

# THE TRANSITION PROCESS

FOR 5th to 6th GRADE STUDENTS  
WITH IEP'S & 504 PLANS

MARCH 2021



**OLENTANGY SCHOOLS<sup>SM</sup>**  
*Flourish Here.*

# PARENT MENTORS

- **Fran Gardner**  
(614) 332-6868  
Middle School & High School  
Families
- **Shelly Frederick**  
(614) 332-5269  
Preschool & Elementary Families

For more information on the Parent Mentor Program, visit the [Pupil Services Website; Parent Mentor Program.](#)



# GOALS FOR THIS PRESENTATION

The goals for this presentation include:

- Provide an introduction to the Pupil Services Department
- Explain the transition process that the district follows
- Explain what Intervention services can look like in Middle School
- Answer any questions you may have
- Provide an introduction to an Intervention staff member at your new middle school



# PUPIL SERVICES ADMINISTRATORS

- **Director of Pupil Services**

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- **Assistant Director of Pupil Services**

Stefanie Daberkow

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For more information on the Pupil Services Department, including your Pupil Service Supervisor, visit the [Pupil Services Website](#).



# THE 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE TO 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE TRANSITION PROCESS



# THE 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE TO 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE TRANSITION PROCESS

## Throughout the School Year

- Ongoing Communication occurs between 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade level Intervention Specialists to discuss scheduling needs based on individual student needs and differences between the two settings.



# THE 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE TO 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE TRANSITION PROCESS

## January-February

- Elementary Intervention Specialists meet with Middle School Intervention Specialists and Pupil Services to review Individualized Education Plans and scheduling needs.

## February-April

- Middle School Department Chairs collaborate with School Counselors to “hand-schedule” students into the correct classes.



# THE 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE TO 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE TRANSITION PROCESS

## April/May

- Special Education Department Chairs will host a transition meeting with parents to introduce themselves and field any questions. This meeting may be a virtual meeting or a video sent to parents.
- Tentatively assign IEP case managers to each student (per staffing).
- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Intervention Specialists meet with parents virtually to discuss student needs, explain the schedule, and answer any questions about middle school.





# THE 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE TO 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE TRANSITION PROCESS

## May

- Intervention Specialists will meet incoming 5<sup>th</sup> graders virtually.
- Parents are notified (via email or letter) of their child's Intervention Specialist and/or are provided contact information of a Department Chair (per staffing).

## August

- All students will have an orientation event in August. We are still in the planning stages as to what this will look like for 2021. Information will be mailed home during the summer.



# SPECIALIZED LEARNING CENTERS: 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE TO 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE TRANSITION

- Middle School Intervention Specialist attends the IEP meeting during 5<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Middle School Intervention Specialist visits elementary to meet students and have a Q & A session with students. This may be a virtual meeting.
- Parents can schedule a time to visit the middle school with or without their student in the Spring. This may be a virtual meeting.
- Students are supported as needed during the 6<sup>th</sup> grade orientation in August.



# MIDDLE SCHOOL INTERVENTION

- Intervention Study Center/Student Assist
  - Intervention Specialist
  - Progress monitoring towards IEP goals, executive functioning skills, extended time for tests, homework/content support
- Inclusion ELA and Math
  - Regular Education teacher and Intervention Specialist
  - Support for IEP goals, executive functioning, accommodations within the regular education classroom
- Specialized Learning Center
  - Intervention Specialist is the teacher of record
  - Extended Standards (Modified curriculum) in the areas of Math, English, Science, Social Studies; credit earning towards graduation requirements
  - Based on needs identified in evaluation
- MultiSensory Reading Instruction
  - MultiSensory Structured Language Specialist
  - Lessons directed towards IEP goals



# SAMPLE 6th GRADE SCHEDULE

- Required Full-Year Core Classes
  - Integrated English
  - Math
  - Science
  - Social Studies
  - Academic Assist
    - This is a 45-minute Academic Assist period per day with one of their core teachers.
- Lunch



# SAMPLE 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE SCHEDULE

- Required Unified Arts Courses: These courses will be automatically scheduled for your student on a 6-week rotation basis.
  - Physical Education (2 times)
  - Discovering Computers
  - Family and Consumer Science
  - Art
  - Health
- Elective Courses: 6<sup>th</sup> grade students have the option to take Band, Choir, and/or Orchestra during their second Unified Arts rotation. Students who choose not to take Band, Choir, and/or Orchestra will take a full year of Study Hall.



# ORIENTATION INFORMATION

- Parents
  - Each Middle School will have a Parent Orientation. This may be a video emailed out, an email with information, or a post to the website with the information needed.
- Students
  - All students will have an orientation event in August. We are still in the planning stages as to what this will look like for 2021. Information will be mailed home during the summer.



# WHAT CAN PARENTS DO TO HELP WITH THE TRANSITION PROCESS?

- Set students up for success and don't over-schedule.
- Transitions are unavoidable.
- Educate yourself so you can best prepare your child.
- Communicate early and often! Please let us know if you have questions.



# WHAT CAN STUDENTS DO TO HELP WITH THE TRANSITION PROCESS?

- Self advocacy
  - asking for help as soon as you fall behind
  - asking for extended time and other accommodations
  - asking for clarification when directions are unclear
- Become comfortable with Schoology (find notes and assignments)
- Focus more on the process of learning than the actual grade
- Identify strategies to help with anxiety and increased workload
- Time management skills





# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**What if my child has anxiety about transitioning to their new building?**

Reach out to the assigned IEP case manager or school counselor during the spring/summer so that we can help alleviate those fears and possibly arrange a tour during the summer.



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**Can middle school Intervention Specialists attend 5<sup>th</sup> grade IEP meetings?**

Yes, a representative from the middle school will attend an IEP meeting per parent or Intervention Specialist request.

**Do fifth graders tour the middle school?**

No, 5<sup>th</sup> graders do not tour the middle school as a large group. You are able to request an individual tour for your child by reaching out to your child's current Intervention Specialist or School Counselor to arrange a tour.



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## **How do I change my child's schedule?**

Contact your child's School Counselor. Make sure to tell them that your child has an IEP, so their specific needs are still met.

## **When will I find out my child's schedule?**

Students receive a copy of their schedule on orientation day. It can also be accessed on Powerschool in August.



# MIDDLE SCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPT CHAIRS

- **Liberty MS** - Abby Buckerfield
- **Orange MS** - Jennifer McGuinness
- **Hyatts MS** - Hillary Spencer
- **Berkshire MS** - Beth Palmer and Justin Mellen
- **Shanahan MS** - Max Zenker



A representative from each Middle School Intervention Department is available to answer any questions or concerns you may still have. Please complete this [Middle School Intervention Follow-up Request Form](#) to let us know that you would like further information or have additional questions.



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**THANK YOU**