

WELCOME ABOARD!



Rising 6th grade Swanson Admirals

YOU'RE AN ADMIRAL NOW!





Principal

Renee Harber

Director of Counseling

Rana Luthra

Assistant Principals

Laura Porter

Eric Underhill

Tony Hall

We Are Scholarship!



We Are Service!



We Are Spirit!



We Are Swanson Admirals!



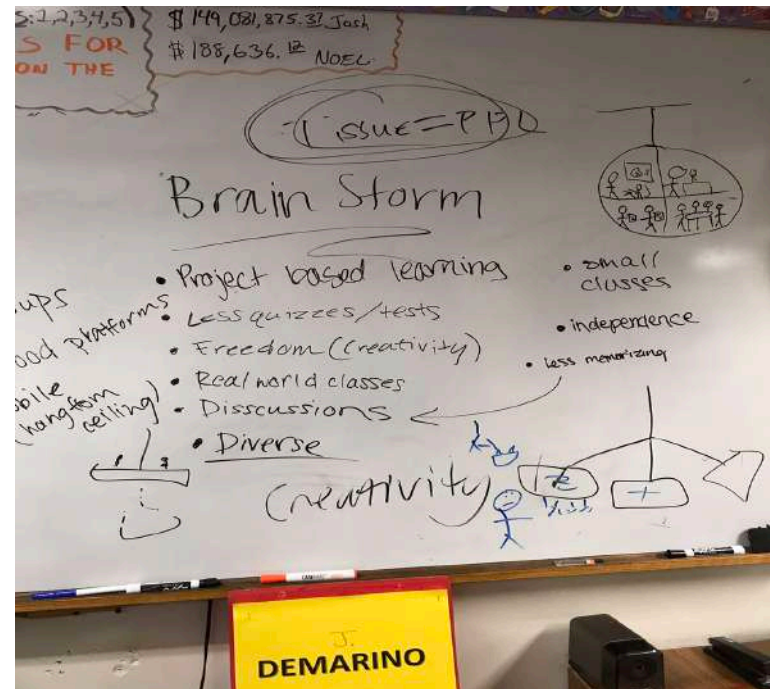
Quick Facts

- Current Enrollment- 1,252 students
- 2019-20 Projected Enrollment- 1,075 students
- Grade level Team Communities



Our Instructional Model

- 2019-2020 Swanson will shift to delivering instruction through a “block” model.
- School-wide professional learning this year has devoted to studying how to best meet needs of all students



Our Instructional Model: Staff key takeaways

- Less rush/less transition time, more days to complete homework, less stress for teachers and students, common planning time for teachers
- More time for processing
- Opportunities for deeper relationship with students



Our Instruction Model: Student feedback

- I think block scheduling might be something that the school should consider. When taking tests, I usually have to finish during lunch or on my own time. We rarely finish our class work which then becomes homework and I never have time to ask questions because I'm rushing to my next class. Block scheduling would give kids more time to learn one specific subject and have more studying and homework time before they go back to that class. ~Helen B.
- I think that we could do more active stuff and get up and move around the classroom then just doing worksheets and having teachers explain everything up at the front of the classroom ~Brendan S.
- The hands on thing I think is a great idea because I think that kids only think about passing a test and don't really remember the subject in their head ~Nicholas G.



STAR: Swanson Teacher Advisory & Reading

- Meets every day
- Opportunities for...
 - New student orientation
 - Development of interpersonal skills & team building
 - Improving organizational and study habits
 - Character Education through group activities
 - Service projects (Team and School-wide)
- School announcements
- Distribution of progress reports, report cards, important information, etc.
- DEAR: Drop Everything and Read



Sixth Grade Core Subjects

- Mathematics- Math 6 or Pre-Algebra for 6th Graders
- Social Studies- US History, Civics, and Economics to 1865
- Science - Physical and Earth Sciences
- Language Arts- Reading & Writing
- Reading- Reading Comprehension and Note Taking Strategies
 - Full year reading
 - OR
 - Semester Reading/Semester World Language (students must be on grade-level in reading)
- Health & PE

Introduction to Latin, Spanish, French, and Spanish for Fluent Speakers

What it is...

A class for students who are on
grade level in reading

1 semester reading/1 semester
language (not alternating
days)

The goal is language exposure
and enjoyment for students

Will qualify students for an
Intensified Level One
language course in 7th grade

What it is NOT...

It is not a prerequisite for
a level one language
class

It is not for high school
credit

It is not a requirement for
6th grade students

Math Specialist:
Laura Partridge
Laura.Partridge@apsva.us

Reading Specialist:
Cindy Chiu
Cynthia.Chiu@apsva.us

6th Grade Electives

Admiral's Wheel/Exploratory

- Art, Drama, Technology Education, Computer & Internet, Family & Consumer Science, Mindfulness
- *Specific classes offered will be dependent on staffing***

Instrumental Music

- Beginning Orchestra
- Beginning Band
- Beginning Chorus

Instructional Studies *

Course Request Form (CRF)

Completed through your elementary school

For use by school staff only:

Return to counselor by: _____

Student IEP: _____

Arlington Public Schools

Swanson Middle School

2019-2020

Grade 6 Course Request Form (CRF)

Student Name: _____

Student Number: _____ Elementary School: _____

This Course Request Form (CRF) allows a student and his/her family to make course selections for the following year. All Grade 6 students are required to take the following core courses: English, reading, math, science, social studies, and health and physical education. Additional core courses may also be required based upon specific program in which the student is enrolled. Descriptions of all courses can be found in the **Middle School Program of Studies**.

Select only **ONE** overall program by checking the appropriate box

Grade 6 Program:

- Grade 6 English (11109/10045)
- Grade 6 US History, Civics, and Economics to 1865 (12354/10047)
- Grade 6 Science (14105/10048)
- Math 6 (13110) OR Pre-Algebra for 6th Graders (13128)
(Math placement recommendations will be made prior to the end of the school year. A letter noting the recommended course will be sent home to families before final assignment is made.)
- Grade 6 Health and Physical Education (17110/17650)

Reading for all Grade 6 students:

Choose **one** of the following options for Grade 6 Reading:

- Reading (full year) (11106/10006)

OR

Reading (semester) (11108) paired with a semester of one of the following world languages (must demonstrate proficiency in grade level reading):

- Introduction to French (15101)
- Introduction to Latin (15301)
- Introduction to Spanish (15501)
- *Transitional Spanish (15010)
- **Spanish for Fluent Speakers (15503)

*For students who have studied in an APS FLES program (3+ years)

**For students who demonstrate oral fluency in Spanish and by teacher recommendation

CRF

HILT: English Language Learner Students

Placed by elementary school teacher

High Intensity Language Training Program:

Students enrolled in the High Intensity Language Training Program (HILT) are grouped by English language proficiency into HILT A, HILT B, HILTEX A and HILTEX B. Recommendations for math courses are made by staff. Parents will be notified of the recommendations before a final assignment is made.

HILT A (Level 1)

- HILT A English (10786)
- HILT A Reading (10787)
- HILT A Science (10780)
- HILT US History, Civics, and Economics to 1865 (10800)
- Math
Instructional Level: _____
- Health and Physical Education
(17110/17120/17200)

HILT B (Level 2)

- HILT B English (10790)
- HILT B Reading (10791)
- HILT B Science (10781)
- HILT US History, Civics, and Economics to 1865 (10800) or
HILT US History, Civics, and Economics 1865 to Present (10801)
- Math
Instructional Level: _____
- Health and Physical Education
(17110/17120/17200)

HILTEX A (Level 3)

- HILTEX A English (10796)
- HILTEX A Reading (10794)
- HILTEX US History, Civics and Economics to 1865 (12354)
- Science (14105) (general education)
- Math
Instructional Level: _____
- Health and Physical Education
(17110/17120/17200)

HILTEX B (Level 4)

- HILTEX B English (10799)
- HILTEX B Reading (10797)
- HILTEX US History, Civics, and Economics to 1865 (12354)
- Science (14105) (general education)
- Math
Instructional Level: _____
- Health and Physical Education
(17110/17120/17200)

OVER for elective offerings



CRF

Elective Options – Choose

While all Grade 6 students are required to take a core curriculum, students also may select electives. In the chart below, please mark your child's selections by checking the boxes, paying close attention to the instructions listed at the top. Elective course offerings depend on sufficient student enrollment. Therefore, please indicate choices to help counselors meet the needs and interests of all students.

Electives: One (1) full year elective

Exploration Rotation/Wheel

Full Year (19000)

Beginning Band (Full Year) (19232)

Instrument: _____
Years Played: _____

Beginning Orchestra (Full Year) (19237)

Instrument: _____
Years Played: _____

Beginning Chorus (Full Year) (19261)

Staff Recommendation Only:

Instructional Studies (10028)

Math Strategies (13116)

Parent/Guardian Printed Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Parent Email Address: _____

Counseling Services

- Counselors loop with students
- Individual and Group Counseling
- Classroom Lessons:
 - Academic Planning and Course Selection
 - Bullying Prevention, Depression/Mental Health Lesson
 - Career Planning - Naviance
- Character Education activities
- Orientation and Transition Activities
- Admirable Admirals recognition
- Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Consultation and Referral



Counselors

Michelle Wilkes

michelle.wilkes@apsva.us

Chrissy Reardon

christine.reardon@apsva.us

6th Grade Transition Activities

- Rising 6th Grade Information Night
- 5th graders visit Swanson in April
- Summer Orientation days
 - Optional – specific dates/times will be posted on Swanson website in June
- Open House at the end of August

Supporting and Engaging Parents

- Back to School Night
- Conferences in the fall and spring
- Active PTA and music boosters organizations
- Opportunities to volunteer in classrooms & chaperone field trips
- PTA Anchor newsletter & emailed announcements

After School Activities

- After School Period 1 (ASP1): 2:30PM-3:30PM
- ASP2: - 3:30PM-4:15PM
- Most clubs meet during ASP1. Once the meeting has ended at 3:30, walkers should walk home, while bus riders can remain in Open Gym (ASP2) until the late buses arrive at 4:15.

After School Activities-Clubs

Club offerings change yearly based on student interest and staff availability
Have a great idea for a club? Ask us and we'll get it started!

- BoysII Men
- Coding Club
- Doctor Who Club
- Fantasy Book Club
- GSA
- Harry Potter Club
- Intramurals
- Knitting Club
- Latin Speakers Club
- Latina Youth Leading at Swanson (LYLAS)
- Literary Magazine (Wavelength)
- Magic the Gathering
- Math Counts
- Pep Band
- Science Club
- Sisterhood
- TAB
- Technology Student Association
- Yoga

“Act 2” After School Classes

Types of classes offered:

- Art
- Theater
- Teen Living
- Beginning Band
- Jazz Band (by audition)
- CORE plus (additional academic support)

* Classes offered by interest and teacher availability

After School Activities-Sports

- Girls Soccer* - September-October
- Tennis* - September-October
- Dive – September-November
- Ultimate Frisbee – Sept - October
- Boys Soccer* - October-December
- Girls Basketball* - October-December
- Boys Basketball* - January-March
- Cheerleading* - October-March
- Wrestling – January - March
- Swim – February - April
- Track – March – May

*Students must tryout for teams and cuts will be made.

An up-to-date (within a calendar year) physical is required to participate!

Check-In

- Tameka Martin, Supervisor (703-228-5497)
- Enroll through APS Extended Day Office
- 2:30 pm – 6:00 pm, Monday-Friday in the cafeteria
- Check-in students can participate in Swanson's after school activities while in Check-In
- Activities are self-directed
- Organized events include field trips, theme days and special activities

Break Out Sessions

Specific topics discussed in detail, plus opportunities for questions.

Session 1

8:00 p.m. to 8:25 p.m.

- 6th Grade Reading/Introductory World Languages – Auditorium
- Math Curriculum for 6th grade – Library
- Special Education–Room 112
- Gifted Services (Rising 6th grade) – Cafeteria

Session 2

8:30 p.m. to 8:55 p.m.

- 6th Grade Reading/Introductory World Languages – Auditorium
- Math Curriculum for 6th grade – Library
- Special Education – Room 112