J. Michael Lunsford Middle School

RISING 6TH GRADE PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT

Building a legacy of excellence
AGENDA

- Welcome
- Introduction of Staff
- School Information
- Middle School Teaming
- The Block Schedule
- 6th Grade Course Selections
- Next Steps
Introduction of Staff

• Shena Ivory – 6th Grade Dean, Mercer

• Sue Simpson – 6th Grade Counselor, Mercer

• Jeff Hofmann, Assistant Principal, Mercer

• Neil Slevin, Principal, Lunsford Middle School
Lunsford – Who are we?

- Where are we coming from? - Elementary

Arcola
Buffalo Trail
Hutchison Farm

Little River
Liberty
Pinebrook
Lunsford – Who are we?

- Where are we coming from? - Middle
Lunsford – Who are we?

- **2010-2011 Projected Enrollment** – 1190 students

![Bar chart showing enrollment by grade]

By Grade

- 6th
- 7th
- 8th
Lunsford – Who are we?

- 54% White
- 26% Asian
- 8% Black
- 6% Hispanic
- 5% Multi-Racial
- 0% American Indian
Goals for J. Michael Lunsford Middle School

- **Be a school for all learners**
  - Do whatever it takes to ensure student learning
  - Close the achievement gap
  - Increase the rigor of and supports for student learning
  - Collaborative Teaming
  - Be a model of academic excellence
Goals for J. Michael Lunsford Middle School

• Build positive and collaborative relationships throughout the school community
  ▫ Interdisciplinary teaming
  ▫ Caring/Reflective teachers and staff
  ▫ Parent/Community Involvement
  ▫ Rich extracurricular program
  ▫ Diverse recognition of success
The Teaming Model

- 4 Core Teachers
  - Math, Science, Social Studies, Lang. Arts (x2)
- 120-140 Students Per Team
- Teachers have common planning during students’ resource block
Purpose of Grade Level Teams

- To meet the needs of all students
- To serve as a professional growth group
- To build positive relationships
- To connect concepts and skills across the curriculum
- To establish common expectations and procedures
- To speak as “one voice” with parents
The House

Goals

Access

Support Staff
BLOCK SCHEDULE

• 90 Minute Blocks
• Alternating A and B Days
• 4 Classes Per Day
• Language Arts Meets Daily
• 30 minutes every other day for SAMS (Spanish at the Middle School) – through Language Arts classes
Block Scheduling

• More time to go in depth
• Provides for more creative instructional strategies
• Fewer transitions
• Balance of assignments, projects, and tests
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Block 1</th>
<th>Block 5</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>Resource/Music</td>
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<tr>
<td>Block 2</td>
<td>Block 6</td>
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<td>PE</td>
<td>Lang Arts</td>
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<td>Block 3</td>
<td>Block 7</td>
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<td>Block 4</td>
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## Block Schedule

<table>
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<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:30-10:03</td>
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<td>Chorus (Resource)</td>
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</table>

- **A Block:**
  - 8:30-10:03 Chorus (Resource)
  - 10:08-11:37 Science
  - 11:42-1:42 Language Arts (lunch)
  - 1:47-3:18 Math

- **B Block:**
  - 8:30-10:03 Health/PE
  - 10:08-11:37 History
  - 11:42-1:42 Art/Keyboarding
  - 1:47-3:18 Math

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COURSE OVERVIEW

ALL 6TH GRADERS TAKE:

- Language Arts (Honors or Grade Level)
- History (Honors or Grade Level)
- Science (Honors or Grade Level)
- Math (Accelerated Math 6/7 or Grade Level)
  - PE/Health
  - Art & Keyboarding
- Music (student choice)/Resource
Standard Social Studies Sequence

6th Grade Topics
- Geography of the USA and the World
- Native Americans
- Exploration, America, West Africa
- Colonial America: Trade and Slavery
- War for Independence: Figures, Events, Issues
- Confederation Period
- The US Constitution
- US Expansion
- Reform and Abolition
- Civil War: Figures, Events, Issues

6th Grade

6th
U.S. History
Until 1865 *

7th
U.S. History
From 1865 *

8th
Civics and Economics *

* SOL Test
6th Grade Science

• Scientific Method
• Matter
• Water
• Atmosphere
• Space
• Energy
• Resources
• Watersheds
6th Grade Language Arts

* Demonstrate critical thinking skills
* Develop a literary background
* Read challenging literature independently
* Develop grammar, usage, spelling and mechanics through the writing process
* Implement skills in the use of electronic technology
* Develop oral communication skills

- SOL Test – 6th Grade Reading
Honors v. Academic

Academic classes work toward mastery learning of concepts and their applications.

Honors classes apply deep content knowledge to observations and synthesize ideas based on learning.
Math Progression for 2011-2012

- Mathematics 6
- Mathematics 7
- Algebra I
- Mathematics 8
- Accelerated/Mathematics 6/7
- Algebra I
- Geometry
COURSE OVERVIEW

6TH GRADE OPTIONS:

- Band Instrument
- Strings
- Chorus
- General Music Lab
INSTRUMENT NIGHTS

- *February 15th at 7:00 PM – Mercer Students*
- *February 16th at 7:00 PM – J. Michael Lunsford Students*
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<th>Sem</th>
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<td>DEBORAH CARSWELL</td>
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FYI

- Special Education Contact
  - Jeff Hofmann
PROGRAM OF STUDIES HIGHLIGHTS

• Registering for classes – Pages 1
• Special Programs – Page 6
  ▫ Spectrum
  ▫ Academy of Science
  ▫ Thomas Jefferson High
• Math Progression Chart – Page 8
• High School Credit Courses in Middle School – Page 4
• Course Descriptions – Page 9-11
COURSE SELECTION PROCESS

- Your student will receive his/her packet over the next week.
- Key components are Course Selection Form and Program of Studies.
- Elementary teachers will make recommendations to assist you and your child with selections b(honors, grade level.)
Timelines

- Course requests sent home within the next week
- Course requests returned soon after
- Course confirmation will be sent home with 3rd quarter report card
- Final confirmation will be sent home with end of year report card
- All changes must be made by JUNE 24.
Transition Continues

- We’ll visit your child’s elementary school this Spring
- Your child will visit us in June
- Parent Orientation in August
- Orientations in August
QUESTIONS?

• Visit our school’s website
• Contact your child’s teacher
• Contact the counselor or an administrator
Upcoming Dates

• Lunsford New School Parent Information Night
  ▫ Freedom High School, 2/15, 7:30pm

• Visit our website!
  ▫ www.lcps.org/lunsford
Upcoming Dates

• Parent Question and Answer Opportunities

  ▫ Hutchison Farm – 2/8, 8:30am
  ▫ Buffalo Trail – 2/18, 9:30am
  ▫ Mercer Middle – 2/17, 7:00pm
  ▫ Little River – 2/22, 8:30am
  ▫ Liberty – 2/23, 7:00pm