



Orientation for Parents of
Rising 6th Graders
River Bend Middle School

Agenda

- Introduction to River Bend Middle School
 - § Ben Lacy, Principal
- Getting off to a Good Start
 - Sheila Steen, Dean
- School Counselor
 - § Sherri Robinson
- The Spectrum Program
 - § Guendolen Wajsgras, Spectrum Teacher (Sub)

Mr. Ben Lacy
River Bend Middle School
Principal



Assistant Principals



Lashante Knight



David Frenck

PTA President



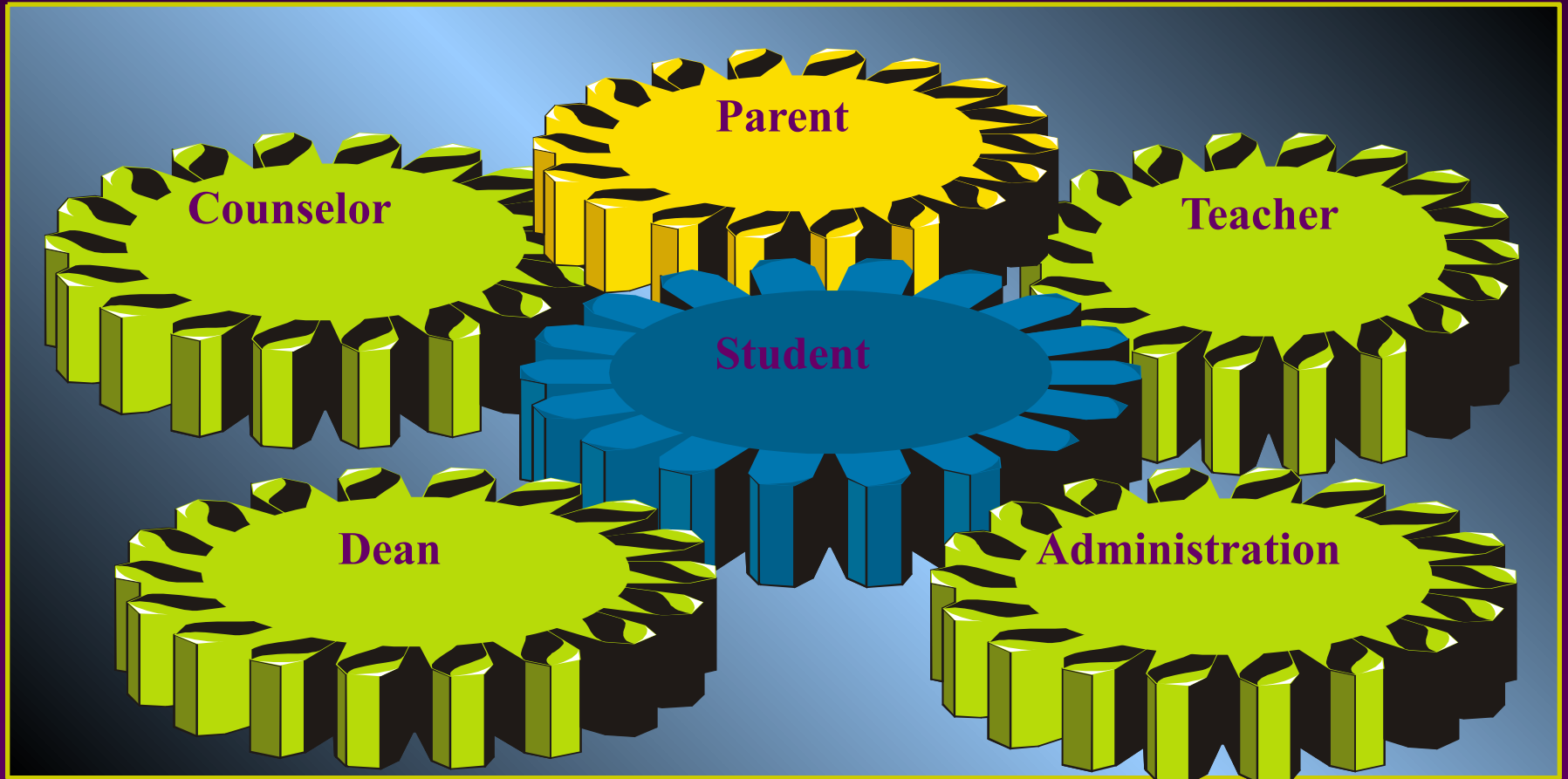
Mary Webb

Parent Liaison

- Kim Curl



Working Together for Success



River Bend Middle School

A Professional Learning Community (PLC)

Teachers are a part of a Professional Learning Community.

A PLC shifts the focus from “teaching” to “learning.”

A PLC facilitates teacher collaboration in an attempt to maximize students’ opportunity to learn.

River Bend Middle School Interdisciplinary Teaming

Teachers are also part of an interdisciplinary team that consists of the four core content teachers of math, science, English and social studies. Students are clustered into 3-teams of approximately 120. This addresses the “affective” needs of the child by focusing on transition and relationships. It also enables teachers to implement our RTI program to address the needs of students who demonstrate achievement deficits.

Sixth Grade Courses

All of the following are required

Language Arts - English and Reading, includes
Spanish at Middle School (SAMS)

Math

Science

U.S. History

Physical Education/Health

Music/Resource

Keyboarding/Art

➤ Electives

The only elective choices are:

Band

Music Lab (guitar)

Chorus


Strings

No course changes after June 13

Resource

- Students have a 45 minute resource block every other day.
- Resource provides an opportunity for students to complete assignments and receive intervention help through RTI when they are having academic difficulties.
- Additional Resource Options
 - RTI/Peer Tutoring
 - Reading Workshop
 - ***Enrollment in these programs is based on teacher recommendation and standardized test scores.*

Block Schedule

A	B	A	B	A
<p>8:30-10:03 Chorus (resource)</p> <p>10:08-11:37 Science</p>	<p>8:30-10:03 Health/PE</p> <p>10:08-11:37 History</p>	<p>8:30-10:03 Chorus (resource)</p> <p>10:08-11:37 Science</p>	<p>8:30-10:03 Health/PE</p> <p>10:08-11:37 History</p>	<p>8:30-10:03 Chorus (resource)</p> <p>10:08-11:37 Science</p>
<p>Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday </p>				
<p>11:42-1:42 English (lunch)</p> <p>1:47-3:18 Art/Keyboarding</p>	<p>11:42-1:42 English (lunch)</p> <p>1:47-3:18 Math</p>	<p>11:42-1:42 English (lunch)</p> <p>1:47-3:18 Art/Keyboarding</p>	<p>11:42-1:42 English (lunch)</p> <p>1:47-3:18 Math</p>	<p>11:42-1:42 English (lunch)</p> <p>1:47-3:18 Art/Keyboarding</p>

The Honors Program

Honors classes are offered for the following subjects in middle school:

English

History

Science

*Note - Students follow a progression for their math classes.

Loudoun County Math Progression

Math 6

Math 6/7 (Accelerated)

Math 7

Algebra I

Geometry

Algebra II or Algebra II w/ Trig.

Math Electives Grades 10-12

(Computer Math, Pre-Calculus, AP Calculus)

Grade Six Math Options

Math 6

Math 6/7 Accelerated (Honors)

*Note - fewer than 10% of students at this grade level have been ready for the fast paced Math 6/7 Accelerated class in past years.

River Bend Middle School is on the cutting edge regarding:

- Extra-curricular Activities
- Clubs
- Safe School Ambassadors
- Spring Musical
- PBIS

Mrs. Sheila Steen

6th Grade Dean

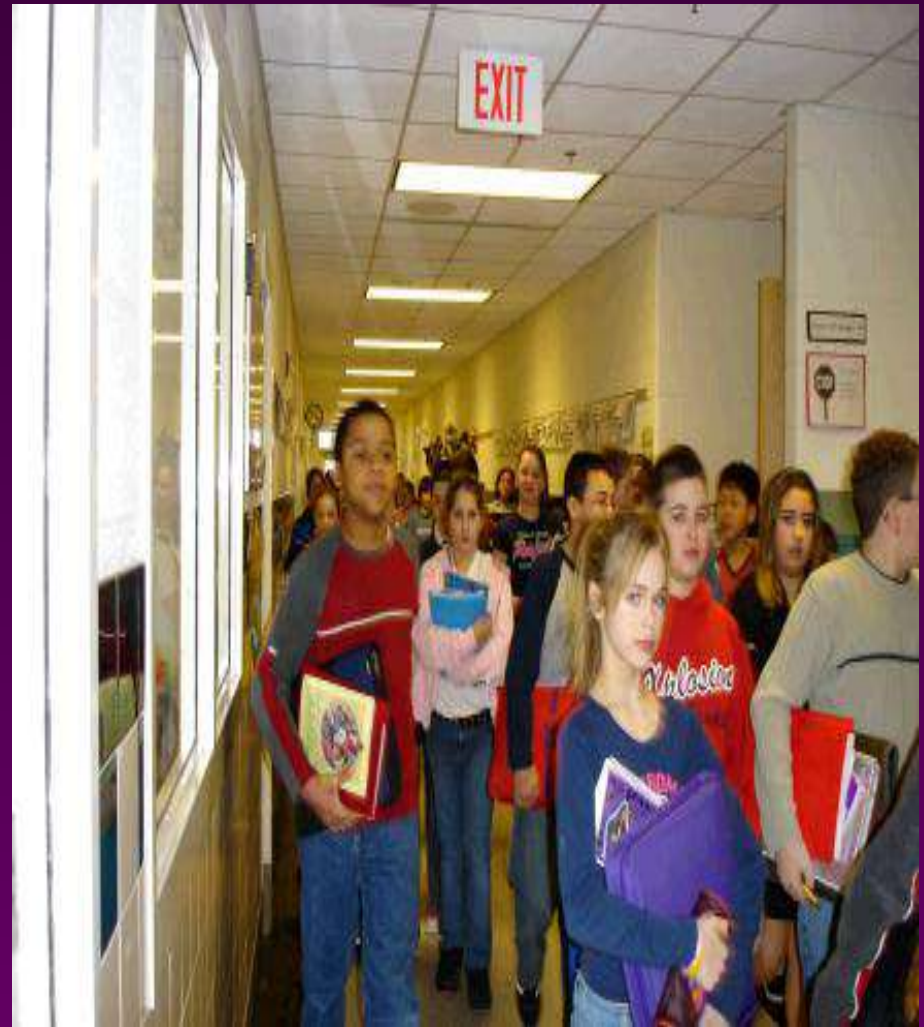


The Dean is a sub-school administrator whose main responsibility is to maintain an educationally conducive environment within the house area. Specific responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Student Discipline
- Child Study
- Cafeteria and Locker Supervision
- Textbook Distribution
- Monitoring Instruction

6th Grade: Time of Transition

- Multiple Teachers
- Several Classrooms
- New Peer Relationships
- Lockers
- More Freedom
- More Responsibility !!!



Support Systems for the 6th Grade

- Dean
- House Secretary
- Counselor
- Teachers (Interdisciplinary Team)

Ms. Sherri Robinson

6th Grade Counselor



Counselor's Role

- Assist with Academic Achievement
- Facilitate Social and Emotional Growth
- Serve as Liaison between Parents, Teachers, and Students
- Problem Solving and Crisis Intervention

Counseling Services

- Individual Counseling
- Group Counseling
- Classroom Guidance

Individual Counseling

- Problems with Peers
- Academic Concerns
- Home Concerns
- Self Esteem Issues
- Stress Management
- Crisis Situations

Group Counseling

- Shared issues or problems
- Counselor facilitates the process
- Students share experiences and help each other
- Goal is to bring about positive change for each participant
- Requires parent permission to participate

Classroom Guidance

- Bullying
- Scheduling
- Career information

A School Counselor's main goal is to help students to become more successful in their school environment.



Selecting Courses...

- Middle School “Program of Studies” is available online at the main LCPS web site
- RBMS mails Course Selection Confirmation Forms in June

Next Steps...

- Attending tonight's Parent Orientation
- 5th Grade info session & tours to River Bend Middle School:
 - April 4 – Sterling
 - June 3 – Horizon
 - June 4 – Algonkian
 - June 5 – Potowmack
 - June 11- Countryside

Guendolen Wajsgras



Spectrum Teacher (Sub)
(Gifted & Talented)
Grades 6-8

Spectrum is the Loudoun County middle school program for intellectually gifted students.

It is an enrichment program that is offered to qualified students in addition to their regular classes.

Once a student is deemed eligible for the LCPS Gifted Program, they are always qualified to attend LCPS Gifted Programs- Futura, Spectrum & Signet.

When do 6th Grade Spectrum students attend their Spectrum classes?

- Every other day
- 1/2 of the block period which is 45 minutes
- For the entire year
- Instead of their resource period

What qualifies a student for Spectrum?

- Students who are attending Futura
- Students who have attended Futura
- Students who have been qualified to attend Futura or Spectrum

What are some of the benefits of Spectrum?

- Spectrum allows students to respond to their surroundings in their own unique ways.
- Spectrum affords students the opportunity to explore ideas and topics in depth.
- Spectrum encourages students to excel in their areas of interest and to practice in areas of need.
- Spectrum promotes team building skills.

What kinds of things are taught in Spectrum?

- Participating in the Continental Math League contest
- Using deductive reasoning to solve mysteries
- Learning to build a consensus using Synergistic survivals
- Completing communications projects like learning American Sign Language and about the deaf culture
- Utilizing the computer for research to create or enhance projects



New Student Open House

- Thursday, August 28, 2014
4:00–6:00 p.m.
- Find classes and practice opening lockers

Back to School Night:

(TBD) 2014 - 7pm

Spectrum Meeting from

6:30-6:55 PM

One half an hour before

Back-to-School Night

Thank you for coming - we look forward to seeing you very soon!!

Feel free to visit the RBMS web-site at.

<http://cmsweb1.loudoun.k12.va.us/rbms/site/default.asp>