

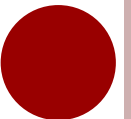
The left side of the slide features a series of vertical stripes in various shades of light red and pink. Overlaid on these stripes are several solid red circles of different sizes, arranged in a cluster that tapers towards the bottom left.

**WELCOME TO EXCELSIOR
MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**Parents of
Class of 2024!!!**

ADMINISTRATION

- **JOHN CHRISTIAN – PRINCIPAL**
- **DUANE ORR- ASST. PRINCIPAL/AD**
- **STEVEN STARKEY- ASST. PRINCIPAL**



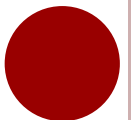
STUDENT SERVICES

- Rachelle Haker – 6th Grade Counselor
- Lindsey Starmer - 7th Grade Counselor
- Margaret Buonadonna - 8th Grade Counselor
- Mike Shipley - Student Assistance Specialist
 - Admin and Counselor loop w/ their grade

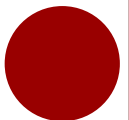


SO JUST WHAT IS “MIDDLE SCHOOL”?

- We are organized into academic teams in order to allow teachers to make natural connections or “bridges” between academic areas within the curriculum.
 - 6A, 6B, 6C
- Teaming allows students to have a “school within a school”, particularly important for this age group and in such a large school.

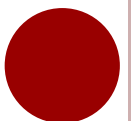


- Teachers are more aware of students' performance across the curriculum, since common sets of teachers deal with common sets of students (TEAM time)
- Middle school teams allow staff to have greater control of time with students.
- Middle school teams provide each TEAM to ability to discuss academics and problem solve.



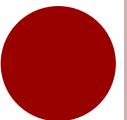
SCHOOL HOURS

- 8:00-2:45
- Supervision starts at 7:30 in the cafeteria.
- There is no daycare provided on site for students.
- Parents must stop in office for pick up
- Please follow the drop off directions-morning by gym doors



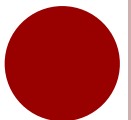
WHAT'S IN STORE FOR 6TH GRADERS?

- Our core curriculum - language arts, reading, science, social studies, math.
- Our exploratory curriculum - 9 week courses in General Music, *“Computers”*, Art, and World Languages
- Our wellness curriculum - Physical Education and Health.



WHAT'S IN STORE FOR 6TH GRADERS?

- Performance music opportunities - band, orchestra, and/or vocal music.
- TAG/LEO-6th grade students are in a TAG science class. The class meets everyday all year.



STANDARDS BASED GRADING

What it is

Students are assessed on their progress towards specific standards

Assessments are focused on standards

Levels of Proficiency (1-4) reported for each standard instead of vague overall grade (A-F)

Why it's good

Gives parents more specific information about their students' progress

- 1: Beginning
- 2: Approaching
- 3: Proficient (met standard)
- 4: Exceeding

Standardizes reporting and assessments

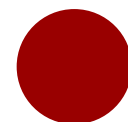
Focuses on learning rather than points

Behavior is assessed separately

Students can easily track their progress on specific standards and set goals.

| Assignment | Penny | Leonard | Sheldon | Amy |
|------------|-------|---------|---------|-----|
| 1.1 | 0 | 100 | 70 | 71 |
| 1.2 | 89 | 76 | 60 | 71 |
| 1.3 | 90 | 90 | 100 | 71 |
| 1.4 | 76 | 89 | 99 | 71 |
| 1.5 | 100 | 0 | 26 | 71 |
| Average | 71 | 71 | 71 | 71 |

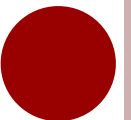
| Standard | Penny | Leonard | Sheldon | Amy |
|--|-------|---------|---------|-----|
| RL 7.1 Write arguments with evidence to support | 1 | 4 | 2 | 2 |
| RL 7.3 Write a narrative with correct technique | 3 | 2.5 | 1 | 2 |
| RL 7.7 Write short research paper to answer question | 3 | 3 | 4 | 2 |
| SL 7.6 Use appropriate english for task | 2 | 3 | 4 | 2 |
| L7.6 Use grade level vocabulary in writing | 4 | 1 | 1 | 2 |



Standard

Proficiency
Scale

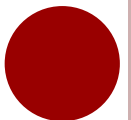
Rubric



STANDARDS BASED GRADING

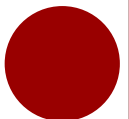
○ Parent University for more information

- May 2nd 6:30 at the LRC (Board Room)



ORIENTATIONS THIS SPRING...

- 30 minute visits from the counselor to feeder elementaries
- May - 5th graders visit Excelsior
- Attend MYFI – In August, orientation by team, meet your teachers, led by 8th grade students – August ????
 - Parent Information Session during student orientation
 - Replaces the Parent Night/Open House
- Attend registration – August ???
 - Tour the building/drop off supplies/get picture taken



ACADEMIC INTERVENTIONS....

iExcel:

- iExcel- Band, Orchestra, Vocal classes meet during this time on an every other day rotation.
- Opposite days or students with iExcel every day, use time to meet with teachers, work in small groups, work on supplemental work, work on extension work, homework completion, re-takes etc.
- Work with Teachers before/after school



ACADEMIC INTERVENTIONS....

○ Club Ed:

after school on Mondays and Wednesdays -
2:45-4:00 Activity bus takes kids home (*close* to home!) There are several stops that gets kids close to home.

Supervised by certified staff, access to teachers for help in answering questions.

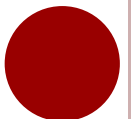
-the Activity Bus also runs on Thursday



POWERSCHOOL

A **communication** tool to provide:

- Building announcements
 - Student classroom progress
 - Assignment due dates, missing or late work
-
- Parents may register to receive emailed Progress Reports or Announcements at your convenience
 - e-Registration of students can happen year-round to update contact information, phone #'s, email...



Student Expectations

- Each student receives an agenda.
- Use agenda to track assignments.
- Read the student handbook with parents and sign.
- Come to school.
- Get involved.



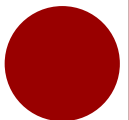
Intramurals and Activities

- Excelsior Middle School offers a variety of activities in order to support our district's mission to develop responsible, productive citizens. Excelsior hopes to have every student actively involved in a co-curricular activity.



INTRAMURALS AND ACTIVITIES

- Research indicates that students who are involved in activities have fewer discipline problems, get better grades, and have better attendance. Participating in co-curricular activities helps develop skills, talents, knowledge and interests. Students involved report they take more pride in their school while creating a more fulfilling school experience for themselves.



Intramurals-----Activities

Soccer
Golf
Basketball
Wrestling
Cup Stacking
Volleyball
Table Tennis
Fitness
Running Club

Battle of the Books
Drama Club
Geography Bee
Jr. Soda
Math Counts
Mentor Program
G.A.L.S/ GUYS
Excelsior Excellence
Ambassadors
Lego League



Intramurals-----Activities

Artist's Studio
Diversity Club
Star Wars Club
Club Health Kicks



Physical Education

Locker

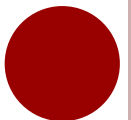
PE clothes-T-
shirt/shorts/shoes

PE shirts can be
purchased at
Registration



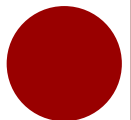
Lunch Expectations

- 6th graders eat in 2 big groups-large and small cafeteria
- Sit with friends-quiet conversations
- Students have more choices-sandwich, soup, salad, yogurt or potato bar



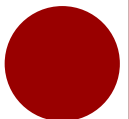
EXCELSIOR EXCELLENCE = RESPONSIBILITY, RESPECT, INTEGRITY

- PBIS-Positive Behavior Intervention System
 - Year 4
- Common Language and Expectations
- Positive Reinforcement for Expected Behaviors =(Staff/Student Celebrations)
- Ambassadors provide student input
- Decisions based on Data (Data Day)

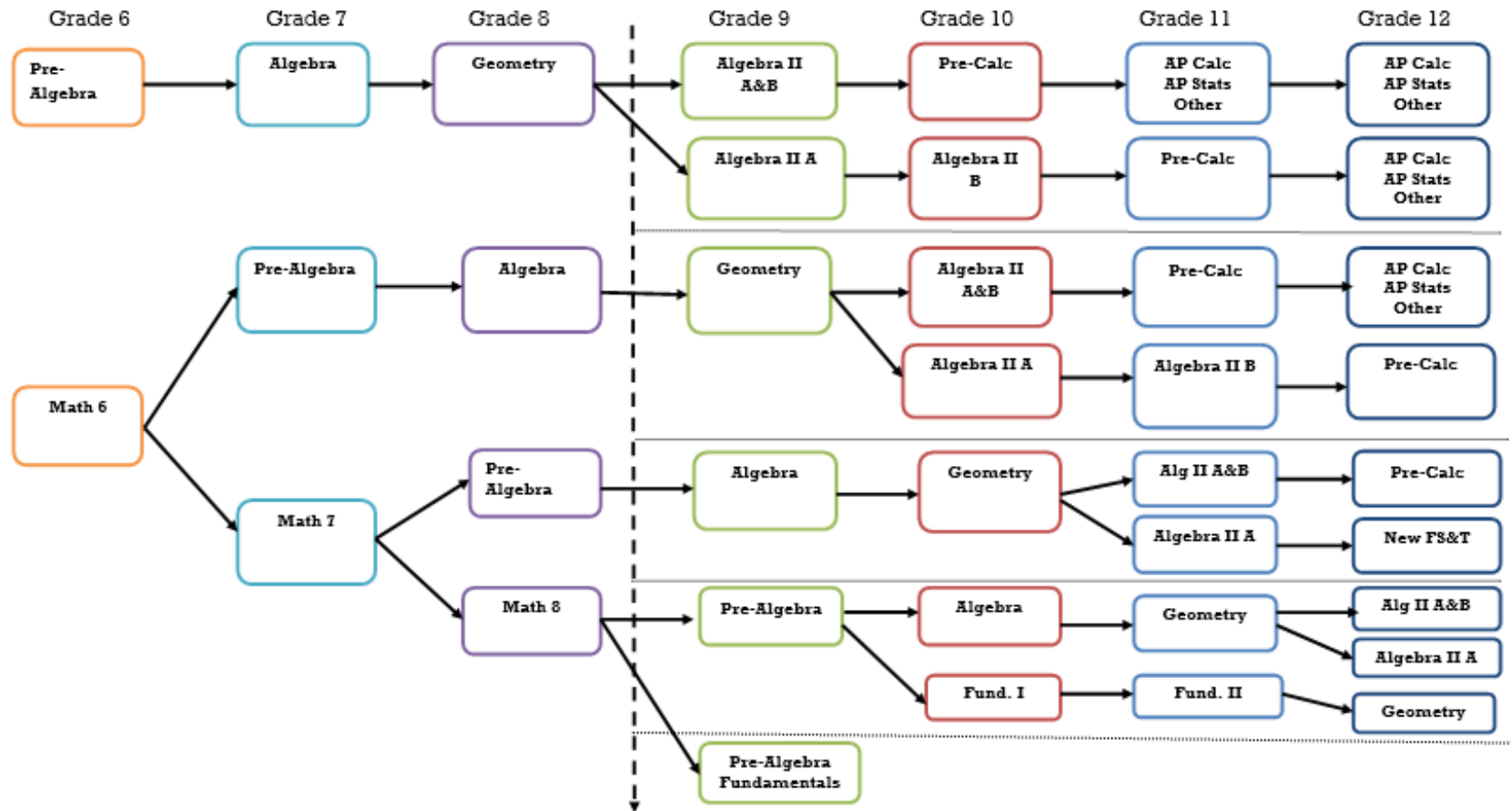


WHAT IS THE MATH PROGRAMMING?

- Math 6 or Pre-Algebra
- Pre-Algebra starts the High School math sequence.
They will take AP Calc and/or AP Stats as a senior
- Less than 10% of 6th grade students typically qualify and take Pre-Algebra
- Recommended to start accelerated math in 7th grade

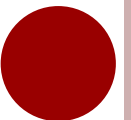


2015-2016 MATH FLOWCHART



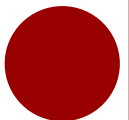
PRE-ALGEBRA ASSESSMENT

- Letters and permission forms will be sent home mid April with your child
- Assessments will be conducted end of April



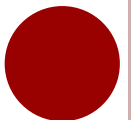
SPRING TIMELINE:

- Look at scores from spring NWEA, Iowa Assessments and Pre-Algebra Assessment
- Notification letters sent by end of May for those students recommended to take Pre-Algebra
- Math Meeting scheduled in June



WHAT DO I DO IF I STILL HAVE QUESTIONS REGARDING Pre-Algebra?

- Talk to another parent.
- Talk to a math teacher.
- Call Bob Read 447-3016
- Call Steven Starkey 447-3140



MAGAZINE SALE FUNDRAISER

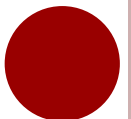
- Excelsior's ONLY fundraiser

TOTALLY OPTIONAL!!!

=Funds support co-curricular programs

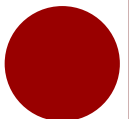
- Held annually in September/October

- Volunteers Needed



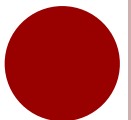
“OLWEUS” ...

- Olweus is an anti-bullying initiative developed in Norway. Olweus class is an opportunity for students and staff to build a stronger sense of community at Excelsior Middle School. Each staff member facilitates a group.
- **The groups consist of 12-15 students and meet every Wednesday morning for 30 minutes.**
- During that time facilitators use a variety of activities to help students gain a greater awareness of the bullying and other topics that affect Excelsior Middle School.



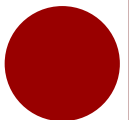
OTHER STUDENT SERVICES...

- Individual Counseling
- Peer Support Groups
- Jr. SODA (Students Opposed to Drugs / Alcohol)
Honor SODA
- Mentoring
Staff to student
- T.R.Y. student to student
- M.Y.F.I. (Make You Feel Important)
- Impact of Social Media



ATTENDANCE POLICIES

- Attendance crucial to academic achievement
- Late Entry (LE) -- 3 per quarter
- Tardies -- handled by individual teachers
- Absences
 - Medically excused
 - Documentation from doctor, sent home at nurse's request
 - Non-medically excused
 - Sick, Family day, etc
 - Unexcused
 - No call from parents
- Notification letters



WHAT IF I THINK OF OTHER QUESTIONS?

- We will be in the office all of June and back in at the end of July
- Please remember that this PowerPoint is on our website for review



THE BUILDING IS OPEN

- Feel free to check out the building and thanks for coming out tonight!
- 6th grade commons upstairs/downstairs.

