Northbrook Middle School
Rising Sixth Grade Information

February 20 - 27, 2026 - Teacher Placement Recommendation

- Jackson ES teachers will recommend students for math placement and provide guidance on student scheduling. Teacher recommendations will be honored

February 20 - April 20, 2026 - Year-long Elective Sign-Up Window

- Fine Arts flyers will be sent home. Students can sign up for Band, Orchestra, and Chorus during the sign-up window. Students who miss the sign-up window will get another opportunity at the start of the new school year.

April 16, 2026 - Parent Meeting for Rising Sixth Graders at Northbrook (6:00pm)

- Northbrook is hosting a parent meeting at 6:00pm to provide information about course offerings and how the middle school model works. The general information session will begin at 6:00pm in the cafeteria. Classroom visits will follow the general presentation.

May 6 or 8 (TBD), 2026 - Jackson ES Students Visit Northbrook MS

- Students will visit Northbrook to tour the building and learn about the middle school experience from our sixth-grade teachers and peer leaders.

June 10 and July 15, 2026 - Rising 6th Grade Summer Orientation (9:00am-2:00pm)

- Students are invited to choose one of two summer orientation sessions to learn more about Northbrook. Registration will be open from March 1 through May 1 in MyPaymentsPlus.

August 2026 (TBD) - Northbrook Open House

- Parents and students are invited to explore the building, meet the Northbrook faculty and staff, and get all the information needed to prepare for the first day of school.
- Students will receive a copy of their schedule.

NORTHBROOK CONNECTIONS CLASSES 2026-2027

In addition to core academic classes (Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies), middle school students take two Connections classes each semester. Middle school Connections classes are like Specials classes in elementary school. They offer wonderful enrichment and are lots of fun!

There are two types of Connections classes:

1. **Non-Elective, Semester-Long Classes** – Courses include Health, Physical Education, Beginning Spanish, Visual Arts, Computer Science, and Engineering. These classes are randomly assigned to students.
2. **Elective, Year-Long Music Classes** – Students may choose to take Band, Orchestra, and/or Chorus. These classes are on the student's schedule for the full school year.
   - Band students will be guided in choosing the flute, clarinet, alto saxophone, French horn, trumpet, trombone, baritone, tuba, or percussion.
   - Orchestra students will be guided in choosing the violin, viola, cello, or double bass.
   - Chorus students will learn performance singing, vocal production, & ensemble singing.

All sixth-grade students are strongly encouraged to elect a year-long music course as one or both of their two Connections classes. Music allows your child to learn a fun and challenging new skill. Here's what you need to know about Northbrook Middle School's music electives:

- No previous music experience or training is required! Beginners are welcome – in fact, most of our sixth-grade music students are beginners.
- Beginning band, orchestra, and chorus instruction is offered only in the sixth grade, so it's important for sixth grade students to take advantage of this unique opportunity for beginning instruction.
- Class sizes are limited and scheduled first-come, first-served so register early.
- Students enrolling in band or orchestra must arrange for their own instruments. Further information will be provided.
- Band and orchestra teachers will guide students and parents on instrument selection and rental at the beginning of the School year to help determine the right instrument for your interests, experience level, and budget.

To register, visit https://forms.gle/jkdy7kQY2a3WaqGDA **or scan the QR code.**