

# Fifth Grade Parent/Guardian Orientation

Melican Middle School  
March 21, 2024  
6:30 p.m.





# Welcome and Introductions

Michelle Karb, Principal

Gretchen Bean, Assistant Principal

Sandi Davel, Purple Team Leader

Christine Mesite, Orange Team Leader

Lucas LaVoie, Band Director

Lauren O'Neil, Guidance Counselor





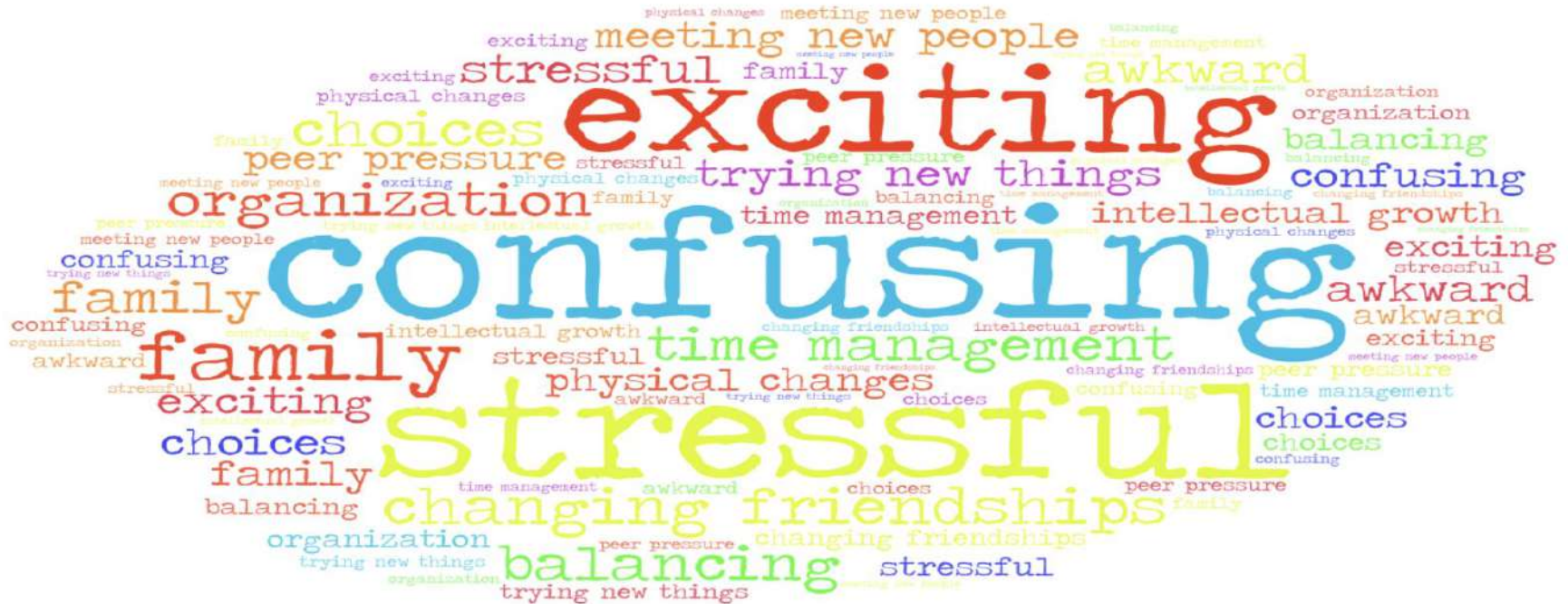
# Topics

- Welcome to Middle School!
- Sixth Grade Classes and Schedule
- Teaching and Learning Structure
- Special Education
- Sample Sixth Grade Schedules
- Supports
- Guidance Counselor
- Band
- Chorus
- Flex Blocks and Extra Supports
- Preparations for Next Year
- Sixth Grade Transition
- Sixth Grade Curriculum Highlights
- Before and After School Activities
- Communication
- Sixth Grade Orientation
- Thank you!





# Welcome to Middle School!





# Middle School - Different From Elementary School

## Elementary School vs. Middle School

- from 4 neighborhood schools to 1 middle school (188 sixth graders next year)

Assistant Principal - Gretchen Bean

Guidance Counselors - All students are assigned the same guidance counselor. They are connected to their guidance counselor for sixth, seventh, and eighth grade.

Guidance Counselor for next year's 6th Grade:  
Lauren O'Neil





# Sixth Grade Classes and Schedule

- Monday through Friday Schedule.
- Each day has 7 or 8 class periods plus Lunch and Brain Break (recess).
- Homeroom begins at 7:43 and first Period begins at 7:50.
- Dismissal is at 2:10.
- After School Clubs and After School Help - 2:10-3:10.
- Late Bus - T, W, Th.



Class	Number per week
Math	6
English Language Arts	5
Social Studies	5
Science	5
ELA Composition	3
Language Exploratory	2
Phys. Ed.	2
Technology Engineering	1
Art	1
Music	1
Library Science/Computers	1
Health	1
SELF	1
Band/Flex/Learning Center	2
Chorus/Flex/Learning Center	2



# Sections - 2024-2025

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade** - each student is assigned to one of the following heterogeneous sections: 6-1, 6-2, 6-3, 6-4, 6-5, 6-6, 6-7, 6-8, and 6-9.

Students have half of their classes in their sections (ex. 6-1 has ELA together, science together, social studies together, etc.)

Students are mixed up (not with their sections) for math class and most specials (art, music, etc.).

Band and Chorus - students are not with their sections. Students may take Band and/or Chorus, or neither.

We have 2 levels of math classes for 6th grade:

1. Grade 6 Math - Grade 6 Math Standards
2. Grade 6 Accelerated Math - Grade 6 Math Standards PLUS Half of Grade 7 Math Standards (1.5 years of math).
  - *If students successfully complete Grade 6 Accelerated, they will take Grade 7 Accelerated in 7th Grade (the second half of Grade 7 Math and all of Grade 8 Math). Then, in 8th Grade, they will take Algebra, a 9th Grade course.*
  - *A student may move from Grade 6 Math in 6th Grade to to Grade 7 Accelerated in 7th Grade if they are ready. Then, in 8th Grade, they will take Algebra, a 9th Grade course.*
  - *Students may move into an Accelerated Math Course when/if they are ready.*



# Special Education

- Inclusion - support in the general education classroom plus Learning Center and/or other supports
- Language Based Program
- STEPS, etc. - Therapeutic Programs
- TLC (Transitional Learning Center)
- Hybrid Programs - customized for students





# Sample Sixth Grade Schedule

Robert E. Melican Middle School

22-23 Year

## Schedule Matrix View # 🌸

STUDENT NAME \_\_\_\_\_



Counselor: NAME 6 14426

Melican

**Student Schedule with:**

- No Band
- No Chorus
- No Learning Centers

Enrollments for current school only

Day	Terms	HR	1	2	B	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
Mon	22-23	T1	Homeroom 6 100060.8A Griffith Silverman, Rebecca Mary Room: 207	Language Exploratory 100260.8 LePaul- Hodges, Dominique Room: 311	Math 6 140562.3 Robeau, Jennifer Room: 201		Flex 6 1101160.4 Terwilliger, Courtney Room: 203	Social Studies 6 120060.8 Mesite, Christine Room: 202	Lunch 6 101160.1 Karb, Michelle Room: Cafeteria	Technology Engineering 6 180000.1 Williams, Bruce Room: 124	SELF 200MMS.8 Moran's, Julie Room: 123	ELA 6 110060.8 Griffith Silverman, Rebecca Mary Room: 207	Science 6 150060.8 Shaughnessy, Anne Room: 313	
		T2												
		T3												
Tue	22-23	T1	Homeroom 6 100060.8A Griffith Silverman, Rebecca Mary Room: 207	Science 6 150060.8 Shaughnessy, Anne Room: 313	Physical Education 6 170060.3 Shectman, Jennifer Room: Gym		Social Studies 6 120060.8 Mesite, Christine Room: 202	ELA Composition 6 110760.8 Griffin, Megan Room: 209	Lunch 6 101160.1 Karb, Michelle Room: Cafeteria	Math 6 140562.3 Robeau, Jennifer Room: 201	ELA 6 110060.8 Griffith, Silverman, Rebecca Mary Room: 207	Art 6 190160.4 Hansbury, Diane Room: 131		
		T2												
		T3												
Wed	22-23	T1	Homeroom 6 100060.8A Griffith Silverman, Rebecca Mary Room: 207	Science 5 130060.8 Shaughnessy, Anne Room: 313	Health 6 130060.4 Cubitt, Caroline A Room: 211		Social Studies 6 120060.8 Mesite, Christine Room: 202	ELA Composition 6 110260.8 Griffin, Megan Room: 209	Lunch 6 101160.1 Karb, Michelle Room: Cafeteria	Flex 6 1101160.5 Duff, Sandra Room: 205	Math 6 140562.3 Robeau, Jennifer Room: 201		ELA 6 110060.8 Griffith Silverman, Rebecca Mary Room: 207	
		T2												
		T3												
Thu	22-23	T1	Homeroom 6 100060.8A Griffith Silverman, Rebecca Mary Room: 207	Social Studies 6 120060.8 Mesite, Christine Room: 202	Science 6 150060.8 Shaughnessy, Anne Room: 313		Language Exploratory 100260.5 LePaul- Hodges, Dominique Room: 311	ELA 6 110060.8 Griffith Silverman, Rebecca Mary Room: 207	Lunch 6 101160.1 Karb, Michelle Room: Cafeteria	Flex 6 1101160.11 Lanzetta, Jonathan Room: 322	Math 6 140562.3 Robeau, Jennifer Room: 201	Music 6 100060.8 Gschell, Katherine Room: 111		
		T2												
		T3												
Fri	22-23	T1	Homeroom 6 100060.8A Griffith Silverman, Rebecca Mary Room: 207	Physical Education 6 170060.3 Shectman, Jennifer Room: Gym	Science 6 140562.3 Shaughnessy, Anne Room: 313		Math 6 140562.3 Robeau, Jennifer Room: 201	Library Science 110560.8 Bissel, Janice Room: Library	Lunch 6 101160.1 Karb, Michelle Room: Cafeteria	Flex 6 1101160.17 Griffin, Megan Room: 209	ELA 6 110060.8 Griffith Silverman, Rebecca Mary Room: 207	ELA Composition 6 110760.8 Griffin, Megan Room: 209	Social Studies 6 120060.8 Mesite, Christine Room: 202	
		T2												
		T3												



Schedule Matrix View   

STUDENT NAME  Counselor: NAME 6 14112

Melican

Robert E. Melican Middle School

22-23 Year

Student Schedule with:

- 2 Learning Centers
- 2 Flex Blocks

Enrollments for current school only

[illegible]



## Sample Sixth Grade Schedule

Robert E. Melican Middle School

22-23 Year

Schedule Matrix View \* 

Student Schedule with:

- 4 Learning Centers

STUDENT NAME  Counselor: NAME 6 10711

Melican

Enrollments for current school only

[illegible]



## 22-23 Year

Student Schedule with:

- Band
- 2 Learning Centers

STUDENT NAME \_\_\_\_\_

 Counselor: NAME 6 15802

Melican

Enrollments for current school only

[illegible]



# Sample Sixth Grade Schedule

Robert E. Melican Middle School

22-23 Year

### Schedule Matrix View

STUDENT NAME \_\_\_\_\_



Counselor NAME 6 14391

Melican

Student Schedule with:

- Band
- Chorus

## Enrollments for current school only

[illegible]



# Supports (Special Education, ELD, Etc.)

- Principal
- Assistant Principal
- 3 Guidance Counselors  
(1 teaches SELF Class)
- School Psychologist
- 2 Adjustment Counselors
- Behavior Specialist
- 7 Special Education Teachers
- 2 English Language Development Teachers
- Literacy Intervention Program
- Math Intervention Program
- Therapy Dogs
- Students on IEPs, 504s, etc.





# School (guidance) counselor: Mrs. O'Neil

**Individual and small group meetings (during free periods, lunch, before/after school)**

**All students have access to their school counselor**

**SELF (Social Emotional Learning Foundations)**

**Class:**

Classroom lessons on Social Emotional Learning (SEL) topics

Mrs.  
Morancy,  
Counselor

**Working collaboratively with teachers, administrators, and other support staff to meet the social, emotional, and academic needs of our students**

**Helping students develop healthy strategies for:**

- Communication
- Relationships
- Self-care and coping strategies
- Independence and self-advocacy
- How to be a respectful and respected member of a community (school, family, social, digital, etc)
- Connections between physical and mental health



# MMS Bands

## Stage Band



## The MMS Bands are a Family

- In the MMS Bands, everyone participates and everyone is important!
- Band is a family. We support each other in and outside of the band room. Many students make lifelong friends in band.
- The MMS Band is open to anyone looking to learn an instrument, even if they have never played one before.



## Chamber Ensembles





# Chorus

**MMS 6th Grade Chorus** is a great way to get involved, make friends, have fun, and most of all, **SING!**

2 Concerts per year & lots of opportunities to make music! Come join the fun!

## Extracurricular Ensembles:

Cambiata - Grades 6-7-8

6th Grade Select Chorus

7th & 8th Grade Select Chorus





# Flex Block and Learning Center

- Flex runs opposite Band and Chorus.
- Students may participate in Band and/or Chorus, or they may participate in neither.
- Flex is a period for independent reading, working on homework, receiving extra help from teachers, receiving math or reading interventions, etc.
- Students on IEPs may be scheduled for Learning Center instead Flex. Learning Center is led by the child's Special Education liaison/teacher, and is used to work toward meeting IEP goals or receiving support with academic tasks.





# Preparations for Next Year

- Administration met with Student Support Services Director and Assistant Directors
- Special Education Teachers and Guidance Counselor met with 5th Grade Staff
- Special Education and 504 Transition Meetings - Spring 2024
- Guidance Counselor will connect - late May/early June
- 5th graders visit and tour Melican - June





# Sixth Grade Transition

During the First Several Weeks of School...

- Schedules & Hallway Passes
- Practicing School Routines and Procedures  
(Lunch Room, Brain Break, Bathrooms, Transitions)
- Developing and utilizing organizational strategies  
(Binder organization, Agenda Books, Homework Folders)
- Classroom expectations
- Navigating Canvas
- Advocating & Communicating with Teachers





# Sixth Grade Curriculum Highlights

Curriculum	Highlights
Social Studies	Basic geography & map skills, rise of civilizations, and first ancient cultures (such as Mesopotamia & Egypt).
Science	Structure & Function - Fossils, cells, waves, basic chemistry
Math	Geometry, Algebraic Expressions & Equations, Data & Statistics, Fractions & Decimals, Ratios & Rates, Coordinate Plane
ELA	Novels, Memoirs, Poetry, Personal Narratives & Short Stories
Specials	Language Exploratory, ELA Composition, Technology Engineering, Music, Phys Ed, Library Science, Art, Health, SELF
<i>All subject areas incorporate technology, reading, writing, speaking, &amp; listening skills through independent &amp; collaborative learning.</i>	





# Before and After School Activities

We have 40+ clubs and activities.





# Communication

Melican Memo (email) - Mondays at  
6:00 a.m.

School Website

Canvas

Emails

Phone Calls

Homeroom Teacher

Guidance Counselor

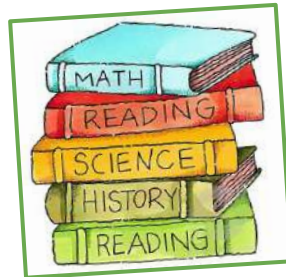




# Sixth Grade Student Orientation - Save the Date

**August 21, 2024**

**9:00-11:00 a.m.**





# Thank You!!



[Fifth Grade Video](#)

Created by Student Council

We look forward to working with you!!!