

*Mission Possible: Graduation &  
Beyond  
Class of 2025*

**Information and Tips for Creating a Successful Middle School &  
Career Experience**

# Welcome to Middle School!

## 5<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Transition



# Transition to Middle School

- Like anyone who begins a new journey, there will be excitement along with lots of questions.
- This presentation will help answer questions as well as prepare students and parents for the transition to middle school.
- As in elementary school, professional school counselors in middle school support district students in three life domain areas:
  - Academic
  - Career
  - Personal/social

# Getting Ready for Middle School

## MS 101

- This document is a guide for students and parents and provides information about middle school.
- Information is provided about:
  - 5<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> Transition Process and Events
  - Academics
    - Organization, Study Routines, Reminders
    - Important Definitions
    - Characteristics of Middle School Student and Middle School Vocabulary/Definitions
    - Middle School Courses
    - High School Courses Taken During Middle School
    - Testing

# MS 101 Continued

- Career Planning
  - BRIDGE Advisement
- Personal and Social
  - Just Keep Peace
  - Characteristics and Concerns of Middle School Students
  - Parent Involvement and Tips
  - School Personnel
  - Differences in Elementary and Middle School
- Appendix

Linked on Middle School Page of PCSD Website  
Middle School 101  
Printed Guide Available During April

I

***Class of 2025***

***Mission Possible:  
Graduation and Beyond***



***Middle School 101***

***A Handbook for Students and Parents  
Paulding County School District***

*Please note: The information provided in this guide is subject to change as updates and/or requirements become final from the Georgia Department of Education, Paulding County School Board (policy), and/or other agencies such as the Georgia Student Finance Commission Guidelines.*

**Academics-**What classes will I take during my 6<sup>th</sup> grade year?



Students have several teachers in middle school. During 6<sup>th</sup> grade year, students take:

**Advisement/Homeroom/Academic  
Enrichment**

**Language Arts**

**Math**

**Science**

**Social Studies**

**Two Connections classes (electives)**



# Being on a Team

- Each student is assigned to a team
- Team is a group of students and teachers working together
- Number of teams vary at each grade level, depending on size of middle school
- Teams consist of three or four teachers
- Team concept allows close relationship for student with team of teachers
- Building a relationship with several teachers is an important experience as middle school students move into high school
- Team concept allows teachers to work together
- Make-up of team supports all students and all ability levels

# Sample Schedule

Homeroom

1<sup>st</sup> Period-Science/Grade 6

2<sup>nd</sup> Period-Social Studies/Grade 6

3<sup>rd</sup> Period-Visual Arts/Grade 6

4<sup>th</sup> period-Band/Grade 6

5<sup>th</sup> Period-Mathematics/Grade 6

6<sup>th</sup> Period-Language Arts/Grade 6

**Some middle school  
students will take Advanced  
courses in English/Language  
Arts, Math, Science, and/or  
Social Studies**

**Course Criteria (Next Slide)**

# Advanced 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Courses

Grade/Course	Grades	Teacher Recommendation
<b>Advanced ELA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Demonstrates or exceeds mastery on 15 out of 18 assessed reading standards by the end of the 3rd term</li><li>• Demonstrates or exceeds mastery on 8 out of 10 assessed writing standards</li></ul>	Considering attendance, homework completion, participation, and student work habits
<b>Accelerated Math</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Demonstrates or exceeds mastery on 16 out of 20 assessed math standards by the end of the 3rd term</li><li>• Scores at or above stage 7 on the IKAN Assessment</li></ul>	Considering attendance, homework completion, participation, and student work habits
<b>Advanced Science</b>	Demonstrates or exceeds mastery on 5 out of 7 assessed science standards by the end of the 3rd term	Considering attendance, homework completion, participation, and student work habits
<b>Advanced Social Studies</b>	Demonstrates or exceeds mastery on 3 out of 4 assessed social studies standards by the end of the 3rd term	Considering attendance, homework completion, participation, and student work habits

# Students Taking Advanced Courses in Middle School May take High School Courses for High School Credit

- ❖ World Language Course Begins in 7<sup>th</sup> Grade (Spanish I)
- ❖ 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Honors Literature and Honors GSE Algebra I courses begin in 8<sup>th</sup> grade.
- ❖ Thoroughly review this information in MS 101 Guide.
- ❖ It is important to do well in 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade courses and meet all requirements, if a student wants to take the above courses later in middle school.

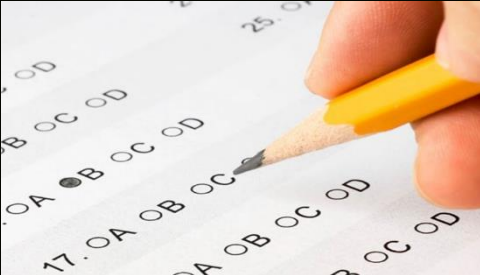
# SB289 Online Courses

Students who are interested in taking an online middle school course must have the parent apply online during April/May/June on the district website for the following school year.

Online course opportunities are sometimes limited at both the middle and high school levels.

Counselors advise both students and parents regarding online course opportunities.

Please refer to the *MS 101* guide and/or the district *Career Planner* for further information.



# Testing

## Georgia Milestones Assessment

Georgia Milestones measures how well students have learned the knowledge and skills outlined in the state-adopted content standards in language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies. Students in grades 6-8 take these summative assessments.

# What is BRIDGE

**B**uilding **R**esourceful **I**ndividuals to  
**D**evelop **G**eorgia's **E**conomy

## Advisement?





**For all elementary and middle school students, there is BRIDGE advisement delivered by counselors through classroom guidance. BRIDGE Advisement activities and plans help all students be College and Career Ready.**

**During grades 1-5 elementary students learned about career clusters and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students complete a Career Portfolio on a career interest during the second semester.**



# BRIDGE Advisement Tasks in 6<sup>th</sup> Grade are Completed via GCIS JR Website

Where Success Begins...



## Georgia Career Information Center

Home GCIC GCIS GCIS Junior Training Admin Tools Newsletter Technical Support Contact Us Links



**Georgia Career Information System**

Georgia Career Information Center, through its Georgia Career Information System (GCIS), provides current and accurate occupational and educational information to schools and agencies throughout Georgia in order to help young people and adults make informed career choices.



**Georgia Career Information System Junior**

The Georgia Career Information Center operates the Georgia Career Information System Junior (GCIS Junior). The GCIS Junior provides prerequisite career development in a fun and rewarding structure. GCIS Junior is ideal for elementary and middle school students.

### GCIS Webinars and Videos

To watch the recorded GCIS webinars, please click [Georgia Career Information Center Webinars](#).

To watch a video on creating one portfolio or uploading multiple portfolios, please click [Add Portfolios](#).

### Help Yourself

- ▶ [Georgia's BRIDGE Act](#)
- ▶ [17 Career Cluster Videos](#)
- ▶ [Learn About Financial Awards](#)



**TCSG School Search**

Technical College System of Georgia School Sort helps students find the right technical college.



**GICA**

Georgia Independent College Association School Sort helps students find the right private school.



**GEORGIA STEM DAY**  
MAY 9, 2014

The 2nd annual Georgia STEM Day is May 9, 2014! Click here to access and download GCIS and GCIS Junior STEM activities.



**INFORMATION PARENTS CAN USE**

Enter

### Career Profiles

- ▶ [Police Diver](#)
- ▶ [Recruiter](#)
- ▶ [Restaurant Hostess](#)

### Program Profiles

- ▶ [Chiropractics](#)
- ▶ [Culinary Arts](#)
- ▶ [Graphic Design](#)

Activity  
Spanish Version Available



### Popular Search

- [Occupations](#)
- [Programs of Study](#)
- [Schools](#)

Follow @GCICGA



**All grade levels utilize SLDS/Counselor Companion**

**Student logs into the IC Student Portal**

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**GCIS JR Account is continues to be used or is created.**

**Career Cluster Survey (48 questions) is completed.**

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**Reality Inventory is taken.**

**3 Career Clusters are explored.**

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**3 Careers are explored.**

**Individual Graduation Plan is completed using the MYAP  
Tool in Infinite Campus.**



## Infinite Campus Multi-Year Academic Planner MYAP Tool Used to Complete IGP

IGP (Individual Graduation Plan) = planning and tracking a personal pathway to graduation

You and your student will learn all about this tool during the 8<sup>th</sup> grade year.



**Personal/Social  
Support for Middle  
School Students**

## *Just Keep Peace*

Proactive program for bullying prevention. Promotes tolerance and acceptance.

**Characteristics of Middle School Students-Included in *MS 101***

**Parent Involvement and Parent Tips Included in *MS 101***

# Differences in Elementary and Middle School

Elementary School	Middle School
One teacher and classroom	Different teachers and classrooms
Expectations that students are used to with frequent reminders from teachers	Expectations may be different and students are given more responsibility
Belongings stored in the classroom with teacher assistance	Students have specific place or locker to store belongings
Same students in each class	Different students in each class
Many of the same students kindergarten through fifth grade	Students coming from different schools. New opportunities to make friends.
Limited choices	Choices for clubs, organizations, band, chorus, orchestra, and intramurals.
Work is completed in class with some homework.	Students receive more homework and must learn how to organize book bags, lockers, materials, and their time.
Testing Georgia Milestones Assessments - 3rd - 5th Grades IKAN (Math Only) – 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math Inventory Screener (K-5)	Testing Georgia Milestones Assessments - 6 <sup>th</sup> - 8th Grades IKAN (Math Only) – 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math Inventory Screener (6-7)

# Important Immunization Information

**Please make certain you have taken care of immunization requirements for your student.**

- ✓ The State of Georgia requires that all students entering public school have a completed certificate of immunization on file with the school.
- ✓ There is a requirement as students enter sixth grade that there is proof of meeting requirements on Form 3231.
- ✓ Students entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade must have had two MMR vaccines and show proof of immunity to varicella
- ✓ An up-to-date immunization form is due prior to the first day of school.
- ✓ Please check with your healthcare provider to see if your child needs any additional immunizations.
- ✓ The state sends an auditor to check 6<sup>th</sup> grade records each fall. They will make a list of individual students who need additional immunizations.
- ✓ Failure to provide documentation of up-to-date immunizations can cause your student to be withdrawn from school.
- ✓ All requirements are on the district website link.



