6th Grade Boot Camp Parent Session
Starting middle school is a huge step! We know you may be just as worried about your child starting 6th grade as they are.

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

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

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
Student Activities

- Team Building
- AVID Excellence
- Campus Tour
- Speed Friending
- Gifted Mindsets
- How to Be a Jaguar
- 6th Grade Survival Skills
Team Building

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

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

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!
6th 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 6th grade and learned strategies to cope with stress.
6th 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

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<th>Periods A/B Day</th>
<th>Times</th>
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<td>1st/5th</td>
<td>9:40-11:21</td>
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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

- 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.
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
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?”

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