

Everything a Parent Needs to Know About Middle School

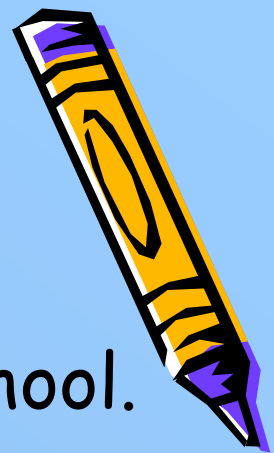


Agenda:

- ❖ Jericho Middle School Introduction – Donald Gately
- ❖ Middle School Counseling – Joan York
- ❖ Middle School PTSA – Jennifer Stoler, President and Michelle Berger, Vice President
- ❖ The Role of the Student Team Advisor – Suzanne Aubrey
- ❖ Wise Start/Intramurals – Will Martinez
- ❖ Student Scheduling and Course Registration – Joseph Wiener
- ❖ World Languages – Elaine Margarita
- ❖ Special Education Department – Jeffrey Baum
- ❖ Middle School Essentials – Donald Gately
- ❖ Questions and Answers



Middle School



I'm looking forward to going to Middle School.
I'm excited and a little nervous.

Somehow all the kids seem to like it, but
they love telling horror stories about what
goes on there.

My parents are the ones who are really nervous.
If they ask me once more if I'm scared,
I think they'll convince me that I am.



- Author Unknown

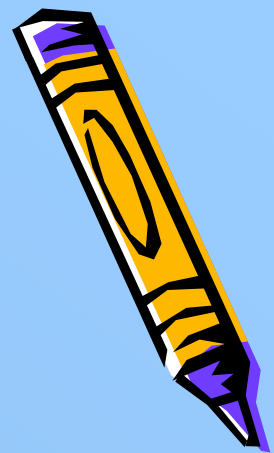
Counseling Services

❖ Transition to Middle School

- ❖ Articulation meetings with faculty at elementary schools in February.
- ❖ Counselor visitation with elementary students in April.
- ❖ 5th grade visitation to the middle school in May.
- ❖ High School Project AIM, the first week of school.



Counseling Services



- ❖ Individual Counseling
- ❖ Group Counseling



The role of the Counselor is to advise/coordinate/guide...



- ✓ Social/Personal Development
- ✓ Educational Growth
- ✓ Career Exploration

A Counselor is a:

- ✓ Student Advocate
- ✓ Parent Advocate
- ✓ Staff Advocate



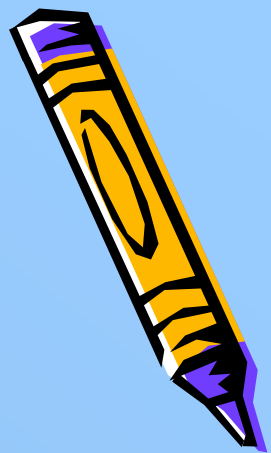
"Everything I Need to
Know I Learned in Middle
School"



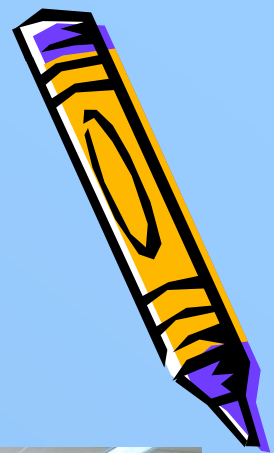
What were you worried
about most when you
moved from the
elementary school to
the middle school?



What aspect of
Middle School do you
enjoy the most?



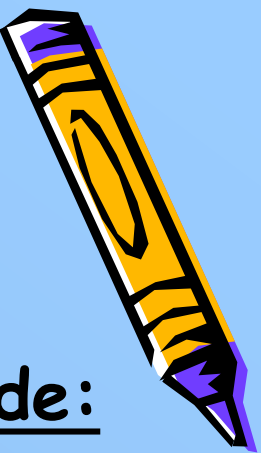
The Role of the Student Team Advisor (STA)



- Liaisons to other staff
- Student advocates
- Coordinators of team activities
- Support and promote SEL programs
- Attendance at CST, CSE and 504 meetings
- Weekly meetings with administration



6th Grade WISE START Health Program



Content areas include:

AIDS - HIV
Refusal Skills
Risk Factors
Decisions & Actions
Self Concept
Stress
Responsibility
Peer Pressure
Wellness
Health Enhancing Behavior

Intramurals

Grades 6 → 8 Co-ed

Monday through Friday
Generally 2:10 pm - 2:50 pm
(Depending on the activity)



Fall Offerings

Basketball
Bowling
Flag Football
Golf
Soccer
Tennis
Strength & Conditioning
Swimming
Volleyball
Hip-hop dance
Tennis

Winter Offerings

Basketball
Bowling
Ice Skating
Indoor Football
Intro. To Gymnastics
Strength & Conditioning
Ping Pong
Swimming
Hip-hop dance
Badminton

Spring Offerings

Basketball
Bowling
Diamond Sports
Football
Golf
Ping Pong
Soccer
Strength & Conditioning
Swimming
Hip-hop dance
Tennis



Clubs Offered Could Include:



Advertising
Cartoon Club
Community Service
Computer Repair
Craft Club
Create-a-Game
Decorating Club
Desk Top Magic
Diversity Club
First Lego Robotics
French Club

Games Club
Homework Club
Italian Club
Jazz Club
Mathletes
Newspaper
SADD
Science Club
Scrabble
Set and Scenery Design
Spanish Club
Stock Market

Student Council
Web Team
Wing Chun Kung Fu
Yearbook
Young Inventors



*Contingent upon the budget process

Jericho Middle School PTSA



Jericho Middle School Administration



For any questions or concerns you may have:

Mr. Donald Gately
Principal

Mr. Joseph Wiener
Assistant Principal



Teamwork Makes the Difference



- ❖ Team Design
 - ❖ 2 teachers
 - ❖ Social Studies/ELA and Math/Science
- ❖ Team Focus
- ❖ Teaming advantages in middle school



Scheduling



Creating a Student Schedule

Mathematics

Science

English Language Arts

Social Studies

Interdisciplinary

Music

Lunch

World Language

Home & Careers/Art

(Alternating Semesters)

Physical Education

Exploratory Elective

(depending on other courses)



Creating a Student Schedule--Grade 6



DAY 1

1. Interdisciplinary
2. Home & Careers/Art
3. Mathematics
4. Science
5. Physical Education
6. Lunch
7. Music
8. English Language Arts
9. Social Studies

DAY 2

1. Interdisciplinary
2. World Language
3. Mathematics
4. Science
5. Physical Education
6. Lunch
7. Music or Exploratory
8. English Language Arts
9. Social Studies



Please complete the
registration form **online** with
your child by the due date
indicated on the letter you
receive.



Course Selection / Schedule Information

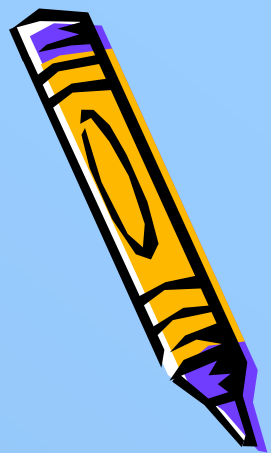
- Important decisions are based on information we get from students and parents:
 - District budget
 - The community votes on this budget
 - Staffing
 - Room assignments
 - Individual student schedules
 - Materials and resources



Schedule/Placement:

FYI's

- Parents may not request a certain team or teacher
- There are many good reasons for this



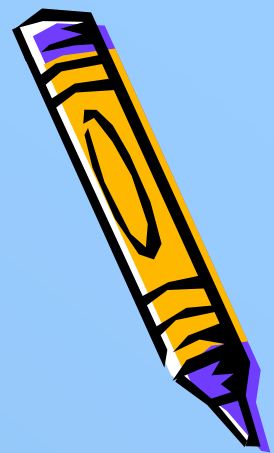
Schedule/Placement: FYI's



- Equity and Fairness
- Don't believe what you hear at Whole Foods (or the gym, or the beach, etc.)
- Every child's experience is different
 - My least favorite teacher may be your favorite teacher



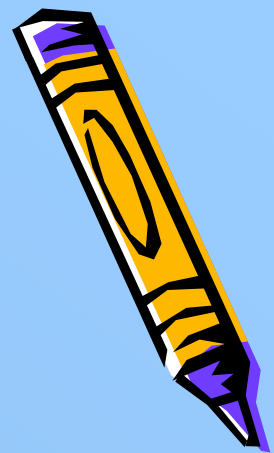
Schedule/Placement: FYI's



- Information is good...let us know
 - If your child or a sibling had a negative/unresolved experience
 - If there is some other reason your child should not have a certain teacher



Schedule/Placement: FYI's



*BUT you MUST let
us know by the
March deadline!*



World Languages

Presented by: Dr. Elaine Margarita

* French

* Italian

* Chinese

* Spanish

The focus is on Communication, Culture, Connections, Comparisons, and Communities reflecting the New York State and National Standards for World Languages). The students will also be prepared for the New York State Proficiency Exam at the end of the eighth grade.

Topics include:

Community & Neighborhood

Current Events & Culture

Earning a Living

Education

Family Life

House & Home

Health & Welfare

Leisure

Meal-taking

Personal Identification

Physical Environment

Public & Private Services

Shopping

Travel



Students will take the FLACS Checkpoint A Exam at the end of the eighth grade which gives them one high school credit.

Students must select their language carefully as they are unable to change once they have begun the language sequence.
The sequence starts in the sixth grade and continues through high school.



The Middle School Special Education Department



Integrated Co-Teaching: Four Core Classes – ELA/SS, Math/Science + Guided Study

- **Methods:**

1. Team Teaching (Both teachers teach the lesson together)
2. Parallel Teaching (Each teacher teaches the same lesson to separate groups simultaneously)
3. Station Teaching (Chunking lessons into smaller activities; classroom centers)
4. Alternative Teaching (Specialized instruction for smaller groups)



The Middle School Special Education Department

Resource Room: The Learning Center Program

- Organizational Skills
- Study Skills
- Writing Skills
- Test-taking Strategies
- Homework Strategies
- English as Second Language



The Middle School

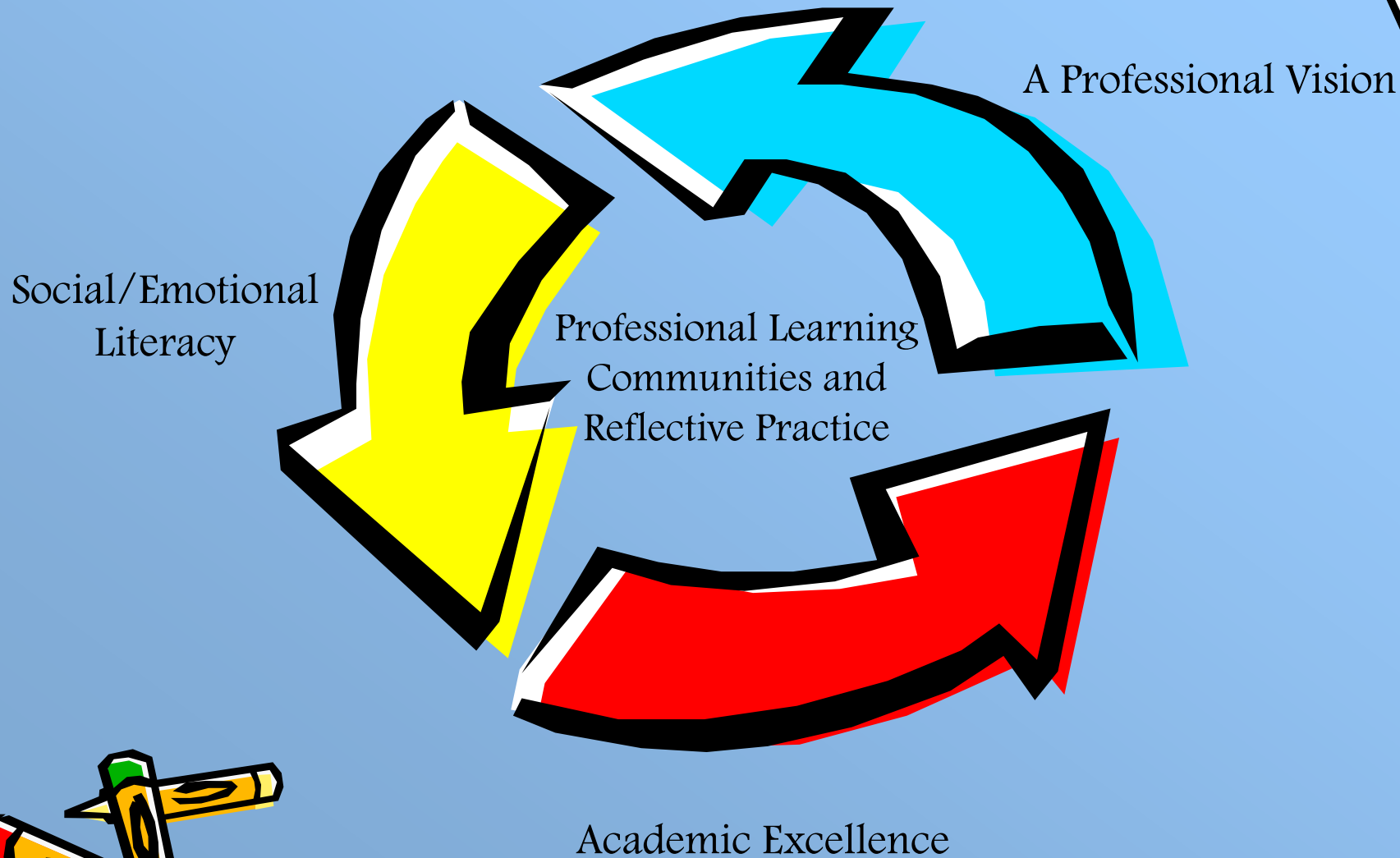
Special Education Department

Other Programs / Related Services

- Consultant Teacher
- Reading
- Speech and Language Therapy
- Occupational and Physical Therapy
- Assistive Technology
- Counseling



Charting a Course of Excellence





Characteristics of Young Adolescents



- rebellious
- loyal to friends
- need frequent affirmation from adults
- moody, restless, self-conscious
- confused
- seek acceptance from peers (identity)
- egocentric
- highly curious
- seek relevance
- sensitive to criticism
- strong sense of fairness
- mature at varying rates of speed



Middle-Level Policy Statements

- This We Believe (1982, 1995)
 - National Middle School Association
- Turning Points (1989, 1998)
 - Carnegie Corporation for Adolescent Development
- Essential Elements of a Standards Focused Middle School (1999, 2004)
 - New York State Education Department



Developmentally Appropriate Transition



- Grade 6:
 - Interdisciplinary Teams
 - 2 teachers
 - Instructional Teams
 - Move as a class
- Grade 7
 - Instructional Teams
 - Re-group for all subjects
 - Individual programs
- Grade 8
 - Instructional Teams
 - Greater specialization
 - High school credit



Social and Emotional Literacy is ...



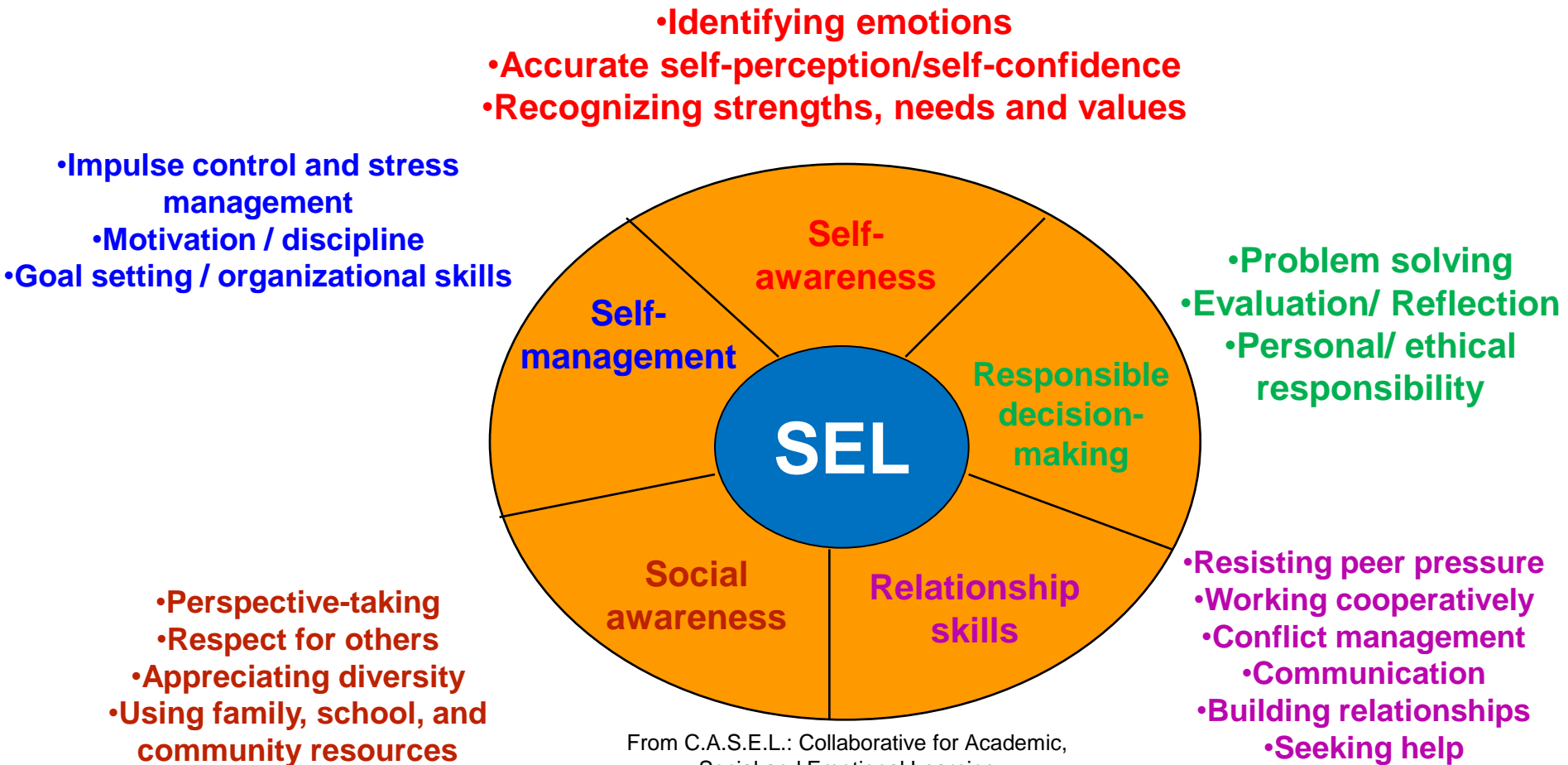
- Self awareness
- Self management
- Social awareness
- Relationship skills
- Responsible decision-making



Jericho Middle School

Social and Emotional Learning (SEL)

SEL is the process whereby children and adults develop essential social and emotional skills, knowledge, and attitudes related to:



From C.A.S.E.L.: Collaborative for Academic,
Social and Emotional Learning

SEL Programs

- OLWEUS
- BRAVE
- Quality Circles
- Personal Best Initiative
- V.A.L.U.E.
- Community Service
- Mentoring
- Monthly Themes
- Partnership with CSEE & CASEL
- Social and Emotional Learning Resources





Jericho Middle School has adopted the following rules against bullying:

- *We will not bully others.*
- *We will try to help students who are bullied.*
- *We will try to include students who are left out.*
- *We will tell an adult at school and at home if we know that somebody is being bullied.*





leave no one out



empower yourself



amuse with humor



distraction the bully



enlist help

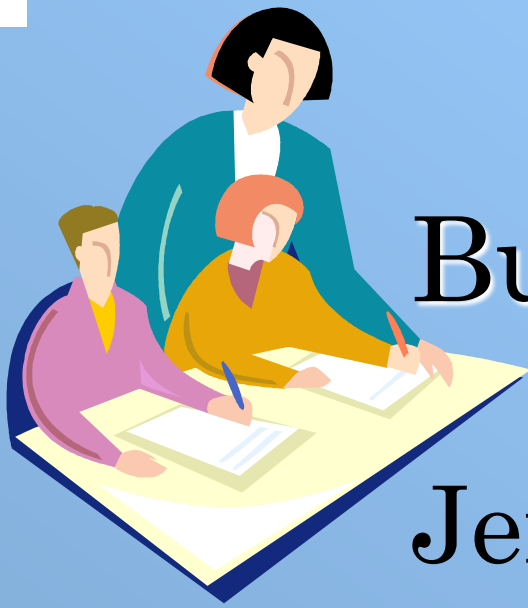


rumors stop with you



support the victim





Building Partnerships...



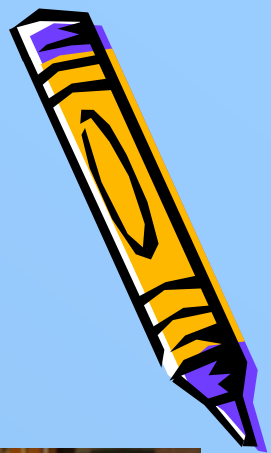
Jericho Middle School
invites you to:

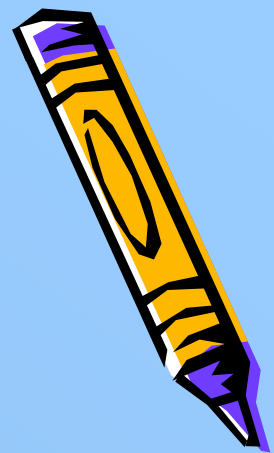
*Actively participate in
your child's education*



Developing Relationships:

- Administrators
- Teachers
- STA
- School Nurse
- Counselors
- Social Worker
- School Psychologist
- Support Staff
- PTSA
- SEPTA





Communication is
the Name of the
Game!



Communication

Who ya gonna call...?



- Classroom teacher
- Student team advisor
- Guidance counselor
- Curriculum Associates
- Social worker/School Psychologist/Nurse
- Middle School Administrators



JERICHO MIDDLE SCHOOL CHAIN OF COMMUNICATION

STRIVING TO IMPROVE COMMUNICATIONS IN OUR SCHOOL

Students: We encourage all students to express their questions and concerns directly to the teacher

Parents: If you are concerned about an issue involving your child's education, classroom experience, or teacher, go directly to the teacher.

Contact the Teacher

Teachers are available to communicate with students and parents. You can leave a message for the teacher at **203-3600, ext. 3502** between 7:15 am and 3:15 pm, or e-mail at jdaly@jerichoschools.org. In order to respond in a timely manner, indicate times when you can be reached. Please be patient. . .the teachers will try to contact you as soon as possible.

In the event that additional clarification is necessary, or if you haven't heard from the teacher in a reasonable amount of time, please contact the Guidance Counselor or the Curriculum Associate at 203-2600.

GUIDANCE COUNSELORS 203-3600

If you need to find out about an assignment or need an update on your child's progress, contact the guidance counselor by grade.

7th Gr. - Ms. M. Richman (x3271) myork@jerichoschools.org

8th Gr. - Ms. J. York (x3274) jschmitt@jerichoschools.org

6th Gr. Ms. K. Schmitt (x3557) mprichman@jerichoschools.org

STUDENT TEAM ADVISORS 203-3600, Ext. 3502

Team 6A - Ms. D. Gilbert	Team 6B - Ms. B. Riccuiti
Team 6C - Ms. M. Clemente	Team 6D - Ms. S. Aubrey
Team 7A - Ms. M. Vevante	Team 7B - Ms. M. Sammartano
Team 7C - Ms. C. LaMelza	Team 8A - Ms. T. Cantwell
Team 8B - Ms. K. Kovoros	Team 8C - Ms. C. LaMelza

CURRICULUM ASSOCIATES

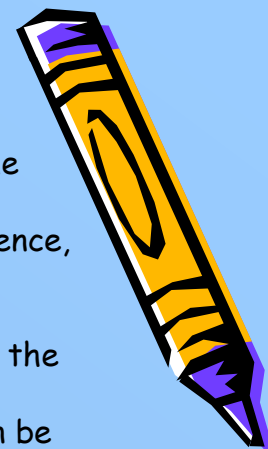
Curriculum Associates are responsible for the K-12 curriculum. If your concern stems from a classroom practice, grade, or a particular book or assignment, contact the department's Curriculum Associate.

CURRICULUM ASSOCIATES 203-3600

Mr. B. Cummings-Science & Technology (x-3238)
Mr. J. Mankowich - Physical Education (x3248)
Ms. H. Kriegstein - Mathematics (x3426)
Dr. E. Sundberg - Social Studies (x3229)
Dr. E. Margarita - World Languages & Home & Careers (x3428)
Mr. K. Pollitt - Music & Fine Arts (x3246)
Dr. D. Salzman - English Language Arts (x3427)
Mr. J. Baum - Special Education (x3247)

LEARNING CENTER - 203-3600

Ms. L. McDonnell - Special Ed. Facilitator (x3460)
Dr. J. Castronova-Exec. Director Pupil Personnel Services (x3410)



continued . . .

JERICO MIDDLE SCHOOL CHAIN OF COMMUNICATION (CONTINUED)

PERSONNEL SERVICES- 203-3600

Dr. J. Barnes, Psychologist (x3212)

jbarnes@jerichoschools.org

Ms. J. Verdino, Social Worker (x3266)

jverdino@jerichoschools.org

ATHLETICS - 203-3600

Intramurals (x3502), Coaching Staff (x-3249)

Interscholastic Sports (x-3249)

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

If questions or concerns exist after following the above Chain of Communication, contact the Assistant Principal.

Mr. Joseph Wiener

at 203-3600, Ext. 3270

PRINCIPAL

If further discussion is necessary, contact the principal. Mr. Donald Gately, at 203-3600, Ext. 3552, or the direct line 2033630. All calls directed to the Building Administrators or Curriculum Associates are maintained in a telephone log.

If your problem has not been resolved through the Principal's Office, contact the appropriate Assistant Superintendent, then the Superintendent, and ultimately, the Board of Education



What's on your mind?

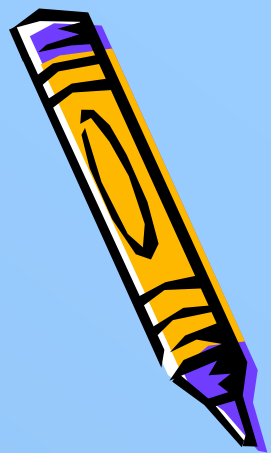


*Is it hard to get to
class on time?*

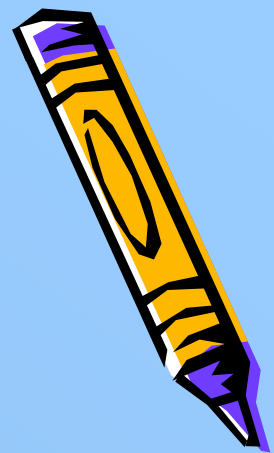


What's on your mind?

*Is there a lot of
homework?*



What's on your mind?



*How much time
should my child
spend on
homework each
night?*



What's on your mind?



*How can I make
sure my child
gets Mrs. (fill in
the blank)?*



What's on your child's mind?



- How will I find my way around?
- How long are the periods?
- How much time is there between classes?
- How do the late buses work?



What's on your child's mind?



- *What is lunch like?*



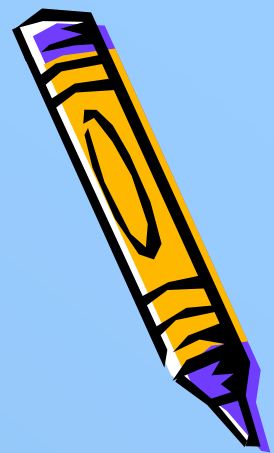
What's on your child's mind?



- How many teachers will I have next year?
- What if I forget my locker combination?
- How does extra help work?
- What if I'm late for a class?



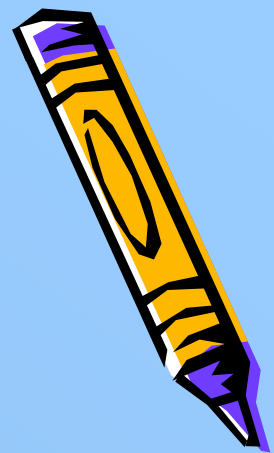
What's on your child's mind?



- How many tests will I take?
- How many kids in each class?
- What if I forget my lunch money?
- Where do we go when we get to school?
- When do we get to use the library?



What's on your child's mind?



- Do I keep my backpack in my classroom or in my locker?
- What should you do if an older kid bullies you?



What's on your child's mind?



- Are we allowed to wear hats?
- When will we find out our homeroom?
- Do we switch classes for every subject?
- Do we have recess?



Do Your Personal Best!



- **Middle School Goals**
 - Academic
 - Social/Emotional Development
- **High Expectations**
 - Academics
 - Behavior
 - Character



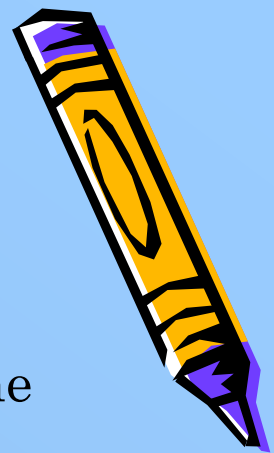
Parents



- Communicate with school
- Stay involved
- Join PTSA
- Open door policy
- Support your child



Jericho School District Website



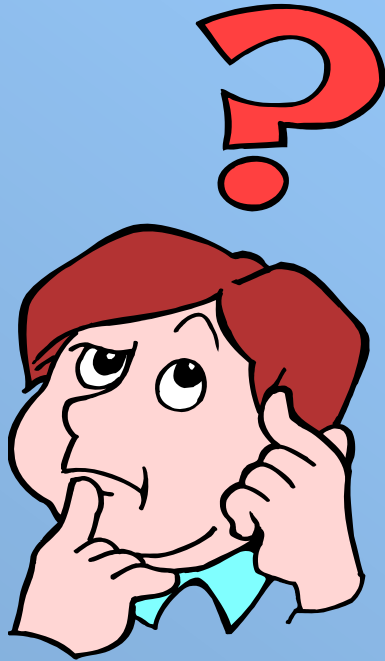
Please visit our school district website. It contains some of the following information:

- Middle School Chain of Communication
- Club Calendars
- Parent Newsletters
- PTSA Information
- Lunch Menus
- Progress Reports
- Report Cards
- E-mail: A vehicle for communication
- Updates on School Closings



www.jerichoschools.org

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS



Reflection and Feedback