J.B. Martin Middle School

Principal ~ Steven Guitterrez **Asst. Principals** ~ Tricia Growl, Aubrey Hager, Chase Petit

January 2026

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Principal's Message:

2026 - It's hard to believe that it's already here. As we begin the New Year, some things that many of us do is reflect on the past year and make New Year's resolutions. I would like to encourage all families to sit down together, reflect on the great things that are going on all around us, and create New Year's resolutions together.

There are several things that we would like to make sure that families know for the 2nd semester:

- Parent Teacher Conferences will be held the week of February 5-6. The sign-up message will go out to families soon.
- It is so important to view Power School weekly so that you can stay on top of your child's grades. This is the main way that teachers communicate with parents about grades. You can see if your child has any missing assignments/grades that need to be made up.
- Check your child's Google Classroom accounts as well for assignments.

Cougar Pride: Every Day! Every Way!

Sincerely,

Steven Guitterrez

Principal

J. B. Martin Middle School

Mission

Ensuring high levels of achievement for ALL

Vision

JB Martin Middle School guarantees all students are working on or above grade level while promoting social-emotional well-being and fostering a culture of excellence, respect, dignity, and inclusion for all.

PARENT'S NEED TO KNOW . . .

Important Dates:

Jan. 19 – MLK Holiday
Jan. 28-29 – Talented Theatre Performance @ LPAC
Feb. 4-8 – Dance Team Nationals
Feb. 5-6 – Early Dismissal 11:55
Feb. 5 – Black History Program
Feb. 5 - Parent/Teacher Conferences 12:30-5:00
Feb. 6 – Career Day
Feb. 6 - Parent/Teacher Conferences 12:30-3:00
Feb. 16-20 – Mardi Gras Holidays

Soccer Schedule

Jan. 14 – vs. Grand Caillou @ HHS, 5:30 boys, 6:30 girls
Jan. 21 – Soccer @ RKS @ HHS 5:00 girls, 6:00 boys
Jan. 24 – Grand Caillou Tournament
Jan. 27 - @ Hurst @ DHS 5:00 girls, 6:00 boys
Jan. 28 - @ Cammon @ DHS 5:00 girls, 6:00 boys
Feb. 2 – vs. RKS @ HHS 5:00 girls, 6:00 boys
Feb. 4 – vs. Hurst @ HHS 5:00 girls, 6:00 boys
Feb. 9 – vs. Cammon @ HHS 5:00 girls, 6:00 boys

Daily Schedule

All middle schools work on a four-period, 90-minutes per period class schedule. This gives our students more time in math classes, as well as some additional enrichment class time and opportunities. Students have Math and ELA every day, as well as their two enrichment classes daily. Students will follow an A or B- day schedule for Science and Social Studies classes.

Monday and Wednesday – A days

Tuesday and Thursday – B days

Fridays – alternate

Happy New Year!

Jackets and Sweatshirts

As the weather starts to turn cooler, we wanted to remind families of what is acceptable outerwear for our students. We want students to be comfortable and to stay warm, but we also want to ensure that students are following the district's dress code.

- **Sweatshirts or pullovers must be either white or navy blue. If it is not a JBM sweatshirt, then any logos shouldn't be larger that 3 inches by 3 inches (about the size of the palm of your hand).**
- **Jackets that open up in the front (zipper or button) can be any color, but should be unzipped when on campus.**
- **No hoods are allowed. Jackets, sweatshirts, pullovers, etc. cannot have hoods on them.**
- **Students can wear a ski cap on campus, but they should be removed once they are inside.**

School Procedures

Morning Drop-Off

The drop-off window is 7:40-7:50. Parents who have been dropping off in the morning have been doing a great job of helping us keep the traffic in the neighborhood to a minimum and getting the car line completed quickly. Please remember that no cars should be going into the bus circle from 7:30-8:00.

Tardy Times

Arrival Time on a regular school day is 7:40-7:50. Arrival time after 7:50 is considered tardy and a parent must sign the student in at the main office. All tardies require a parent to sign the student in at the attendance office.

UPCOMING FRIDAY ROTATIONS:

Jan . 9 – A-Day
Jan. 16 – B-Day
Jan. 23 – A-Day
Jan. 30 – B-Day
Feb. 6 – B-Day
Feb. 13 – A-Day
Feb. 27 – B-Day

Prioritize your Family and Creating Memories

It can get really hectic during the holiday season, and expensive! But through all of the gift buying and running around, try to set aside time with just your family. Think about creating some holiday traditions that you can do with your immediate family such as baking/decorating cookies, sipping hot chocolate while riding around looking at Christmas lights, or creating and exchanging "homemade" presents with each other. Creating memories for you and your family will last longer, will be more meaningful, and will bring your family closer together during this holiday season.

HOMEWORK ASSISTANCE OFFERED THROUGH STATE LIBRARY OF LOUISIANA

The State Library of Louisiana offers homework assistance services to parents and scholars at www.homeworkla.org. HomeworkLouisiana offers free online tutoring and academic resources from Tutor.com for Louisiana residents from kindergarten scholars through adult learners. Get help in math, science, social studies or English from a live tutor. The services can be accessed from a Louisiana public library, your home computer or your mobile device.

Teams, Administrators and Counselors

Here at JBM, we practice Teaming, where scholars at each grade level are placed on a Team. 6th Grade is split between Teams 1 and 2, 7th Grade between Teams 3 and 4, and 8th grade between Teams 5 and 6. Every scholar on a Team attends classes with that core group of teachers on the Team (ELA, Math, Science, and Social Studies).

6th Grade = Tiffany Matthews (counselor) and Aubrey Hager (Assistant Principal)

7th Grade = Corinne Heffron (counselor) and Tricia Growl (Assistant Principal)

8th Grade = Jenny Vial (counselor) and Chase Petit (Assistant Principal)

If you have any questions regarding your child, don't hesitate to contact one of these individuals or your child's teacher.

Google Classroom and Team/Teacher Web Pages

Middle school is a time when we want to build more responsibility within our students. However, we also want to better provide parents with information so that you can stay informed about the tests, assignments, news and events here at JBM. As we move more and more of the classroom assignments, notes, etc. to the Google Classroom platform, this is becoming the best place to go for parents to see what's going on in their child's classes. Our school website also has grade level and teacher pages for you to check your child's test and assignment schedules. Links:

JBM Homepage
To view the J.B. Martin Homepage please click this link

Direct Links to grade level pages
6th Grade - 6th Grade Family Information Guide
7th Grade - 7th Grade Family Information Guide
8th Grade - 8th Grade Family Information Guide

Week at a Glance – After School Activities
To view the live Week-At-A-Glance file please click this link

Creating a Community of Understanding and Trust in the Month of January

Middle school is a time for growth and learning—not just in academics but also in understanding
others and building meaningful relationships. By focusing on empathy, belonging, and trust, we can create a community where everyone feels valued and supported.

Understanding and Empathizing with Others
Every person has unique experiences and challenges that shape their actions. By reminding ourselves, “They might be dealing with something I don’t know about,” we can better understand
their perspectives. Practicing empathy, especially with people from diverse backgrounds, helps us build stronger, more inclusive relationships.

Knowing What’s Expected
Clear expectations—from teachers, teammates, or friends—help us succeed. When unsure, self-talk like, “It’s okay to ask questions,” or “I’ll do my best,” encourages clarity and reduces stress. Understanding expectations strengthens communication and confidence.

Feeling Accepted and Included
Everyone wants to feel like they belong and to have their dignity honored. When self-doubt creeps in, remind yourself, “I bring something valuable to this group.” Feeling included starts with accepting yourself and recognizing your worth. Inclusion grows when we also make space for others to feel valued.

Creating a Sense of Belonging
Belonging is more than being present; it’s feeling connected. Tell yourself, “I deserve to be here,” and look for ways to connect with others. Reaching out and supporting classmates or friends can help everyone feel part of the community.

Building Trust
Trust is a foundation for healthy relationships. While trusting others can feel uncertain, positive self-talk like, “I’ll give them a chance,” helps open the door to deeper connections. Trust grows when we approach others with honesty and kindness.
By practicing positive self-talk and focusing on empathy, we create a school environment where everyone feels understood and valued. Let’s work together to make our middle school a place where connection, acceptance, and trust thrive!

2025-2026 JBM Social Studies Fair

History	Louisiana History	Sociology
 Honorable Mention Brandi Billiot - 6th grade	 2nd Place Haley Aucoin - 6th grade	 1st place Ashton Adams - 8th grade
  2nd place Alice Callero - 6th grade	 1st place Kenidee Miranda - 8th grade	**1st and 2nd place winners will advance to the Regional Fair at Nicholls in March.**

DECEMBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

IS YOUR HOME FEELING LIKE A GARDEN...OR A JUNGLE?

6TH GRADE IS A SEASON, NOT A DESTINATION
LET'S GROW TOGETHER

Does this sound familiar?

One day your 6th grader is a sweet, growing seedling... and the next, it feels like the "Middle School Jungle" has taken over. Between the "thorny" attitudes, the "tangled" emotions, and the "hormone fog," parenting can feel less like gardening and more like a survival mission.

The Good News: You don't need a machete. We are preparing a special event just for 6th-grade parents to help you navigate this wild season of growth. We're moving past the "weeds" of bad behavior to understand the root cause.

What's Sprouting Soon:

- Soil Testing: Learn why 6th graders act the way they do (it's science, not just "attitude"!).
- The Pruning Tool: How to correct behavior without getting scratched by the thorns.
- The Trellis: Simple ways to support their growth so they don't collapse under pressure

KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR THE OFFICIAL INVITATION AND "SEED PACKET" RSVP LINK !