WELCOME TO MIDDLE SCHOOL!

Getting Ready for the transition to 6th Grade
Introductions

**CMS**
Principal: Katherine Krivak
Assistant Principal: William McGahee, Ed.D.

**IMS**
Principal: Dave Deramo
Assistant Principal: Jason Harding, D.D., Ph.D.

**MMS**
Principal: Matt Buchak (Dan Swoger, Ed.D.)
Assistant Principal:
Special Guest Speakers:

- **Samantha (Sam)**
  - Current 6th grade student at CMS
- **Mrs. Minton**
  - Sam’s mother and middle school parent
- **Levi**
  - Current 6th grade student at CMS
- **Mrs. Gebhardt**
  - Levi’s mother and middle school parent
The MISSION of the North Allegheny School District is to prepare all students for success in a changing world.
SEL
Social & Emotional Learning
Middle School SEL

Using students’ data to identify areas for SEL focus

Team Activities focusing on Self-Awareness

CMS Culture Club focusing on Social Awareness

8th Grade event focusing on Responsible Decision Making, Self-Awareness, Relationship Skills, and Self-Management

Team Activities focusing on Self & Social Awareness

Schoolwide Culture, Practices and Policies

Team Day Activities focusing on Responsible Decision Making

Authentic Partnerships with local food bank and local chapter of Animal Friends
Characteristics of a Successful Middle School

- Academically Challenging
- Developmentally Responsive
- Promotes Social Equity
- Values Connections with Students
Teaming in Middle School

- **PURPOSE & BENEFITS & FUNCTION:**
  - Teams of Teachers get to know your child
  - Common Planning Time for teachers to coordinate tests, set common expectations and integrate learning
  - Flexible Scheduling to allow time for special events
  - Classrooms in close proximity to develop students’ independence
Middle School Life
Student Lockers!
6th Grade Classrooms
“J. Clark’s Grille”
Featured Daily:
• Chicken Nuggets, Chicken Tenders, Chicken Patty, Spicy Patty, Specialty Burger or Grilled Cheese (all served with Oven Fries)
• Specialty Roll w/ Salad (Ex: Pepperoni or Ham & Cheese)
• Cheese Pizza w/ Salad
• Pepperoni Pizza w/ Salad

“Signature Entrees”
Typical Lunch Offerings - See NA Menu

“Sweet Treats”
Dessert Options

“Specialty Bar”
Create Your Own Cuisine
Monday– Breakfast Bar
Tuesday– Taco Bar
Wednesday– Pasta Bar
Thursday– Taco Bar
Friday– Pasta Bar
Formerly:
- Reading (1 class) and English (1 class)

Now:
- ELA (English Language Arts (2 periods)
- Integrated English and Reading
- Blocked (2 periods)
  - Back-to-back (pd. 2 ELA & pd. 3 ELA)
  - Split (pd. 1 ELA, Pd. 2 U/A, Pd. 3 ELA)
  - Shared (pd. 1 ELA Mrs. X; pd. 9 ELA Mr. Y)
Core Subjects on Team

- **Mathematics**
  - 1 period

- **Science**
  - 1 period

- **Social Studies**
  - 1 period

- **ELA**
  - 2 periods
Unified Arts
9-weeks each same period

Family & Consumer Sciences
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Art
----------
Technology Education
----------
Keyboardsing

NA
Physical Education (A or B Day)

- Same period as music
- Opposite day

What’s Different?
- More frequent
- Change for PE
- Get PE locker & shirt
Music Arts (A or B Day)

- Same period as PE (opposite day)
- Activity Period Rehearsals
  - Band
  - Orchestra
  - Chorus
  - General Music
Special Activities

- Team Days
- Assemblies
- Mini-Course Day
- Magazine Drive
- Talent Show
- Intramurals
- Socials
- Student Council
- Technology Student Association (TSA)
- Newspaper
- Clubs and Activities *(see schools’ websites)*
6th Grade Student Schedule

- Students go to lockers at 8:00 a.m.
- Report to Homeroom by 8:10 a.m.
- 5 periods of academic classes
  - ELA, math, soc.studies, science
- 1 period of music/physical education (A/B)
- 1 period of unified arts/“specials”
  - F & CS, Art, Keyboarding, and Tech. Ed.
- 30 minute Lunch
  - CMS & MMS - period 4  IMS - period 8
- C.O.R.E or Activity Period
- Dismissal at 2:58 p.m.
# Middle School Bell Schedule

**C.O.R.E. Schedule** (Mondays & Thursdays)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Duration</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:10 – 8:26</td>
<td>Homeroom (16)</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:29 – 9:14</td>
<td>Period 1 (45)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:17 – 10:02</td>
<td>Period 2 (45)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:05 – 10:50</td>
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<td>10:53 – 11:20</td>
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<tr>
<td>(6th Gr. Lunch</td>
<td>10:50-11:20 30</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Period 4/5</td>
<td>10:53-11:38 45)</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:23 – 11:38</td>
<td>Period 5 (15)</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Period 5/6</td>
<td>11:23–12:08 45)</td>
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<td>11:41 – 12:08</td>
<td>Period 6 (27)</td>
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<tr>
<td>(7th Gr. Lunch</td>
<td>11:38-12:08 30</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Period 6/7</td>
<td>11:41-12:26 45)</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:11 – 12:26</td>
<td>Period 7 (15)</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:29 – 12:56</td>
<td>Period 8 (27)</td>
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<tr>
<td>(8th Gr. Lunch</td>
<td>12:26-12:56 30</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Period 7/8</td>
<td>12:11-12:56 45)</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:59 – 1:44</td>
<td>Period 9 (45)</td>
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<td>1:47 – 2:32</td>
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<td>2:32 – 2:58</td>
<td>C.O.R.E. Period (26)</td>
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**Activity Schedule** (Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Fridays)

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<td>8:29 – 9:11</td>
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<td>9:14 – 9:56</td>
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<td>9:59 – 10:41</td>
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<td>(6th Gr. Lunch</td>
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<td>(Period 4/5</td>
<td>10:44-11:26 42)</td>
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<td>11:14 – 11:26</td>
<td>Period 5 (12)</td>
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<td>(Period 5/6</td>
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<td>11:59 – 12:11</td>
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<td>12:44 – 1:26</td>
<td>Period 9 (42)</td>
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<td>Period 10 (42)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:14 – 2:58</td>
<td>Activity Period (44)</td>
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**6th Grade Lunch @ IMS**

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8:00 a.m. Opening Bell for Homeroom
8:10 a.m. Tardy Bell to Homeroom
# 6th Grade Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cycle Days</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Course Name</th>
<th>Course-Section</th>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
<th>Term</th>
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<td>Art 6</td>
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<td>Tech Ed 6</td>
<td>M8360 - 2001</td>
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<td>M2060 - 2002</td>
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<td>216</td>
<td>Thompson, Diane</td>
<td>FY</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **A or B Day**: 1=A, 2=B
- **Cycle Days**: 1, 2
- **Course Name**
- **Course-Section**
- **Room**
- **Teacher**
- **Term**: FY or 9-weeks

**Notice**: ELA Block, 9-weeks, FY = Full Year
Technology-Rich Environment

- 6th Graders assigned individual iPads
- Interactive whiteboards in all rooms
- Laptop Carts at each middle school
- Classroom sets of keyboards for iPads
- Spheros
- Green Screens and Television Production Studio
- Blackboard Learning Management
Tyler Student Information System

North Allegheny School District

User Name:

Password:

Forgot your password?

Login
Tyler Dashboard

- Grades
- Attendance
- Schedule
Parent Portal: Setting Notifications

- Announcements
- Assignments
- Calendar
- Health
- Notification Preferences
- Student Details
- Student Documents

Grades

- Weekly: If student received a score lower than [ ] on an assignment
- Daily: If student's marking period score falls below [ ]
- Not Subscribed: If student received a score higher than [ ] on an assignment
- Not Subscribed: If student is missing an assignment score
# 6th Grade Sample Report Card

## NORTH ALEGHENY SCHOOL DISTRICT
### REPORT CARD
#### 3RD NINE WEEKS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Name</th>
<th>MP1</th>
<th>MP2</th>
<th>MP3</th>
<th>MP4</th>
<th>Final</th>
<th>Comments</th>
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<td>ORCHESTRA 6</td>
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<td>95/A</td>
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<td>100/A</td>
<td>98/A</td>
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</table>

### DAYS ABSENT
- MP1: 0.00
- MP2: 0.00
- MP3: 0.00
- MP4: 0.00

Grade: 06

2016-2017
Blackboard

- Web-based learning management system
- Used in grades 6 through 12
- Includes instructional materials for every unit of instruction, calendars, assignments, and other resources.
- Interactive tool
- Parents have a unique log in to view many of these resources available to students.
Blackboard Access

https://northallegheny.blackboard.com

![Login page screenshot]
Blackboard Class List

My Announcements

No Institution Announcements have been posted in the last 7 days.

16-17 CMS Orchestra
  > Chamber Orchestra Rehearsals

more announcements...→

My Classes

Classes in which Tim Berners-Lee is enrolled:

000H-AB - Homeroom (FY)
001-AB - Soc Studies 6 (FY)
003-AB - Adv Math - M4 (FY)
005/006-A - Orchestra 6 (FY)
Announcements:
  > Chamber Orchestra Rehearsals
007/008-AB - English 6 (FY)
002-AB - General Science 6 (FY)
005/006-B - Phys Ed 6 (FY)
010-AB - Reading 6 (FY)
CMS Library 6
Middle School Technology Resources
NA's Five Ways to Blend Your Class with Blackboard
3 main items on each class’s Bb page:

**Agenda** - Weekly Agenda for the class

**Class Content** = Where you find all handouts, PPTs, videos, all class resources, etc.

**My Planner:** Calendar bringing all classes together to see HW in one place.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUN</th>
<th>MON</th>
<th>TUE</th>
<th>WED</th>
<th>THU</th>
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<td><strong>Social Studies Assignment</strong></td>
<td><strong>Social Studies Assignment</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Spring Break</strong></td>
<td><strong>Science homework: Compl</strong></td>
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<td><strong>English Homework-J. Head</strong></td>
<td><strong>Reading Assignment</strong></td>
<td><strong>Reading Assignment</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Science homework: NONE</strong></td>
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Blackboard Help

Blackboard Learn for Parents

We are excited to release the parent view feature of Blackboard Learn to parents of students in grades 6 through 12. Blackboard is a web-based learning management system that your child(ren) have been using to access class content, calendars, assignments, and other resources. As a parent/guardian you will be able to view many of these resources available to your child(ren).

Our teachers have been making use of Blackboard as both a classroom instructional tool and as a means to share class information. Teachers have been utilizing many features of Blackboard and posting class content, announcements, and homework assignments. As a parent/guardian, you will be able have view-only access to these same resources. Blackboard also provides numerous opportunities for students to collaborate through discussion boards, wikis, and blogs. These collaborative features are not accessible to parents/guardians to protect student privacy of academic work. The gradebook feature of Blackboard is not accessible to parents/guardians. Please use the Parent Tyler Portal as you have in the past.

What is Blackboard Learn?

Blackboard Learn is a web-based teaching and learning environment which enables teachers to build
Blackboard Help

Help.blackboard.com is a one-stop website for students (and parents) to learn how to use Blackboard. Click the image to the left to access the site.

Getting Started with Blackboard and Using Tools: Find how-to resources for the Blackboard basics and how to participate in your Blackboard classes. Click the image to the left to access the site.
iPad Devices - Educational Tools

Developing a Routine

- Charge it at home at night
- Bring it every day
- Treat it like a textbook
- The student sticker must be visible
- Follow teacher direction on when to use it: “Apples Up”
- Use it thoughtfully in consideration of others
Personal Electronic Devices

- Personal electronic devices not to be used in any area of the school during the school day.
- Turned off and stored in the student’s locker.
- Earbuds, headphones only when instructed by a teacher (not in hallways, gym, cafeteria, etc.)
- Not to be used for:
  - taking, storing, disseminating, transferring, viewing, showing or sharing inappropriate pictures, videos, or other content
  - the purpose of cheating, bullying, intimidating, or harassing
Parent Involvement

- Get Clearances Early!
- Parent Coffee
- Open House
- Field Trips
- Chaperones for Concerts
- Special Events
- Ticket Sales
- Library Help
Volunteer Clearance Policy

Please visit the North Allegheny Website for more information

Volunteer Clearance Policy & Protocols

The PA House passed Act 153 of 2014 into law on October 22, 2014. This new PA law takes effect for the 2015-2016 school year and applies to employees and unpaid volunteers who are responsible for the welfare of a child or have direct contact with children. While many community-based programs and religiously-affiliated organizations have long required background checks for volunteers, this law provides a specific directive on the timing and type of background checks now required.

The North Allegheny School Board passed the Volunteer Clearance Policy in April 2015. The policy identifies three types of school volunteers, listed below.

Independent Volunteers – Any volunteer who 1) works under the general direction and supervision of an adult employed by the District and 2) provides direct services to students or may, from time to time, have or may be reasonably expected to have unsupervised contact with students. Examples of Independent Volunteers include, but are not limited to: volunteer tutors, classroom center volunteers, and chaperones for field trips.

Assistive Volunteers – Any volunteer who 1) works directly under the supervision and direction of an adult employed by the District and 2) does not provide direct services to students or have unsupervised contact with students. Examples of Assistive Volunteers include, but are not limited to: homeroom parents, individuals who assist with school activities and holiday parties.

Classroom Presentation Volunteers – Any individual who volunteers to present during a classroom lesson or school activity and is under the direct supervision of a classroom teacher or administrator during the entirety of the presentation. These volunteer opportunities are typically one-time events. Examples of Classroom Presentation Volunteers include, but are not limited to: Guest Speakers, Mystery Readers, TAG volunteers and College Admission Career Day volunteers. Elementary Field Day volunteers may fall into this category provided they are under the guidance of and directly observed by a classroom teacher or administrator throughout the event.

Individuals at North Allegheny will not be permitted to serve as an independent or assistive volunteer unless they have submitted the appropriate clearances. Independent and assistive volunteers will be required to have two current and valid PA clearances and one FBI clearance on file with the School District in order to volunteer after July 1, 2015.
Middle Level Parent Coffee

This parent organization is open to all middle level parents. The purpose is to share information and work together to create excellent middle level school experiences.

Carson Parent Coffee
Ingomar Parent Coffee
Marshall Parent Coffee

Watch for Dates and Times for each middle school on the NASD Activities Calendar and in our weekly newsletter.
Positive Decision-Making

- Educate Students on RESPECT
  - Responsibility
  - Education
  - Self
  - Parent
  - Each Other
  - Citizenship
  - Teachers
- Bully Prevention/Harassment
- Code of Conduct/Consequences
- Communicate High Expectations
- Healthy Lifestyle
Student Handbook & NASD Code of Conduct

FOCUS 2020: Information on the 1:1 iPad Initiative for 6th Grade

Click here for info on the 1:1 iPad initiative

QUICK LINKS
- Code of Conduct
- Student Handbook 2015-2016

HEADLINES AND FEATURES
- Code of Conduct
- Student Handbook

TSA State Conference  Results
IMS Team Wins Fluid Power Challenge
School Counseling Services

Academic Development

Personal Social Development

Career Development
Student Assistance Team

Trained teachers work with individual students and their parents when issues arise that may put students at risk or interfere with their success at school.

Students are referred if concerns arise about changes in behavior or attitude, the appearance of at risk behaviors, or other difficulties that seem likely to interfere with the student's success at school.

Parent approval is necessary for participation.
Successful Academic Habits

Organization of Materials
- Academic locker

Keeping Track of Upcoming Academic Tasks
- Monitoring use of assignment book, Blackboard

Homework
- Schedule to complete at the same time, same place each night
- Check each night, even if “I finished it at school”
Monitor Electronics Usage

- Recommend charging in family area instead of the bedroom
- School iPads should be used for student learning
What can I do to help my child succeed in middle school?

- Develop a consistent routine for home on school nights
  - HW time, fun/play time, getting prepared for tomorrow, charging iPad, etc.
- Develop a consistent routine for each morning
- Look at Blackboard classes to know what is coming up
- Become familiar with each teacher’s Bb page for information, lesson materials, and resources
- Read the morning announcements so you know what is going on at school and can discuss with your child
- Have a set place for HW at home with calendar for your child
- Clean out backpack and binders 1 time/week
MIDDLE SCHOOL...

A time for growth!

- Cognitive
- Social
- Emotional
- Physical
Welcome to Middle School

Look for emails and communications beginning in early August leading up to the first day of middle school!