Oak Hill Incoming Grade 6 Class of 2022

- Welcome!
- Meet Staff & Faculty



• Provide an overview of the 6th grade experience



Staff Introductions

Let us introduce ourselves!

Thank you for coming this evening!

Current PTO Presidents

Lisa Halm Amy Less Matt Wilson

Parent involvement is welcomed:
 Community-building events/activities
 Fundraising efforts

Oak Hill Administrative Team

John Harutunian, Principal
 Amy Geer, Assistant Principal of Student Services
 Dr. Jamin Bercaw, Assistant Principal
 Ken Yee, Assistant Principal

Parent involvement is welcomed:

- Community-building events/activities
- Fundraising efforts

OH Snapshot in 14-15

Welcoming, student-centered, committed to student achievement & development:

635 students:

- Grade 6—5 Teams 209
- Grade 7—3 Teams 211
- Grade 8–2 Teams 215

Diverse Student Body





- 38% speak a language at home other than English
 - 31 different languages spoken at home

OH Snapshot



Range of learning needs exist: All students included, strive to support every child's needs

Core Values: Excellence, Innovation, Respect, & Responsibility

School Structure: principal, 2 assistant principals, 1 assistant principal for student services, team teachers, multi-team teachers, special education, guidance

Goals for 15-16:



Building a Supportive School Climate

Develop greater consistency for expected behavior and consequences.

Engage students in conversations and experiences to address concepts such as intent v. impact, micro aggressions, and the impact of words toward others, in groups and out groups

Enhance parent communication

Goals for 15-16:



Instructional focus:

1. Refine consistency of instructional practices across teams including "make student thinking visible", questioning techniques, and student talk to increase student engagement.

 Enhance system for identifying and addressing needs of students who are struggling; develop effective supports

1. General education supports:

Literacy Lab

Student Study Team: teachers assisting teachers

Social-Emotional Focus:



 Enhance Community block to continue to foster 'student connectedness' w/at least 1 adult; reinforce Anti-bullying practices

2. Continue to integrate effective classroom practices that help reduce student anxiety.

3. Enhance opportunities for teaching students about strategies for stress management, relaxation and mindfulness.

1. Continue to focus on ensuring the safety and security for all students in more unstructured environments like the cafeteria, hallways and before/after school times.



Oak Hill Middle School

GETTING TO SCHOOL More Independence, More Choices

- Walk or Bike alone or with friend
- Yellow Bus
- MBTA Bus #52



- Carpool
- Family rides

School Hours Start time: be in by 7:45 for 8:00 Tuesday is still early release: 1:45 p.m. Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri: 2:30 p.m. release Some after-school activities/clubs, but never on Tuesday 6th graders are not eligible for many of the teams (MIAA regulations). Exceptions: crosscountry (fall) and track (spring)

Walking/Biking hints

- Start on Day 1
- Crosswalk FULL LIGHT at corner of Parker and Wheeler, safest spot to cross from the West
- Kids CAN ride bikes on sidewalks in Newton
 The lockers are large enough to hold helmets
 Several bike racks available; bring a lock

Bus #52 hints

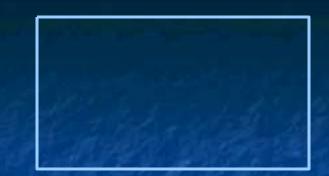
- Start on Day 1
- TEXT and Smart Phone services for updates or "bus finders" MBTA.com (cool!)
- Student Charlie Card available in office
- Fares offered at a reduced rate for students
- Monthly pass from Administration Building (at 100 Walnut Street)

If you do drive, PLEASE

- Consider meeting your child /dropping your child one block away
- Less congestion down the street near baseball fields
- Or, use the BLUE ZONES in front of school for a one-minute pick-up/drop-off process; must stay in car
- No stopping allowed in <u>YELLOW</u> zones school start and end times.

LUNCH

\$3.25/lunch, \$4.25/premium lunch, \$2.00/breakfast Newton Schools pre-paid card or cash Lunch line (can be long, esp. in September) No assigned seating, but no wandering Bringing your own is not "un-cool", because it avoids the lines and lunch is 25 min. Healthy snacks, milk, juice available for purchase Middle School Schedule



> Six day rotating schedule:

Team classes meet daily (sample in packet)
 WL - 4X/cycle
 FAA- 2X (PE, Health, Tech Eng., Music, Drama, Art)

During Extension: music ensembles, special education strategy & support classes, all other students in classrooms for independent reading, teacher support, homework help

World Language in 6th

Spanish, French, Chinese and Latin
Meets 4X/every 6 days
3-year program
Focus on interpersonal communication and deepening understanding of culture
In 9th grade students are ready for Level 2
Extra help is provided during extension.

Middle School Schedule

	1.0					Page
1333	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6
A (8:	00 am-8:53 am)	G (5:90 am-8:53 am)	F (8:09 am-8:53 am)	D (8:00 am-8:53 am)	C (6:00 am-8:53 am)	B (8:00 am-8:53 am)
Histo	rylBoolal Sci 6-3 FYT	Spanish 6-5 FYT	Health & Wellness 6-5 S1	Science 6-6 FYT	Nath 6-6 FYT	English 6-5 FYT
Sinp	isan, E 251	Nofica, J 105Mod	Gibson, C 10 Art 5-8 52 Trunk, S 146	Finagold, S. 240	Finngold, S. 249	Simpson, E. 251
	56 am-9:45 am)	A (8:55 am-9:45 am)	G (8:58 am-9:43 am)	F (5:55 am-9:45 am)	D (8:55 am-9:45 am)	C (8:56 am-9:45 am)
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10.00	inh 6-5 FYT Issen, E 251	History/Sociel Sci 6-3 FYT Simpson, E 251	Physical Education 6-8 FYT Drinan, K. 119	Drama 5-1 31 Price, R 108 Tach/Engineering 5-6 52	Science 6-6 FYT Finogold, S 240	Math 64 PTT Finegold, S 249
				French, J 109		
C (9:	48 am-10:37 am)	B (9:48 am-10:37 am)	A (9:48 am-10:37 am)	G (9:48 am-10:37 am)	F (9:48 am-10:37 am)	D (9:46 am-10:37 am)
Math	G-6 FYT	English 6-5 FYT	History/Secial Sci 6-3 FYT	Spanish 6-5 FYT	Literacy Lab 6-2 FYT	Science 6-6 FYT
Fines	gold. S 249	Simpson, E 251	Simpson, E 251	Modica, J 105Mod	Herman Davis, 8 214	Finegold, 5 249
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Modi	ica, J 105Mod	Horman Davis, B 214	Finegold, 5 249	Finegold, 5 249	Simpson, E 251	Simpson, E. 251

Middle Schoolers

> 'Who are middle schoolers?'

What parents can do to ease the transition to middle school?



Transitioning to Middle School For students:



4-8 weeks for a student to really transition

- Increased independence is fostered, supported & expected
 - Time management: assignment notebooks, class transitions/switching; 3 min. passing, deadlines for projects/assignments, first class starts promptly at 8:00 a.m.; must be on time - aim for 7:30-7:45

Organizational management: backpacks, lockers, website for homework assignments

Transitioning to Middle School



For Parents/Guardians:

Parent involvement might feel a little different in middle school.

Students benefit from knowing you are involved, attend school functions, ask about learning

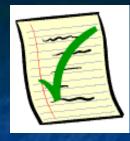
Email is the best way to communicate with teachers.

Transitioning to Middle School

Know that team teachers:

- Have 45+/- students & double the amount of parents,
- They don't see students at the end of the day and thus it is challenging to convey messages.
- Use teacher websites to post homework. This should be in addition to a student's assignment notebook.

General Information



For Parents/Guardians:

 Forgotten homework, supplies, instruments, lunches: drop off on table in front of office, tape child's name to object. Office will call students at the beginning of Extension.

 Guidance serves as a contact & liaison for most issues; when in doubt who to contact, call the guidance counselor.

General Information

Progress Reporting:



- Conferences 1x/year for 15 min. with both teachers
- Report cards 3x/yr online only.; mid-term progress reports 1st term & as needed, Grades: A-F; points, J's on homework or some assignments.

Social Emotional Learning

Variety of programs that are conducted across all three grades.

Program work takes place in many venues across the school including Health and Wellness, Guidance, Community block (30 minute weekly advisory).

Please refer to the blue handout that helps summarize this work.

English Language Learner Program

Currently 33 ELL Students at different proficiency levels. 2 full-time Ell teachers, one teaching assistant and a .2 ELL Liaison

(Ms. Izrina, Ms. Myers, Ms. Starobinets & Ms. Brooks)
Beginner's Program:
Sheltered Instruction in English, Social Studies, Science
ELLS join grade-level peers for Math (with in-class support), FAAs

Intermediate/Advanced Students Program:
Continued enrollment in ELL English & Social Studies
Move into mainstream Science
Some ELLs transition to mainstream English and/or Social Studies

METCO Program

Currently 26 students in our OH's program.

Newton's METCO program is the largest in the state, with over four hundred students.

METCO Counselor, Ms. Arzola, is scheduled at Oak Hill half time (3 out of 6 days).

Student Services



Amy Geer, Assistant Principal of Student Services

<u>Guidance Team in 15-16</u> Ariel Bernstein, Gr. 6 Katy Oliver, Gr. 7 Jennifer Ames, Gr. 8 Amanda Brooks, Gr. 6-8 Alyssa Arzola, METCO Counselor

<u>School Psychologist</u> Dr. Jannon McKenna

Student Services



OH is an inclusive school;
We strive to meet needs of every student.
We aim to address a range of needs by putting in appropriate supports as needed.

<u>All Students</u>: Guidance, General Education <u>Some Students:</u> Special Education & 504's

Student Services



Some Students: Special Education & 504's

Special Education - OH's services/programs

Students are grouped to meet their IEP needs.
 All teams are inclusive with a range of learning abilities.
 Teams are balanced as much as possible .

Guidance Team

Ms. Ariel Bernstein will be the same guidance counselor for gr. 6-8.

- Meets with students individually, in groups & mediates between students
- Assists with social, emotional, academic & scheduling issues
- Supports parents and teachers
- Meets regularly w/teacher teams to share & support students
- Serves as liaison between home and school
- Facilitates IEP and 504 meetings
- Provides referrals to community resources (e.g. tutoring, outside agencies, therapists, etc.) AND consultation with outside resources.
- Assists with transitions (incoming 5th, to 9th grade/South)

Placement Process



Gather information from feeder schools: 5th grade teachers, special education teams, parents

Our primary goal is to create balanced heterogeneous classes

Process: Counselors, asst. principals, & special education teachers group students by program, balance three feeder schools, students' strengths and needs. More random than elementary school.

Placement Process

Similarities? Differences?

* Similarities:

Teams:

- curricular content is same
- geared towards building classroom communities
- provide organizational & time management strategies
- all teams use technology tool for teaching & learning
- overall, students experience success and enjoy their learning
- all teacher teams work as partners

Differences:

teaching is a craft thus teachers bring their personalities, skills, interests to their teaching and interactions w/students,
 all integrate tech tools; one team has Smart Boards,
 one team has a combined space; teachers co-teach



Music and Arts Programs

Band Program: Led by Mr. Miller

Choir Program: Led by Mr. Cutler (Click here!)

Drama Program: Led by Rebecca Price (Click here!)

During School Clubs & After School EEE & Athletics

During school activities include: <u>Click here!</u>

After school EEE (Excellence, Enrichment, Explore)
 (Click here!)

Athletics: (Click here!)



'A Day in the Life of a Sixth Grader at Oak Hill'