



5th Grade PARENT PRESENTATION

March 9th, 2023



WELCOME to CLASS OF 2030



Introductions

John Massaro, CMS/CHS Principal

Dan Apice, CMS/CHS Supervisor of Secondary Students

Michael Stone, Director of Guidance

Lana Shtofmakher, Middle School Guidance Counselor

Alexis Peck, Supervisor of Curriculum & Instruction

Judy Beekman, Supervisor of World Languages & ESL

Grace Chun, Supervisor of Curriculum & Instruction

Erik Roth, Director of Curriculum & Instruction

Dr. Janelle Amato, Director of Student Services

Beth Del Vecchio, Athletic Director/Supervisor of Physical Education



Goals for tonight's presentation

Introduction and overview of Cresskill Middle School and the 6th grade experience

- Key Events
- Academic and Social-Emotional Transitions
- Recommendations for Parents



Mission Statement of Cresskill Public Schools

The Cresskill Schools will utilize the core curriculum content standards to promote academic excellence and foster self-esteem in a dynamic, caring environment and will prepare students to be lifelong learners and contributors in an evolving and ever-changing world.



Cresskill Middle School Schedule

Period 2	8:29	9:17
Period 3	9:21	10:06
Period 4	10:10	10:55
Period 5	10:59	11:44
Period 6	11:48	12:33
6th/7th Lunch	12:37	1:22
Period 8	1:26	2:11
Period 9	2:15	3:00



Key events for incoming 6th grade students

- 5th grade visits with Ms. Shtofmakher at EHB & MMS
 - Overview of Middle School
 - Teach students how to read a middle school schedule
 - Learn how to use a combination lock
 - Opportunity for Question & Answer
- Orientation - May 18th (rain date May 22nd) & September prior to 1st day of school

Academic Transition



Academic Transition



Elementary School

Single classroom + 1 teacher

“Homeroom” class + Specials

Class moves as unit

Standards-based grading

Trimesters (3)

Parent Conferences



Middle School

7+ teachers and 7 classrooms

7 periods of changing classes

Variations in student schedules

“Letter grades” w/ numerical value

Marking periods (4)

Direct communication, Genesis gradebook



CMS 6th Grade Academics

Core Academic Classes	Elective Classes (3 Options)
English 6*	Band 6
Science 6	Choir 6
Math 6 or Algebra 6	Band & Choir 6
US History 6	Cycle 6 (one marking period each) <i>Coding, Art, Debate, STEM</i> Offerings may vary on a yearly basis
Physical Education/Health 6	
World Language Cycle 6** <i>French, Italian, Spanish</i>	

*or English as a Second Language, if applicable

** or Study Skills 6 if part of IEP



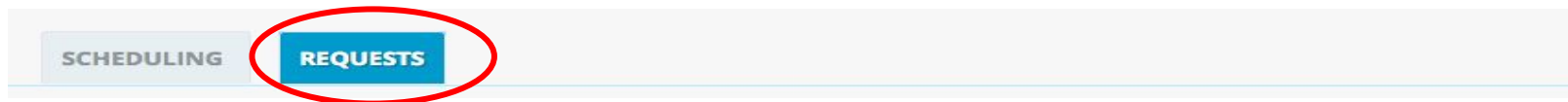
Grade 6 Elective Selection on Genesis Parent Portal

Please collaborate with your child to select the class requests!

1. Go to the “Scheduling” tab



2. Go to the “Requests” tab



3. Choose **EITHER** Subject area elective (Cycle Classes) **OR** Visual-Performing Arts (Band or Chorus or Band/Chorus)

Choose courses to request below:

Requested by parent Remove my request

COURSE	REQUESTED BY
Subject Area Electives Subject Area	Request a course
Visual - Performing Arts Subject Area	Request a course



Make sure to only select one option:

1. Cycle
2. Band
3. Band & Choir
4. Choir



Ongoing Support at School

- Extra help with teachers
- National Honor Society Tutoring
- Who to Contact?
 - If your child is having a problem in a particular class → Contact teacher directly (and include case manager for IEP/504)
 - If you have a questions about a content area → Contact Area Supervisor
 - If you have questions about overall academic performance and/or social/emotional growth → Contact Ms. Shtofmakher
 - If you have questions about attendance or daily school operations topics →Contact Mrs. Collins in the main office
 - If you have health-related concerns → Mrs. Maria Santoro, School Nurse



Genesis Portal for Parents & Students

- Updated contact information & required forms
- Attendance
- Current numerical grade in each class
- Report cards
- Honor Roll
- Students have a separate account login to view grades directly

Student Life



MS French Club



MS Spanish Club



CMS Newspaper



Friendship Bracelets for Charity



Italian Culture Club



MS Student Organization



MS Jazz Band



MS Orchestra



Middle School Performing Arts and Music

Principal Players - Fall Drama, Spring Musical (Audition)

Middle School Jazz Band (Audition)

Middle School Vocal Ensemble (Audition*)

Outside CMS opportunities - County, Region Band and Jazz Band

Region and All-State Orchestra



Middle School Athletics



Fall- Girls Volleyball*

Winter- Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball*

Spring- Boys & Girls Track & Field

**Selection through tryout process*

Contact Ms. Beth Del Vecchio, Athletic Director, with any questions
bdelvecchio@cresskillnj.net



Social-Emotional Transition for 6th Grade

- New, larger school = new faces
- Social changes/conflict
- Desire for independence
- Executive functioning challenges
- Hormonal changes
- Peer pressure (“FOMO”)



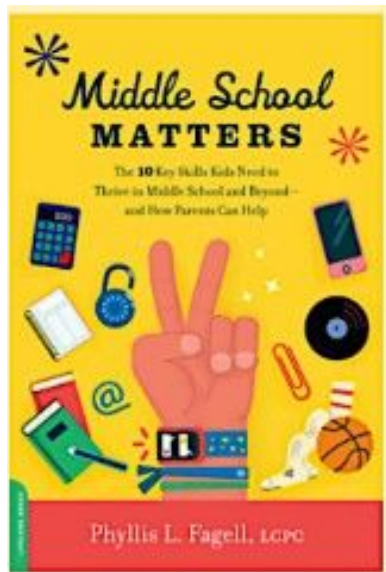


Social Media and Pre-Teens

- Social media in the hands of adolescents may contribute to negative self-image, feelings of isolation or being left out (FOMO)
- Commonly used apps below require a user to be age 13 or older
- A “joint account” or monitoring your child’s account **does not** prevent your children from being exposed to content that is inappropriate for their age and social development
- Claims of social media harassment, bullying, etc. can be challenging to investigate when the offender is unclear or unknown

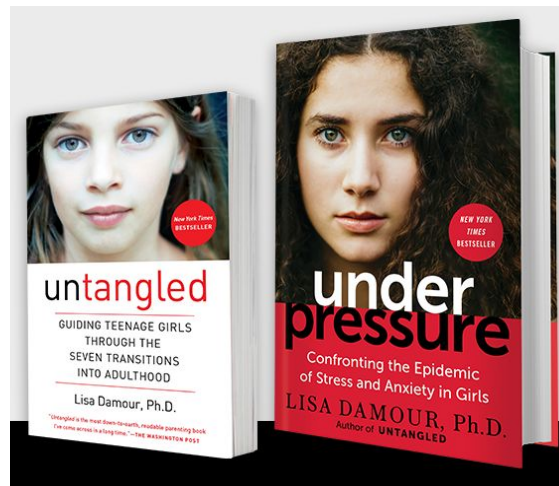


Recommended reading for MS parents/guardians



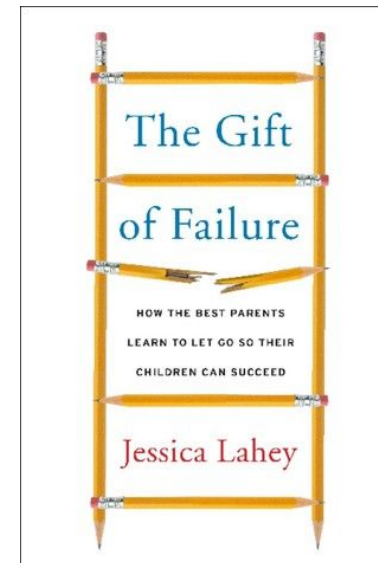
Middle School Matters

Phyllis Fagell, LCPC



Under Pressure and Untangled

Lisa Damour, Ph.D.



The Gift of Failure

Jessica Lahey



Next Steps...

- Look for

Information about selecting elective in Genesis

Information about upcoming 5th grade Orientation events

Further communication regarding the 2023-2024 school year

Enjoy the remainder of the elementary school experience and take some well-earned time to relax and recharge!