEB)
- Pairs 8th graders leaders with incoming 6th graders
- Builds relationships, common ground, trust, as incoming 6th graders transition to middle school
- Opening orientation day in August includes: team building activities, games, building tours, locker practice, trivia, and opportunities for students to ask questions to their 8th grade mentors
- Team building and mentorship opportunities throughout the year
- Look for more information this summer for dates/times etc.



Upstander

- The Upstander Program is a bullying prevention initiative designed to engage students in meaningful, relevant conversations about negative social behaviors that lead to bullying within their school environment and community.
- This is accomplished through interactive workshops that provide education and promote team building and advocacy surrounding the issue.
- A total of eight workshops are conducted on a monthly basis, over the course of the school year, and are presented and led by a professional facilitator.

Upstander Continued

- One Hundred Thirty students are currently being trained.
- Early results from this year show an increase awareness of what constitutes bullying and a willingness to assist students in need.



Technology

- Interactive Projectors with Document Cameras
- Google Classroom
- Media Center
- *1 to 1 Chromebook Program
- Cell phone use (I pads are cell phones)

Cell Phones and Social Media Pose a Real Threat to Our Kids

*The research is clear, social media and unrestricted access to the Internet are a far greater threat to our kids than any external factor. It's not even close.

*Your Homework - Read "The Anxious Generation" By Johnathon Haidt

- I suggest listening to it through an audio book app. It's not an easy read.

Not Going to do the HW?

Here are the main takeaways that I hope you will hear:

1. No unlimited access to smartphones/the internet until high school
2. Absolutely no Social Media until 16.
3. Phone Free Schools
4. More unsupervised real world activity and childhood independence



School Layout and Parking





Questions or Comments

Mr. Seth Taboh, Principal

SethTaboh@wlcbsd.org

Mr. Kyle Pipkin, Assistant Principal

KylePipkin@wlcbsd.org

Mr. John Lewandowski, Counselor, Department Chair

All 8th Grade Students

JohnLewandowski@wlcbsd.org

Ms. Connie Akins, Counselor

All 7th Grade Students

ConnieAkins@wlcbsd.org

Ms. Rosemary Garvin

All 6th Grade Students

RosemaryGarvin@wlcbsd.org