

Transitioning to the Middle School



**WHAT TO EXPECT AND HOW TO
PREPARE**



Meet the Panel



Brooks

Stacey Robertson
Special Education
Coordinator

- Leslie Budde, Speech Pathologist
- Pam Gaffney, Language & Literature
- Jen Olsen, Social Worker
- Riley Hoerner, Reading Specialist/Special Education Teacher
- Angelica Love, Assistant Principal
- Megan Wilson, Special Education Teacher
- Cameron Szymczak, Special Education Teacher

Julian

Stacey Robertson
Special Education
Coordinator

- Dione Daniels, Special Education Teacher
- Jerome Green, Assistant Principal
- Steve Hoskins, Individuals & Societies Teacher
- Sarah Mellman, Speech Pathologist
- Melanie Touchette, Multi-Needs Special Education Teacher
- Jillian Williams, Reading Specialist/Special Education Teacher

District Level Student Services Team



- Donna Middleton, Sr. Director of Student Services
- Tracy Hamm, Director of Student Services
- Laura Reeves, Student Services Coordinator for Beye, Irving, Longfellow and Mann
- Lauren Trout, Student Services Coordinator for Hatch, Holmes, Lincoln and Whittier
- Stacey Robertson, Student Services Coordinator for Gwendolyn Brooks and Percy Julian Middle Schools

Middle School Teams



6th Grade

6.1

6.2

6.3

Who is on a team?



6.1

6.2

6.3

- Language & Literature Teacher
- Math Teacher
- Individual & Societies Teacher
- Science Teacher
- Special Education Teacher

Class Options



General Education Class

- One teacher
- Typical class size 20-26 students
- General Education Curriculum

Co-Taught Class

- Co-Taught - Two teachers (General Education and Special Education(Math/Language & Literature))
- Typical class size 18-26 students
- General Education with accommodations by SPED Teacher

Supported Class

- This is a general education class where adult support is offered for some sections.
- Only offered for Science and Individuals and Societies
- An additional adult to support students (not co-taught)

Instructional Class

- One Special Education Teacher
- Class size maximum 13 students
- Modified Curriculum
- TA Supported

General Education Classes	Co-Taught Classes	Special Education Classes
Language & Literature	Co-Taught Language & Literature	Language & Literature
Math	Co-Taught Math	Math
Language Acquisition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spanish • French 		Reading Support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read 180(more for comprehension) • Decoding Intervention
Individuals & Societies	Supported with an additional adult Individual & Societies (Supported is different than Co-Taught in that it may be with a SPED teacher or Teaching Assistant)	
Science	Supported with an additional adult Science (Supported is different than Co-Taught in that it may be with a SPED teacher or Teaching Assistant)	
Lunch		
PE/Health		Adapted P.E. is offered for identified students(usually those in the Multi-Needs Program)
Electives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chorus • Band/Orchestra • Art Foundations • Speech/Drama/Debate 		Multi-Needs Programing for Identified Students
SOAR(Strategies of Academics and Resilience)/ Integrated Studies/Technology/Design and Modeling		SOAR(Strategies of Academics and Resilience) with Special Education Teacher

Reading Intervention Options: Read180 & Wilson

Read180: a blended learning program, which means students use a variety of tools to build their vocabulary, spelling, reading comprehension, and writing abilities. Students are involved in whole & small group lessons, independent reading, and student app technology.



- Follows a ten-part lesson plan that addresses the following: decoding, morphology & the study of word elements, encoding and orthography (internalizing the rules that govern English), sight word instruction, oral reading fluency, vocabulary, & comprehension.



Block Scheduling in Middle School

76 minute classes 4 days per week

A Day- Sample Schedule

1st period: 9 - 10:16

2nd period: 10:19-11:35 - 6th
grade lunch/Advisory

3rd period: 11:38 - 12:53

4th period: 12:56 - 2:11

5th period: 2:14 - 3:30

B Day- Sample Schedule

6th period: 9 - 10:16

7th period: 10:19 - 11:35 - 6th
grade lunch/Advisory

8th period: 11:38 - 12:53

9th period: 12:56 - 2:11

10th period: 2:14 - 3:30

And then there is C(Brooks)/J(Julian) Day



These days are every Friday of a Full Week. Students will have all classes on Fridays when there is a full week. Each class lasts approximately 36/37 minutes.

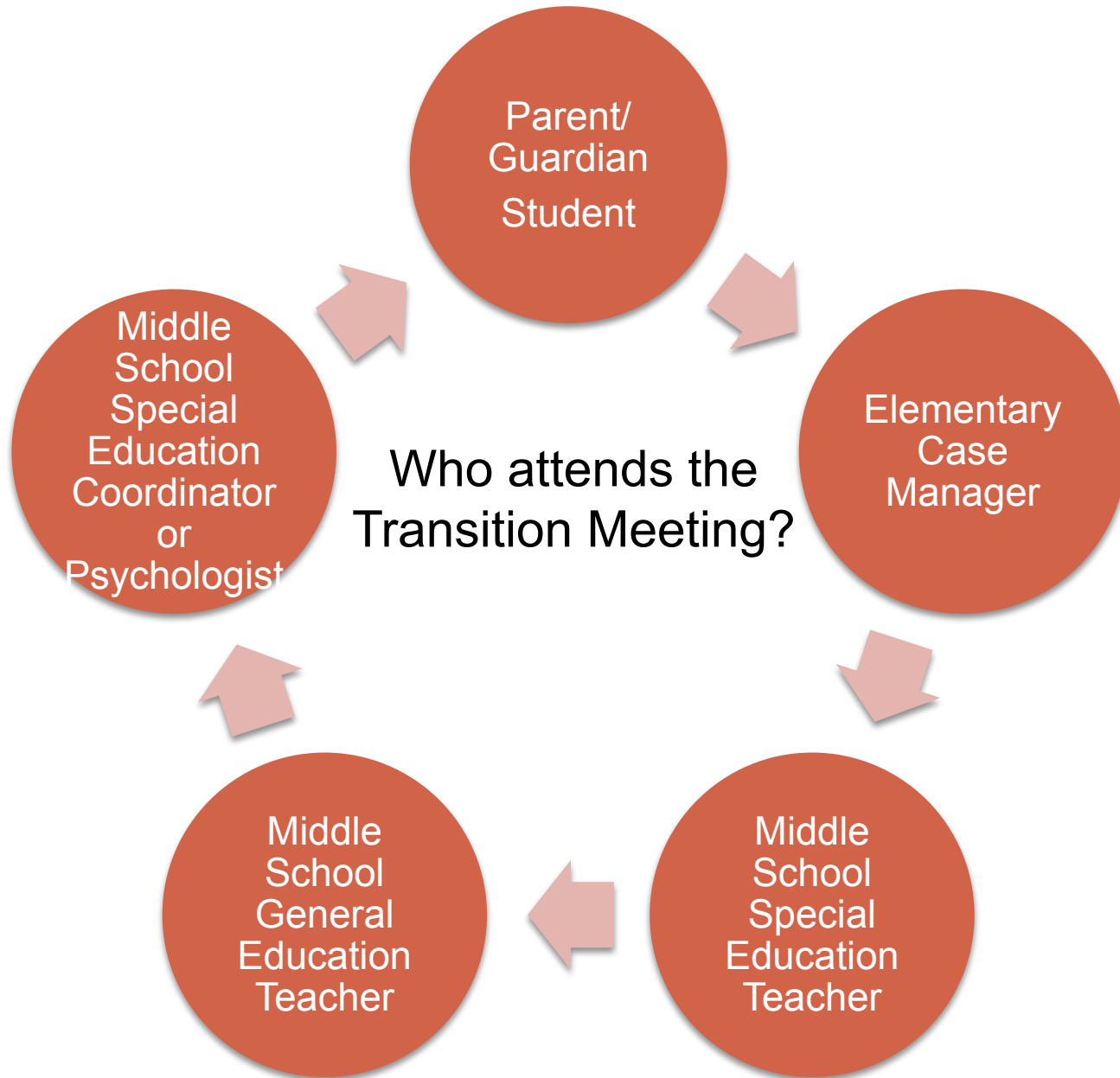
Don't worry there are reminders about which day it is and students adjust rather quickly.

What is Special Education SOAR?

Strategies of Academics & Resilience



- A guided support period
- Development of executive functioning skills.
- An opportunity for students to get support for work from their Co-Taught and/or General Education classes from a Special Education teacher.
- Provides time for implementing accommodations-extended time, text read aloud, small group testing, etc.
- Typically the period that Related Service Providers schedule pull out support (Social Work, Speech, OT, PT)
- Provides time for AIMSWeb Progress Monitoring.



Transition Meeting...What to Expect



- An opportunity for the Elementary School and incoming Middle School to collaborate on how to best support your child.
- A chance to meet some of the Middle School team members that may be supporting your child, though the SPED teacher present may or may not have your child on their caseload next year.
- A chance for your child to be an active participant in their transition meeting and ask/answer questions.
- A time to amend the current IEP to reflect the Middle School model and choose course selections.
- An overall positive and welcoming experience for both you and your child.
- Transition Meetings April 19th - May 25th and will last normally about 45 minutes. They will be via Zoom.

Incoming 6th Grade Transition Meeting

Agenda



- Introductions
- Purpose of Meeting
- Ask Student & Parents/Guardians to share any questions or concerns they want to make sure we address during the meeting
- Student Strengths
- Present Levels

Current case manager to report out on the following:

- -What does current service deliver look like?
- -Review current goal areas and MAP Scores or any other pertinent data
- - Review current needs or supports
- - Does the student receive any related services?
- - Review any other important information for the team to know such as executive functioning needs, does student have a Behavior Intervention Plan.

- Discuss 6th grade class offerings
- Selection of 6th grade classes
- Parent/Guardian questions/concerns

If time does not allow for team to fully answer questions/concerns, please reach out via email to middle school coordinator/Psychologist, current case manager or middle school staff member present at meeting.

Insider TIPS for Middle School



- Practice combination locks
- If at all possible, purchase 2 PE Uniforms (P.E. is daily).
- Begin to develop an organizational system
- Charge chromebook nightly.
- Parents should familiarize themselves with Canvas and PowerSchool.
- Identify social/extracurricular activities listed on school website.
- Tour building when you pick up schedule.
- Hours are 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

ADVISORY



- Similar to a homeroom concept
- Small class size
- 2nd Step Curriculum
- Team Building Activities
- Service learning projects
- The Advisor is another point person for students/families

RELATED SERVICES



- Social Work
- Speech/Language
- Occupational Therapy
- Physical Therapy
- Adaptive Physical Education
- School Psychologist

Question and Answer Session



**WE WILL BEGIN WITH PRE-SUBMITTED QUESTIONS AND
THEN OPEN THE FLOOR TO TAKE MORE QUESTIONS-TIME
PERMITTING.**