January 4, 2024

Dear Rising, Sixth Grade Trailside Families,

We are so excited to welcome your children to Trailside Middle School. The transition to middle school has several steps which will begin this month and continue throughout the coming months. Over the upcoming weeks, your child’s current 5th grade teacher will make course recommendations for the following subjects: math, English/Language Arts, science, and social studies. Teachers will make recommendations for either Honors or Grade Level and then a specific math course (Math 6 or Math 7) based upon your child’s current level of performance, classroom data, as well as MAP data. You will receive more information regarding the math selection process from your Elementary School.

Each year we hold a parent information night about course selection, music electives, and an in-depth look into Middle School. This event is planned for parents, and we respectfully request that students do not attend as there is limited seating with social distancing. Please plan to attend on **Tuesday, January 30th at 6:30 PM. Parents will hear from teacher leaders, student panels, and administrators.** We are not able to video this event as it is an interactive event with rotations to different parts of the school.

The music selection is a big decision for rising sixth grade students. To make the best-informed decision, we have three instrument test drive events planned out. **If you child is interested in either band or strings, he/she/they are required to attend one of the Music Test Drive Events.** The other two music choices are chorus or Music Lab which emphasizes guitar and percussion. See Flyer for more information.

**Music Test Drive Events**
January 31st at 6:30 PM  
February 8, at 6:30 PM  
February 12th, at 6:30 PM

Currently, we have the following dates for Rising 6th graders to take a field trip to TMS.
Visit and tour: BST and Sanders: 6/6/24 9:45-11:30  
Visit and tour: NLE and Cedar Lane 6/10/24 9:45-11:30

Traveling to the Trail is an optional transition camp held here at Trailside each summer. A flyer with more information is attached.
Additional information and links are provided below:

TMS Spirit Wear can be ordered and delivered to your home through Cheer’s Sports: https://trailsidetimberwolves.itemorder.com/shop/sale/?saleCode=BJRAM

The Trailside Website has a depth of information from staffing to programs and activities. https://www.lcps.org/Trailside

All my best,

Bridget M. Beichler

Bridget M. Beichler, Principal of Trailside Middle School