

# **6th Grade Student Orientation Packet**



# **Table of Contents**

**Clubs, Sports, and Activities**

**Technology Tips**

**Life Hacks for Middle School Students**

**Academic and Career Planning**

**Technology Handbook Highlights**

## Clubs, Sports and Activities

*There are many clubs, sports and activities available to 6th grade students. These activities require different amounts of time and commitment. Many positive connections can be made through participation in these types of activities.*

- Volleyball
- Football
- Cross Country
- Basketball
- Track
- Community Ed Activities/Athletics
- Battle of the Books
- FCCLA
- FFA
- Band
- Choir
- Leadership Council
- Library Club
- Quiz Bowl
- Marauders Club

### ***Tips for how to manage participating in Athletics and Extracurricular Activities:***

- Use your study hall time wisely
- Don't get behind, get your work done at home too
  - Ask for help when needed
  - Plan ahead and stay organized
- Spend less time playing on your phone and get your work done so you don't get behind

## Technology Tips

- Checking Grades and Other Information in Skyward -
  - Log in from PF Home Page>Families>Communication>Skyward-Family

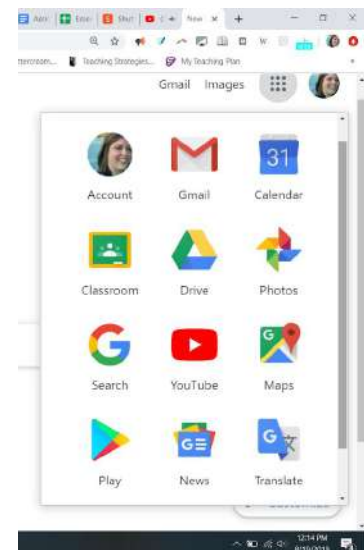


Use your Skyward Parent Access Login - if you do not know this information contact Tiffany in the MS/HS office.



*The menu on the left hand side of the screen indicates the information you can access from your Skyward-Family homepage.*

- Memorize your Google Account information: Username is your School Email and Your Password
  - You will be using your Chromebook frequently throughout your school day and being able to log on quickly will be important
- Log into your School Gmail at least once if not twice a day
  - Teachers will communicate with you through this site
  - Google Classroom will also send you emails about assignments and due dates
- Google Classroom is a platform used by several teachers to give students information needed for assignments.
  - If you miss a day of school and a teacher has a Google Classroom for you, more than likely you will be able to find your assignment there.
  - Remember to use the Turn-in Button. Even if you attach a doc the teacher can't see it until you turn it in.
- Google Calendar
  - You can set your Google Classroom Assignments to sync with your Google Calendar
  - Use this as a visual tool to help you stay organized and on top of assignment due dates
- Remember that all your Google Apps can be easily found in your waffle or 9 patch square once you launch your Chrome Web Browser.
  - Recommend that you drag commonly used apps to the top box (Drive, Gmail, Classroom, Calendar) for easy access



## **Life Hacks for Middle School Students**

- Hallway Lockers
  - Keep your locker organized
    - Use shelves or racks
    - Don't keep extra stuff in your locker
  - No food in your locker
  - Emergency kit of hygiene products is helpful

- LOCK your locker
- Locker Rooms and Hygiene
  - Put your belongings in your locker
  - Keep the locker room cleaned up
  - Bring new clothes each week and take old clothes home
  - Use deodorant after gym class
  - Use perfume/Axe, but not too much
  - LOCK your locker every time you leave the locker room
- Stay Organized
  - Color coded folders to organize materials by class
  - Binders or Trapper Keepers to hold materials
    - Could use one for the morning and one for the afternoon
  - No backpacks in classrooms or common areas
  - Use a planner and/or Google calendar to keep track of assignments
  - Don't lose your work
    - Hold onto paper and electronic assignments until the end of the quarter
    - Use folders to help with organization
- Use work time wisely and turn in your work on time
  - If you are going to be absent, ask for work ahead of time
- Chromebooks and Technology
  - Charge your Chromebook at home each evening
  - Check your email daily or more than once a day
  - Restart your Chromebook when you get an update notification
  - Don't share your passwords
  - Don't let technology distract you
    - Only use cell phones during appointed times
    - Leave your cell phone with the teacher when you go to bathroom
  - Work on your Xello when you have time in Panther Time
- Band and Choir Requirements
  - Have to take a total of 2 years of band and/or choir
    - Take band and/or choir your 6th and 7th grade years
    - Not required to take one your 8th grade year, but you can choose to continue to take one or both
- Exploratory Classes
  - One exploratory class period per school day
  - Each exploratory class rotation lasts 6 weeks
  - Exploratory classes include: Art, Tech. Ed., Agriculture, Business Education, Family and Consumer Education and Careers

- **Sports and Activities**
  - Turn in your paperwork and complete physicals prior to the first day of practice or your first event
  - Keep your Panther Pride grades up
  - Don't be afraid to try new things
- **Before School**
  - Can be in the commons or small gym
  - Must be in the commons if you are eating
  - Can't be in the middle or high school hallways
- **Recommendations**
  - At the end of the class hour, don't stand by the door and wait for the bell to ring
  - Don't pack up before the end of the class hour
  - Don't be afraid to talk to your teachers or to email them
  - Check your grades in Skyward daily
  - It's okay to not always be with your friends and to try new things
- **Detentions**
  - Students can be assigned detentions for earning 3 tardies or for displaying inappropriate behaviors.
- **MS Code Violations in Plain Language**
  - Applies to athletics and activities
  - Panther Pride Grades
    - Earn one or more 1 for Panther Pride Grades - athlete/participant is allowed to practice but are ineligible for competition for 1 week (Sunday through Saturday).
  - Other Violations
    - 1st violation - 15 hours community service and 1 contest sat
    - 2nd violation - 30 hours community service and 2 contests sat
    - 3rd violation - loss of eligibility for one calendar year

## **Academic and Career Planning**

Academic and Career Planning is a state wide requirement providing students with an opportunity to look ahead to post secondary planning. Each student will complete activities through an online portal called Xello and will present a senior portfolio at the conclusion of their senior year.

## **Technology Handbook Highlights**

*The technology handbook provides guidelines for students and parents to understand the expectations for use of district technology tools.*

- *Student use of technology will be monitored. If the technology is used inappropriately there will be consequences.*
- *Students may have lapses in Chromebook use if they damage or misuse the device. Fees may be charged for damages to Chromebooks and chargers.*
- *If students are found to be misusing school provided technology they may be placed in a group with limited access to internet sites/programs.*
- *Chromebooks are expected to be charged during the evening hours so they are ready for use the next day. Students are also expected to bring their Chromebook and charger to school each day.*
- *Students have the option to purchase their school Chromebook at the end of their 8th grade and 12th grade years for a reduced cost.*