



HILBURN ACADEMY

Movin' On Up!



**MIDDLE SCHOOL INFORMATION FOR RISING
6TH GRADE PARENTS**

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Purpose of Meeting



- **Middle School 101**
 - What to Expect
 - Schedules
 - Course Offerings
 - Extracurricular Activities
 - Grading System
 - Homework
 - Communication
 - Tips
 - Next Steps

What Can You Expect?



- **More.....**

- Challenging work
- Homework
- Long-term projects
- Expectations of independence
- Calls/texts from friends

- **Less.....**

- Communication from teachers (no Monday folders)
- Communication from your student (use open-ended questions)
- Invitations to come have lunch 😊

Schedules



- A/B block schedule next year
- 4 periods/day
- Each class is ~90 minutes
 - 30 minutes for lunch
- No Focus next year
- Lunch
 - 7th & 8th grade currently eat at 10:15
 - 6th grade currently eats at 1:30

Academics



- **Required Core Classes** (common to all WCPSS middle schools):
 - Language Arts
 - Math: Math 6, 6+, Compacted 6+/7+
 - Math 6: grade level, 1 yr of content
 - Math 6+: accelerated, 1 1/3 yrs of content
 - Compacted 6+/7+: 2.5 years of content
 - Visit <http://wake-ms-math.weebly.com/> for more information
 - Science
 - Social Studies

Electives



Elective options for Hilburn:

- Healthful Living (*required)
- Beginning Band
- Chorus
- Beginning Spanish (1st part in the Spanish curriculum series for HS credit)
- Drama
- Intro to Theater I
- Visual Arts
- Animal Science
- Public Speaking & Debate
- Newspaper
- Invention & Innovation
- Olympics of Science & Math
- African-American History
- American History Themes & Dreams

Please note availability of courses depends upon student interest and staffing availability. Finalized schedules will be distributed at our open house in August.

**Course descriptions are available in the Wake County Middle School Program Planning Guide, at wcpss.net and type in Middle School Program Planning Guide 2016-2017.*

Extracurricular Activities



- **Athletics at Leesville Middle School** (*6th graders in WCPSS are not allowed to participate in sports)
 - Shuttle bus provided daily
- **Student Clubs & Activities:**
 - Student Government
 - Student Ambassadors
 - M&Ms: Middle School Mentors
 - Science Olympiad
 - Odyssey of the Mind
 - School Musical
 - National Junior Honor Society
- **Social Events:**
 - School dances
 - Movie trips
 - Fun run

Grading System



- Students receive letter grades
 - A = 90 - 100
 - B = 80 - 89
 - C = 70 - 79
 - D = 60 - 69
 - F = less than 60
 - FF = failed for violation of attendance policy.
 - Teachers determine weight of various assignments, tests, etc. for their individual class when determining grades

Homework



- **Homework:**
 - Guideline: 90 minutes/day
 - Often counts as a grade
 - Graded more often for accuracy and completeness
 - Requires more independence
 - Posted on Edmodo
- **Organization/Time Management**
 - Important to help your student develop good work/study habits and productive daily homework routines

Communication



- Edmodo
 - Facebook for education
 - Main communication tool for teachers
 - Homework
 - Videos
 - Assignments
- Powerschools
 - Student and parent accounts
 - Can monitor grades and attendance
- Teacher websites
- Check all often!

General Tips



- Foster and encourage independence and responsibility (with parental support)
- Help your child develop organization/time management skills and study habits
 - *Although not required, we strongly suggest the use of agendas to help keep track of assignments and due dates*
- Monitor your child's internet use; social media is a big part of middle school
- Check the school website and calendar often
- Important to help your child find balance between school & extra curricular activities

Next Steps



- Registration: Information went home Tuesday. Green form if you are going to a different middle school; white form if you are staying here
- Review course recommendations and elective choices with your child and sign both forms
- Return by Monday
- We will assist students with entering course selections into Powerschools next week

Thank you!



- Please feel free to contact us should you have any questions or concerns.
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