

DeMystifying the Middle School

**WPS SEPAC 11/9/2015
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Introductions

Overview of TMS

6th grade- 2 teams (red/blue)

7th grade- 2 teams (red/blue)

8th grade- 2 teams (red/blue)

8 Day cycle (even/odd days)

hours 7:50-2:25

Early Release Days (2 Wednesdays / month)

dismissal 1:10

Overview of TMS

Each **team** meets 2x/5 days to: coordinate support, case study, planning, info. sharing

All **teams** have Learning Center services.

All **teams** have the opportunity to have in-class support in any subject.

Each **grade level** has small group ELA, small group co-taught Math courses

School-wide - 4 programs that are multi- grade (TLC, DLC, CLC, SLC)

School-wide there are related services such as: SLP, OT, Reading, Vision, O&M, APE, PT, Counseling, BCBA

| | Day 1 | Day 2 | Day 3 | Day 4 | Day 5 | Day 6 | Day 7 | Day 8 |
|---------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Block 1 | English language arts | English language arts | English language arts | English language arts | English language arts | English language arts | English language arts | English language arts |
| Block 2 | Science | Science | Science | Science | Science | Science | Science | Science |
| Block 3 | Math | Math | Math | Math | Math | Math | Math | Math |
| Block 4 | CACE | Reading | CACE | Reading | CACE | Reading | CACE | Reading |
| Lunch | | | | | | | | |
| Block 5 | T1: Drama T2: Art T3: Health & Comp/Tech | T1: Drama T2: Art T3: Health & Comp/Tech | T1: Drama T2: Art T3: Health & Comp/Tech | T1: Drama T2: Art T3: Health & Comp/Tech | T1: Drama T2: Art T3: Health & Comp/Tech | T1: Drama T2: Art T3: Health & Comp/Tech | T1: Drama T2: Art T3: Health & Comp/Tech | T1: Drama T2: Art T3: Health & Comp/Tech |
| Block 6 | Social Studies | Social Studies | Social Studies | Social Studies | Social Studies | Social Studies | Social Studies | Social Studies |
| Block 7 | Band/Chorus /General Music | PE | Band/Chorus /General Music | PE | Band/Chorus /General Music | PE | Band/Chorus /General Music | PE |
| X-Block | Strings/Extra Help as Needed/Friday Activities/Rehearsals/Special Events | | | | | | | |

| | Day 1 | Day 2 | Day 3 | Day 4 | Day 5 | Day 6 | Day 7 | Day 8 |
|---------|--|-----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Block 1 | English language arts | English language arts | English language arts | English language arts | English language arts | English language arts | English language arts | English language arts |
| Block 2 | Science | Science | Science | Science | Science | Science | Science | Science |
| Block 3 | Math | Math | Math | Math | Math | Math | Math | Math |
| Block 4 | CACE | Reading | CACE | Reading | CACE | Reading | CACE | Reading |
| Lunch | | | | | | | | |
| Block 5 | Social Studies | Social Studies | Social Studies | Social Studies | Social Studies | Social Studies | Social Studies | Social Studies |
| Block 6 | Learning Center | Learning Center | Learning Center | Learning Center | Learning Center | Learning Center | Learning Center | Learning Center |
| Block 7 | Band/Chorus /General Music | PE | Band/Chorus /General Music | PE | Band/Chorus /General Music | PE | Band/Chorus /General Music | PE |
| X-Block | Strings/Extra Help as Needed/Friday Activities/Rehearsals/Special Events/LC Organization Support | | | | | | | |

Learning Center

- *Provides academic support based on IEP

- *Includes:

 - preview/review

 - study-skills

 - long-term project support

 - executive functioning

 - direct instruction in math, reading comprehension
and/or written expression

- *Service delivery looks like: 8x40, 4x40

Small Group Classes

- *Modified curriculum

(key concepts, slower pace, repetition, language support)

- *Math co-taught by Special Educator and Math Teacher

- *ELA taught by Special Educator + IA(s)

- *Low student to staff ratio (approximately 1:3)

- *Service grid looks like 8x40

TLC Program

“Therapeutic Learning Center”

- *Multi-grade program supporting students with social/emotional and behavioral needs
- *Supported by an Adjustment Counselor, School-based Psychologist and additional related services as needed.
- *Consult support from school based psychologist and a child Psychiatrist
- *Services look like: 8x40 Learning Center + in-class support, and/or access to small group ELA/Math

SLC Program

“Social Learning Center”

- *Multi-grade program supporting students with challenges in social/pragmatic language, executive functioning, and/or coping skills.

- *Program support through a BCBA, OT, SLP, Adjustment Counselor and other related services as needed

- *On-going program consultation by Aspire/MGH and Behavior Specialist

- *Services look like: 8x40 Learning Center, 1-2x40 Social/Pragmatic class, in class support for all general education classes as needed, and/or access to small group ELA/Math

CLC Program

“Communication Learning Center”

- *Multi-grade program supporting students with challenges with communication, social, pragmatic language skills
- *Program support through a BCBA, OT, SLP and other related services as needed
- *Program consultation by Aspire/MGH and Behavior Specialist
- *Services look like: 8x40 Learning Center, 8x40 Communication class, small group ELA/Math/Sci/SS and in class support for inclusion opportunities

DLC Program

“Developmental Learning Center”

- *Multi-grade program supporting students with multiple, unique, complex developmental needs/disabilities
- *Can access to functional and community-based curriculum, curriculum individualized to each student, augmentative communication and technology infused throughout the day.
- *Program support through SLP, BCBA, OT, PT, Music Therapist, APE and other related services as needed.
- *Access to reverse inclusion/peer mentoring programs
- *Many students require wrap-around case management by liaison

Other Special Education supports

- ***Reading services** are provided by a licensed reading specialist (8x40 or 4x40)
- ***Technology** including: laptops, iPads and Chromebooks are available with a wide range of software and applications. Technology is also available in general education settings
- ***Assistive Technology** consult and Professional Development is available
- ***Mental Health Team** approach consisting of a school psychologist, adjustment counselor and guidance counselors

Landmark Outreach

- *On-going professional development from Landmark Consulting Co.

- *Integration of Landmark language-based/learning disabled strategies, feedback, lesson planning and teaching practices

- *Targeted to Special Education teachers, General Education teachers (Sci/SS) who serve students receiving small group ELA/Math, and ELA department

Transition 5-6

- *Middle school staff joins elementary spring IEP or transition meetings
- *Parents are welcome to visit and tour the middle school
- *Middle school staff may observe students
- *Comprehensive information sharing between service providers and educators
- *Extended School Year and Summer Enrichment occurs at TMS
- *Regular Education move-up days, parent meetings, overviews, occur throughout the spring
- *Individual transition plans developed, as needed

Transition 8-9

- *High school staff joins middle school IEP meetings
- *Parents are welcome to visit and tour the high school
- *High school staff may observe students
- *Comprehensive information sharing between service providers and educators
- *Extended School Year occurs at WHS
- *Regular Education move-up days, parent meetings, overviews, occur throughout the spring
- *Individual transition plans developed as needed

Final Thoughts

*Other structures in place:

Guidance programs are schedule for all grade levels

Multiple extracurriculars

Grade level lunches and arrival locations

Cafeteria annex

Special team building activities (fall Hale trip)

*Middle school years are a complex developmental stage.

Beyond special education, the entire middle school is designed to support these early adolescent years.