



6th Grade  
Boot Camp  
Parent Session

# Concerns for Starting Middle School

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Starting middle school is a huge step! We know you may be just as worried about your child starting 6<sup>th</sup> grade as they are.

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Write down your worries on the index cards on your table.

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We will use your comments to guide our parent outreach sessions for this year!



Kevin Schottler

- Thurgood Marshall's Principal

Ashley Grogan

- Assistant Principal A-K and Administrator for the CGS

Valencia Gore

- Assistant Principal L-Z

Tiffany Netzler

- CGS Magnet Coordinator

Courtney Northcutt

- A-K Counselor

Dr. Lois McKee

- L-Z Counselor



OVERVIEW

# Student Activities

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Team Building

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AVID Excellence

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Campus Tour

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Speed Friending

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Gifted Mindsets

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How to Be a Jaguar

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6<sup>th</sup> Grade Survival Skills



BOOTCAMP

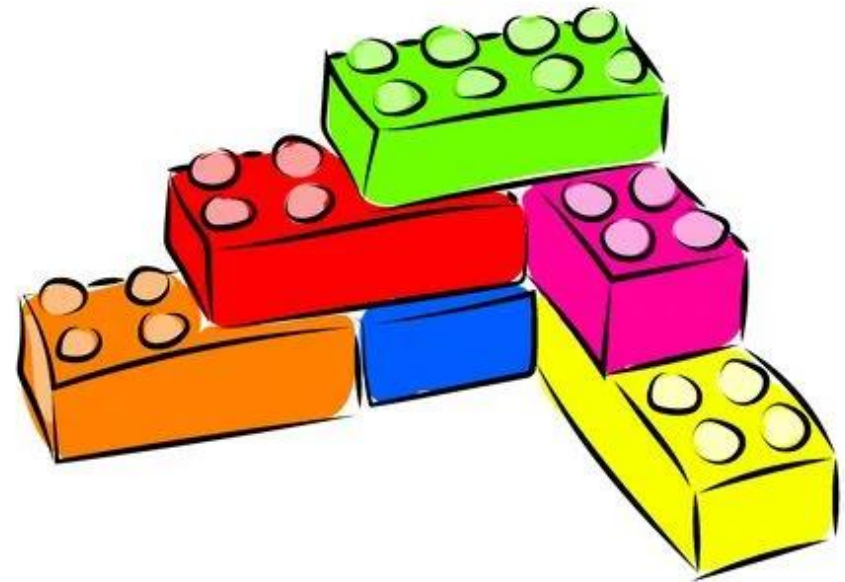
# Team Building

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Working together is an integral part of our Center for Gifted Studies program!

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Students worked together, used their critical and creative thinking skills, and problem solved.



# AVID Excellence



One of the most critical aspects of learning is to begin with good questions.



There is no place where this is more apparent than when students are engaging one another in thoughtful, inquiry-based discussions.



This ability to effectively question other students is especially important during collaborative study groups.

# Campus Tour

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Students went  
on a scavenger  
hunt to discover  
different parts  
of our campus





# How To Be a Jaguar

Students learned all about how to be a Jaguar!

- Dress Code
- Demerits
- Detentions





# Speed Friending

It's very important to us that our students become a strong cohort!

Students played "Get to Know You" bingo and learned about each other with a questioning activity

We laid the foundation for lasting friendships!



# 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Survival Skills

- Organization, time management, and communication, oh my!
- Students learned tips and tricks to stay organized and on top of their assignments this year.
- Students shared their worries and talked through their concerns.



# Gifted Mindsets

- Students explored what it means to be gifted, how to use their “superpower” traits to be successful in 6<sup>th</sup> grade and learned strategies to cope with stress.



# 6<sup>th</sup> Grade CGS Teaching Team

Mr. Stone – 6th  
Grade Advanced  
Academics, CGS  
Literature Elective

Mrs. Greth – 6th  
Grade Advanced  
Math

Mr. Cocio – 6th  
Grade Accelerated  
Honors Science

Hired (unofficially)–  
6th Grade  
Language Arts,  
Advanced

Mrs. King – 6th  
Grade US History,  
Advanced

# School Schedule



## A/B Days Rolling Monday-Friday

Periods A/B Day	Times
1st/5th	9:40-11:21
Lunch Times	Lunch 1-11:25-11:55 Lunch 2-12:50-1:20
2nd/6th	11:25-1:20
3rd/7th	1:24-2:45
4th/8th	2:49-4:10

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1	A Day	B Day	A Day	B Day	A Day
Week 2	B Day	A Day	B Day	A Day	B Day
Week 3	A Day	B Day	A Day	B Day	A Day



# Changes in Middle School

## Communication

- Middle school teachers have 150 students (versus 25 in elementary).
- Teacher contracts allow 48 hours to respond to emails.
- Teacher contracts allow 10 days to grade assignments.

## Gifted vs Center for Gifted Studies

- Many of our students are accustomed to being the smartest student in their class.
- The adjustment to being surrounded by gifted students can be difficult on student self-esteem.



# MIDDLE SCHOOL SUCCESS



HOW CAN I  
HELP?

- EMPower \*TRUST THEM (AND REFUSE TO DO IT FOR THEM!)
- VALIDATE \*NOTICE WHEN THEY GET IT RIGHT!
- EXPECT MISTAKES \*AND ENCOURAGE THEM THROUGH!
- REMEMBER... \*WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE A KID
- YOU... \*ARE CRITICAL TO THEIR SUCCESS - SUPPORT THEM!

E.V.E.R.Y. SCHOLAR CAN BE SUCCESSFUL!



Holding students accountable helps them become self-directed learners and independently successful humans!

# Focus Portal!

Use your student's credentials to log in (R2.D2/password) or set up a parent portal account with the front office

Establish a routine for checking grades - daily/weekly

Click grades to see more detailed information about assignments



Focus



# Using Agendas

- The importance of habitual agenda use cannot be overstated
- Students should fill in all sections of the agenda - 1 for each class - EVERY day





Check in in the car!  
Check in via text!  
Check in over dinner!  
Check in in the  
morning!

# Daily Check In

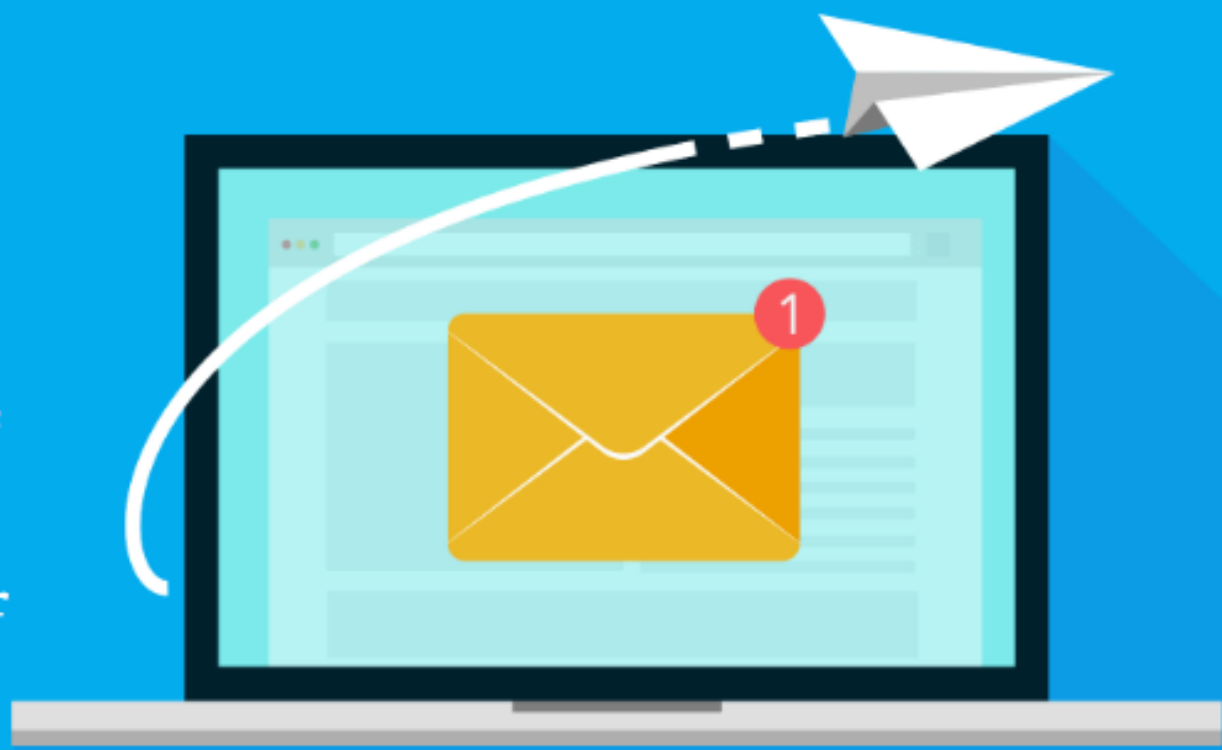
- ☐ “How was \_\_\_\_\_?”  
Ask about each class!
- ☐ Review agenda  
All four boxes should have something written!
- ☐ “What’s your plan for getting your work done?”

# Contacting Teachers

Students should take the reins on contacting their teachers!

Email is convenient and easy through Canvas:

- Ask questions when you're checking grades
- Remember: Check to see if they respond



# Questions? Concerns? Email Us!

AP - Ashley Grogan—  
grogana@pcsb.org

- Last name A-K Discipline/behavior, general questions about the school, scheduling (beginning of year)

AP - Valencia Gore—  
gorev@pcsb.org

- Last name L-Z Discipline/behavior, general questions about the school

Tiffany Netzler —  
netzlert@pcsb.org

- Gifted curriculum, gifted eligibility, information about the CGS, Educational Plans

Counselor - Courtney  
Northcutt-  
northcuttc@pcsb.org

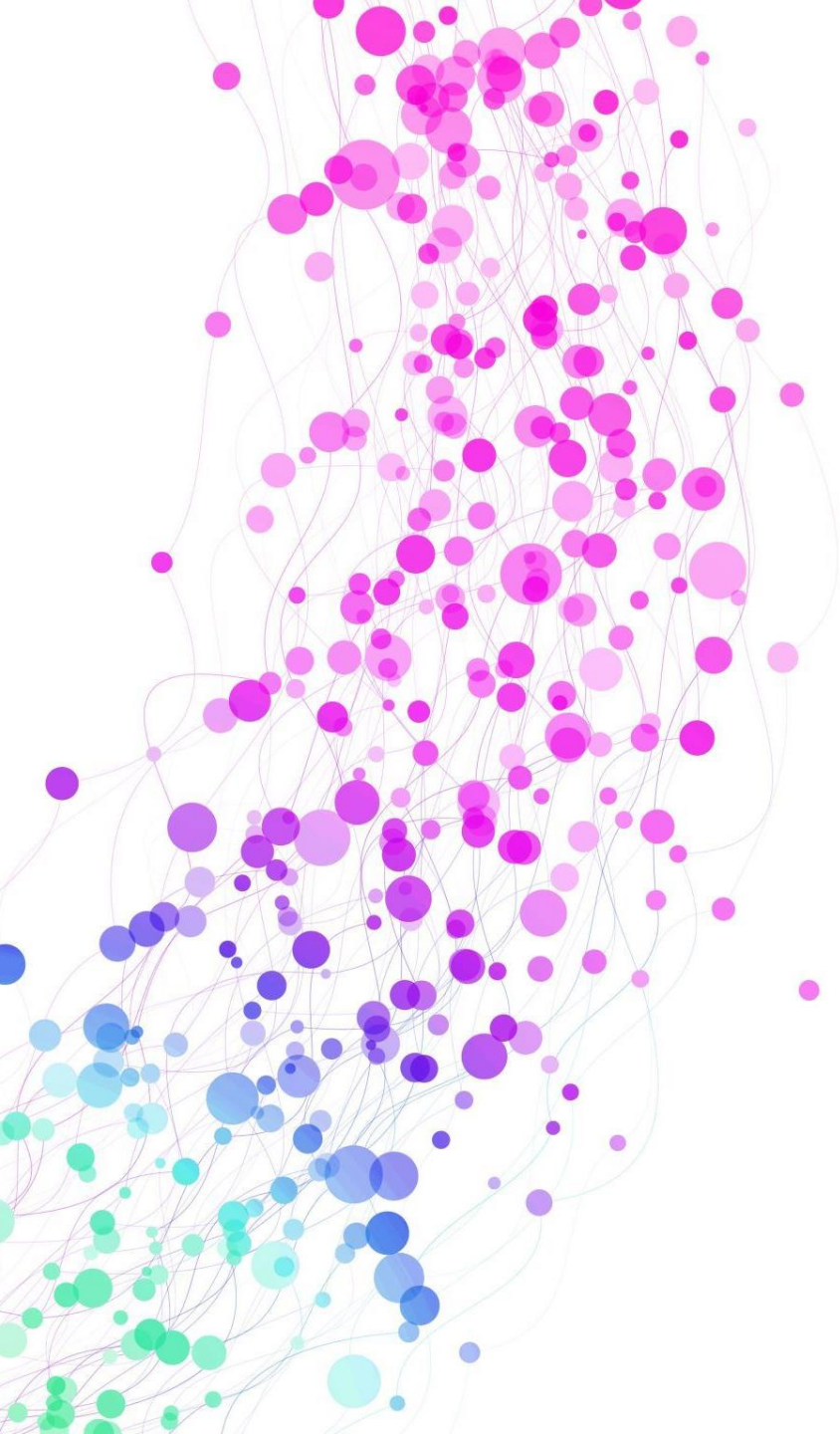
- Last name A-K Schedule issues/questions, counseling requests/concerns, 504 support

Counselor - Dr. Lois  
McKee-  
mckeel@pcsb.org

- Last name L-Z Schedule issues/questions, counseling requests/concerns, 504 support

Classroom Teachers

- Grades, classroom concerns



# Meet the Teachers

