

# **WELCOME TO HMS 6TH GRADE!**



**2024-2025 School Year**

# YOUR 6<sup>th</sup> GRADE TEAM

- Ms. Hardiamon - Math
- Mrs. Thibault – Science
- Ms. Johnston - Science
- Mr. Bautista—History
- Mr. Hahn – History
- Mr. Gadd—English
- Mr. Owens - ELD
- Ms. Colliver – PE & Math
- Ms. Besas - RSP
- Mr. Arman – RSP
- Mrs. Lombardi - MMSN
- Ms. Manipis – Art & Yearbook
- Ms. Crowl - Art
- Ms. Barrett - Dance
- Mr. Boreen— Music
- Mr. Young- College & Career

**TEACHER LIBRARIAN:** Ms. Barron

**COUNSELORS:** Ms. Erika – Counselor (A-L)  
Ms. Wong - Counselor (M-Z)



# WELCOME TO TEAM 6!

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!  
HOMEWORK ALREADY!  
I JUST GOT BACK TO  
SCHOOL!



9-16

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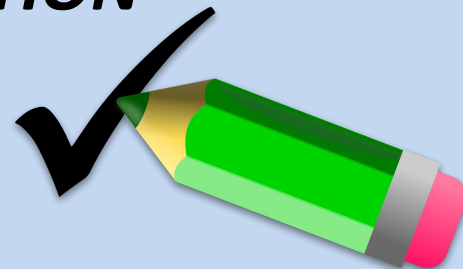
I HAVE TO WRITE A  
PARAGRAPH ON WHAT  
I DID OVER THE SUMMER!  
***A WHOLE PARAGRAPH!!***



# TRANSITIONING FROM ELEMENTARY TO MIDDLE SCHOOL

- *Please check-in with your student frequently for at least the first quarter...*
  - Elementary  $\Rightarrow$  1 class, 1 teacher
  - Secondary  $\Rightarrow$  6 classes, 6 teachers

SKILLS: *TIME MANAGEMENT & ORGANIZATION*



# TRANSITIONING FROM ELEMENTARY TO MIDDLE SCHOOL

## SKILLS: *TIME MANAGEMENT & ORGANIZATION*

- To help with the time management and organization we are requiring students to keep a planner daily.
- Please check their planners regularly to stay up on what your student is doing and the dates things are due.
- Successful transitions happen the most frequently in students who have a lot of support at home with time management and organization (crucial Quarter 1) for the first semester.

# TRANSITIONING FROM ELEMENTARY TO MIDDLE SCHOOL

- *Change in structure of schooling changes the norm of how the partnership may have worked in elementary school, and the amount of student responsibility for their learning and learning spaces increases.*

## Availability Changes:

At Hercules Middle 1 teacher  $\Rightarrow$  180-250 students

*Elementary  $\Rightarrow$  A full day with your 1 class of students*

*Secondary  $\Rightarrow$  50 minutes with your student*

# THE TRANSITION IN COMMUNICATION

- **Academic and class behavior ⇒ Contact teacher first**  
*-Email, websites, syllabi*
- **Library ⇒ Mrs. Barron (teacher librarian)**
- **Textbooks & Tablets ⇒ Mrs. Williams**
  - Tuesdays & Thursdays only
- **Absences & late notes ⇒ Attendance Clerk Ms. Pera**  
Email: *hmh\_attendance@wccusd.net*
- **Dropping off items & checking out students early**
  - ⇒ Mrs. Petroni (main office)
  - ⇒ Call 510-231-1429 ext. 25121 when you arrive downstairs
- **Course changes, discipline outside of class, bullying/relationship issues ⇒ Ms. Erika (A-L), Ms. Wong (M-Z)**



# Communication Is Still Important... It Just May Look Different

*Please reach out and open the communication  
when the need arises-don't wait!*



## **STEP 1** ⇒ Email

- *emails will be checked and returned during the school day, and within 2 school days*
- **include-student name, period, and specific question/issue**
  - *If you have not gotten a response within 2 school days (not counting weekends) please re-email, or call counselor*

**STEP 2** (if needed) ⇒ Could include *team conference, meeting with counselor, or other team check-in.*



# Ways Your Team Provides Communication About Your Student's Learning

- **Student Planners**: teachers may stamp or sign, teachers may write notes, and students write homework and general announcements.
- **Course Syllabi**: course information, grading policies, behavior expectations, absence/make-up work information, materials needed, and more!
- **Google Classroom**: Sit down with your child and have them log in to their account. Go through each classroom on a regular basis with your child.

# Ways Your Team Provides Communication About Your Student's Learning

- **Teacher websites**: course information, homework, contact information, handouts, announcements (*currently being updated*)
- **Powerschool**: scores and grade information posted at progress report and quarter grading periods (*some before that*)
- **Parent Square**: used by staff for mass communications



# ABSENCES

**Report the absence by doing ONE of the following:**

- ★ Email the attendance clerk at either below:
  - [ashley.pera@wccusd.net](mailto:ashley.pera@wccusd.net)
- ★ Complete the form received from ParentSquare
- ★ Leave a voicemail
  - (510) 231-1429 ext. 25114
- ★ Send a written note with your student

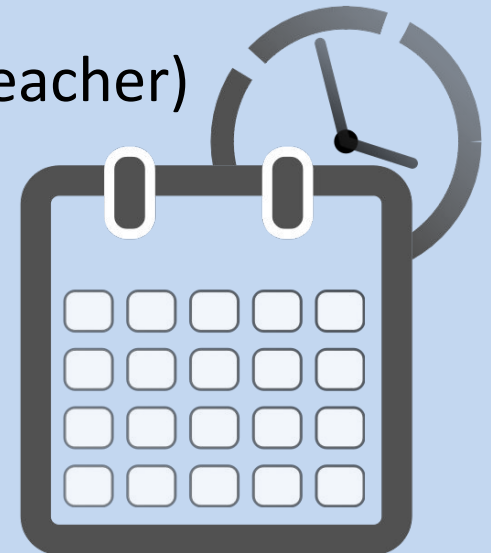
# ABSENCES - INFORMATION NEEDED

**Please include the following information in your communication:**

- ❑ Student's FIRST & LAST Name
- ❑ Student's Grade Level (6, 7, or 8)
- ❑ Class Period (if communicating w/teacher)
- ❑ Date(s) of Absence
- ❑ Reason for Absence
- ❑ Call back phone number

**Once you've reported the absence:**

- *Email the student's teachers*
- *Check each teacher's syllabus for their make up policy*



# ABSENCE INFORMATION Cont..

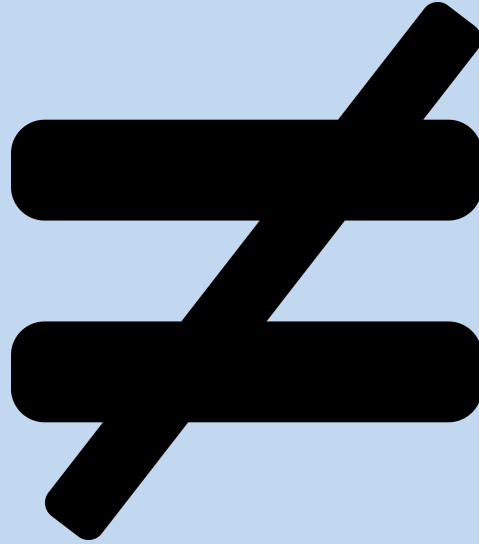
- You have up to 5 school days to report an absence.
- If a student is absent for 3 days or more of school, please supply the school with a *doctor's note*.
- Please allow up to 5 days for corrections to be reported in PowerSchool.
- If you think that your child was mismarked in a class, please contact that teacher first.

# ABSENCES/MISSED ASSIGNMENTS

- *Students are required to make up missed assignments and tests (even with an excused absence).*
- *Tests/Quizzes are generally made up after school by appointment with the teacher.*



# **EXCUSED ABSENCE**



# **EXCUSED WORK**

**Your student must still make  
up missed classwork and tests!**

# INDEPENDENT STUDY CONTRACTS

- Planned absence of 5-15 days.
- Must be completed 72 hours prior to absence beginning.
- Excused only if work is complete.
- All work must be completed and turned in the day that the student returns to school.
- Contact Ms. Ashley Pera, attendance clerk to start the process.

**The workload is much different in middle school than elementary - it is much harder on the student to be absent than in class.**



# ELECTRONIC DEVICES

- We are a device-free campus from 8:40 AM until the end of the school day
- Emergency - call the main office
  - 510-231-1429 ext. 25121
- *Device Free = Distraction Free*



# PHONE/ELECTRONIC LOCKERS

## 2 options:

1. ALL students put their phones in the locker when they enter a class and retrieve it at the end of the period.
1. Students keep their phones in their backpacks, if the student has it out during class, then they will put it in the locker until either the end of the period or end of the day.

# PBIS-HELPING WITH THE TRANSITION

**TITANS WILL**  
**BE KIND**  
**BE RESPONSIBLE**  
**BE SAFE**

Students “caught” being KIND, RESPONSIBLE or SAFE receive a TITAN TICKET!

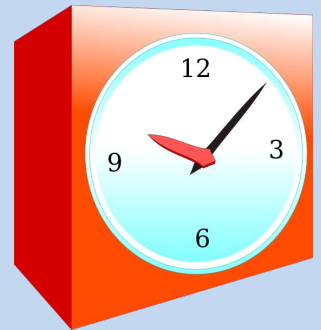
Titan tickets can be redeemed at the Titan Ticket Store for different items.



# TITANS ARE RESPONSIBLE...

The 6<sup>th</sup> grade team is focusing on this expectation the most right now. We are trying to develop HABITS.

Responsible learning HABITS we are working on are:



- ***Being on time – time management.***
- ***Having a pen/pencil, paper, and necessary learning materials for each class, each day BEFORE the bell rings!***
- ***Having a CHARGED tablet & charger with them.***
- ***Completing homework assignments by the due date.***

# HABITS OF SUCCESS

- Independence & Sustainability
- Perseverance
- Mindsets for Self & School
- School Readiness
- Healthy Development



# EDUCATION BENEFIT FORMS

If you have not completed the EDUCATION BENEFIT FORMS, please see Ms. Petroni at the main office.

These forms help to secure school funding and are necessary. Please complete the forms in PowerSchool or come by the office to get a paper copy, even if you think that your family does not qualify!

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS...

**Q: Can you email me my student's HW assignments daily or weekly?**

***A: Unfortunately, No. We use planners in all of our classes to write homework daily that you can check. Most of us post regularly on our Google Classroom, too.***

***It is also helpful in middle school to have a HW buddy student or parent in case your student was absent, or missed/was confused about the assignment given and was not able to clarify with the teacher.***



# TUTORING/HOMEWORK HELP

- Tutoring/Homework Help is dependent upon individual teachers.
- Once a schedule has been determined we will post it on our website.
- Please feel free to reach out to your child's teachers if you have questions and/or are needing extra support.

**CHECK OUT THE CITY OF  
HERCULES' LIBRARY FOR  
TUTORING OPTIONS!**







# HMS SPORTS



- District has not notified us yet of what/if sports will be offered for Middle School!
- HMS will have BASKETBALL & VOLLEYBALL regardless of district funding.
  - Season/Dates: TBD
  - Sign-ups will be in the cafeteria!
  - ParentSquare messages will go out to families.



# **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

- **Lunch time supervision!**
- **Assisting office staff**
  - **Delivering IDs (approx. 8:45 - 10:00 daily)**
  - **Up & Down (late student drop off, item drop off)**
- **Library help**
- **Textbook & Chromebook help at start & end of year**
- **Copies**
- **Set-up & Clean-up for school events & activities**

# **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

*All volunteers must be cleared and badged through the district.*

*This process has changed and we were just notified this week. Please see the district website.*

**WCCUSD Volunteer Information Page: <https://www.wccusd.net/domain/93>**



# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

## Parent/Community Member Volunteer Process

### Public Volunteer Process

- Complete the [application in Verkada](#)
- Review and approval of your application can take 1-2 weeks, but some may receive responses sooner or later than this time frame.
- Volunteers will need a state identification or consulate card to apply.
- Volunteers will **no longer be fingerprinted** or **badged centrally**.  
Volunteers are cleared thru an instant background check against the DOJ database via the Verkada platform. When a volunteer is cleared, they will receive a QR code via email to show to the front office.
- Returning/previously cleared volunteers will also need to complete applications in Verkada to be accepted into our new system.

# 6<sup>th</sup> TEAM NEEDS



If you can donate any of the items on the handout they are helpful for class learning and are greatly appreciated.

Please either send with your student directly to the teacher, or drop off in the office and label it with the teacher's name.

**THANK YOU!!!!**



The background is a dark, textured surface resembling chalkboard paint. It is framed by a decorative border of hand-drawn school-related items in white and blue chalk. The items include: an open book, a backpack, a rolled diploma, a stack of papers, two socks, a spiral notebook, a calculator, a box, a jacket, a globe, a schoolhouse, a sneaker, a mug with steam, a water bottle, and a pencil.

**HERCULES MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**PTO**  
**PARENT TEACHER**  
**ORGANIZATION**



# **PTO SUPPORTS AND FUNDRAISES FOR STUDENT SOCIAL EVENTS, FAMILY ENGAGEMENT AND MORE**

- **WINTER AND SPRING DANCES**
- **RESTAURANT FUNDRAISERS**
- **SCHOOL EVENT SUPPORT**
- **MULTICULTURAL POTLUCK**
- **TEACHER APPRECIATION**
- **FUNDRAISER RUNS**
- **SPORTS UNIFORMS**
- **SCHOOL SUPPLIES AND OTHER NEEDS**



# **HMS PTO MEMBERSHIP FORM**



**MEMBERS ARE ABLE TO:  
VOTE ON BUDGET  
VOTE ON BOARD MEMBERS  
GUIDE PTO DECISION-MAKING**





# THANK YOU 6<sup>th</sup> GRADE FAMILIES!!!

*Before we snack & chat, please take a moment to share your feedback on tonight's event with the QR code here:*



# THANK YOU 6<sup>th</sup> GRADE FAMILIES!!!

*Thank you for coming and being part of  
the team!*

*Enjoy some dessert, meet other parents,  
and stop by and say hi!*

