

**CROSSROADS NORTH
MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**SIXTH GRADE
PARENT ORIENTATION**

Welcome to Crossroads Middle School

Crossroads Middle School

Crossroads North

Principal Bynoe

Assistant Principals
Riccardi & Berry

6th Grade Units

Comets Neptune Polaris

7th / 8th Grade Units

Theta Rho Tau

Sigma Kappa Zeta

Dean
S.P.S.
Counselors
C.S.T.

Supervisor of
Special Ed.
Santa Maria

S
H

Math/Science
Supervisor
Rajagopal

Music
Supervisor
Sears

A
R
E

Tech Encore
Supervisor
Rajagopal

L.A. / S.S.
Supervisor
Medina

D

World
Language
Supervisor
Decker

Health/P.E.
Supervisor
Harding

S
T
A

Technology
Support
Carlson
Vargas

F
F

Kmiec - Extracurricular
Activities
Hendricks - Athletics

Crossroad South

Principal Capes

Assistant Principals
Hinson & Kmiec

6th Grade Units

Apollo Aurora Phoenix

7th / 8th Grade Units

Alpha Beta Chi

Delta Gamma Omega

Dean
S.P.S.
Counselors
C.S.T.

CROSSROADS MIDDLE SCHOOL STRUCTURE

Three 6th Grade Units

Approximately 120 students per unit

Unit Names

NORTH: Comets, Neptune, Polaris

SOUTH: Apollo, Aurora, Phoenix

CORE UNIT SUBJECTS

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

- Literature
- Writing

MATH

SCIENCE

SOCIAL STUDIES

**Units:
5 Core Subjects
Changing Classes and
Teachers**

6th Grade English Language Arts

Literature Overview

Genre-Based Study: Core Texts

- *Front Desk, Of Beetles & The Angels, and Gathering Blue or (The Giver)*

Informational Texts

- Pair with core texts to meet Reading Informational Standards

Book Clubs

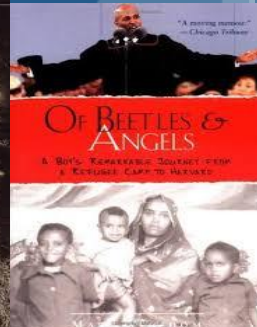
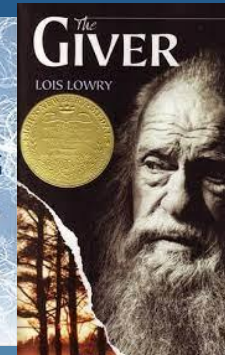
- Tie to the core novel and genre study

Word Study

- Addresses the inside (roots) and outside (context) of words
- Greek and Latin Affixes

Other Practices:

- Independent Reading
- Read-Aloud
- Short Stories
- Poetry



INDEPENDENT READING PROGRAM: *PATTERNS*

*Parents And Teachers Together,
Encouraging the Reading of Nonfiction
and Novels*



Summer Reading

- It's our way to inspire and celebrate reading!
- Every child should read at least one book of his/her/their choice during the summer.
- More information can be found at the link above.



Writing Overview

Writers' Workshop:

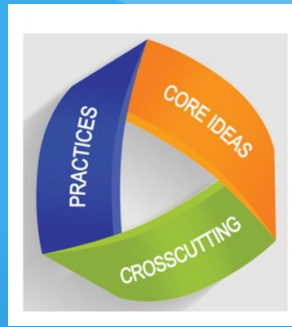
- Mini-lessons
- Conferencing
- Ample practice in narrative, information, and argumentative composition
- Sentence-level grammar



Ancient Civilizations (6th)

- Beginnings of Human Society through the Byzantine Empire
- Curriculum corresponds to first three eras of the World History Social Studies Standards
- Synthesis of knowledge across civilizations
- Comparison and contrast of civilizations to modern-day United States
- Literacy course to hone in on skill development in reading, writing, speaking, and listening.





NJSLS for science

Science and Engineering Practices

Cross Cutting Concepts

Disciplinary Core Ideas

- Anchor Phenomena

Facts - not the focus of teaching	Explanations Modeling Argument with reasoning
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Units of Focus:

- Geology
- Meteorology
- Astronomy

Enrichment opportunity

- 6th Grade Science Fair (April)

Math Content Standards

- Ratios and Proportional Relationships
- The Number System
- Expressions and Equations
- Geometry
- Statistics and Probability

Practice Standards

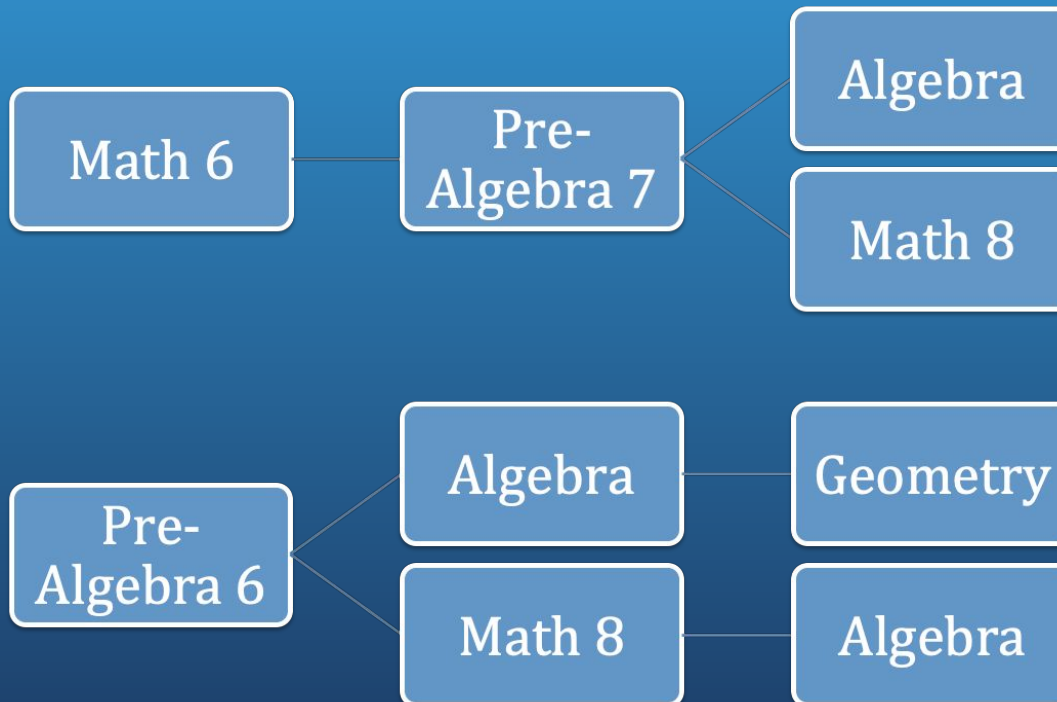
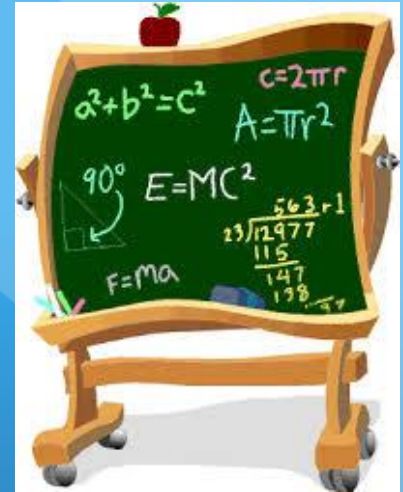
- Make sense of problems and persevere through them
- Reason abstractly and quantitatively
- Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others
- Use appropriate tools strategically
- Attend to precision
- Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning



Mathematics

6th Grade math courses:

- Math 6 (on grade level)
- Pre-Algebra (accelerated pace)



Math Placement

Placement letters in Genesis in early July

All students will be evaluated at the beginning of the school year to determine appropriateness of placement.





*** Math Instructional Support for selected students*

To prevent “summer slide”

Summer assignment

<https://sbhsstem.weebly.com/summer-assignments.html>

Summer Assignment

3	4	5	6	7	8
	<p>Independence Day</p> 	<p>Order these fractions from least to greatest.</p> $\frac{7}{8}, \frac{3}{4}, \frac{4}{6}, \frac{3}{5}, \frac{1}{2}$ <p>Show your work.</p>	<p>Define a prime number.</p> <p>List the first 10 prime numbers.</p> <p>List the first 10 composite numbers.</p> <p>Is 1 prime or composite?</p>	<p>In a car lot there are 38 rows with 25 parking spots in each row. How many parking spots are there in all?</p>	
10	11	12	13	14	15
<p>A square has a side of 63 cm. What is the perimeter of the square? Explain how you know this. What is the area of the square?</p>	<p>Jay ate $\frac{1}{3}$ of a pizza and Anjali ate $\frac{1}{4}$ of the pizza. How much of the whole pizza is left?</p>	<p>Find the prime factorization for the number 48 using a factor tree.</p> <p>Tutorial for extra help</p>	<p>What is the improper fraction for $2\frac{3}{4}$?</p> <p>Show the steps you used to get it.</p>	<p><i>Fact Friday:</i></p> <p>Adding & Subtracting Facts</p> <p>Click on the link above. Choose from one of the options listed to practice your facts. Pick an option that would challenge you.</p>	<p>Prime factorization</p>
17	18	19	20	21	22
<p>Kris's math grades are 82, 71, 89, 88, 82, and 92. What is his mean grade?</p> <p>What is the median?</p> <p>What is the range?</p> <p>Video Link to help</p>	<p>You have \$10. You buy a book for \$4.99 and markers for \$2.99. How much change would you get?</p>	<p>Divide 2979 by 4</p> <p>Divide 544 by 34</p> <p>Video help</p> <p>Multiply 324 x 21</p> <p>Multiply 2315 x 123</p> <p>Video help</p>	<p>Jill has $\frac{3}{4}$ of a yard of ribbon. Tammy has $\frac{4}{7}$ of a yard. How much do they have altogether? Show your work.</p>	<p><i>Fact Friday:</i></p> <p>Multiplication Facts</p> <p>Click on the link above. Choose from one of the options listed to practice your facts. Pick an option that would challenge you.</p>	

For all information regarding
Science, Tech, Math please refer
to

<http://tinyurl.com/sbsdstem>



Crossroads World Languages

6th Grade WL Exploration Program

“Through learning language, we learn about culture. Through learning culture, we learn respect for others. Through learning respect for others, we can hope for peace.”

Claire Kramsh

Crossroads students will continue their study of a second language through an exploratory experience in the sixth grade with an opportunity for formal language study in the language of their choice for grades 7-8.

Crossroads World Languages

6th Grade WL Exploration Program

The exploratory curricula integrate common aspects of the target language within a thematic, cultural context. Emphasis is placed on the practical aspects of language and culture with an activity approach to language learning to allow all students to experience success.

Crossroads World Languages

6th Grade WL Exploration Program

- Each of the MS language offerings (French, Latin, Spanish) is studied for one trimester.
- At the end of 6th grade, each student will select one of the language offerings to continue to study in the 7th and 8th grades. The language your child selects at the end of sixth grade is their language for the entirety of the two-year middle school experience.

Beyond the Core

- **World Language Exploratory Program**
 - One trimester of Spanish, French, and Latin
 - In May of 2024, students will select one language to learn in 7th and 8th grades.
- **Encore Classes** – Art, Music, Health, Digital Tools (focus on SCRATCH coding)
- **Physical Education** - Team Sports, Individual Sports, Lifelong Activities, and Fitness
- **Health** - Wellness, Human Growth & Development. Health Triangle, Nutrition, Personal Hygiene, Stages of Life, Adolescence, Pregnancy/Birth, Genetics/Hereditiy.
- **HAP** – Help and Access, school-wide -- chorus and access to teacher support

- **Interscholastic Athletics- Crossroads' Teams**
- **Extracurricular Activities –**

Club Programs open to All Grade Levels

School Musical	STEM
Forensics Club	Math Counts Team
Photography Club	Special Olympics Club
Art Club	Academic Challenge Teams
Online School Newspaper	Odyssey of the Mind Teams
Anime and Gaming Club	Student Council
Community Service Club	Robotics
Engineering Club	Ski Trips

All clubs and activities are pay-to-participate using *CommunityPass*

Crossroads Music Program

“Performance at its finest!”

The South Brunswick School District has been designated as one of the “2023 Best Communities for Music Education” by the NAMM Foundation!

Program Offerings

General Music, Choir, Orchestra, Band,
Jazz, Spring Musical

General Music

- ❖ Students who do not participate in middle school band/orchestra/vocal music are enrolled in general music for one trimester.
- ❖ In General Music, students learn about music from Ancient Cultures through hands on performance activities. In addition to exploring World Music students are introduced to and learn basic piano/keyboarding skills.

Vocal Music Groups

- XRDS North Stars (*Rehearses during HAP*)
- Concert Choir (*Rehearses during HAP*)
 - Vocal Ensemble (*auditioned select choir ~ before school*)

Instrumental Music Groups

- Strings
 - Concert Orchestra
 - Symphonic Orchestra
- Band
 - Concert Band
 - Symphonic Band
 - Wind Symphony
- Jazz
 - Jazz Ensemble
 - Jazz Band

Important Information

All of our music groups that meet before or after school are Pay to Participate and require registration through Community Pass.

- Early morning music transportation will be an option.
- You will receive P2P registration in September from our MS music staff.

Performance Opportunities

- Winter & Spring Concerts
- Band, Choir, Orchestra, & Jazz Festival Experiences
- School Community/Local Performances
- Honors Ensembles
- Spring Musical
- *Music In the Parks Festival* ~ Hershey Park 5/31/24

Counseling Services

- 3 School Counselors in each building
- Counselors provide lessons in harassment and bullying, as well as career exploration lessons
- Services include group and individual counseling, crisis intervention, and referrals
- XRDS also provides services through the BRIDGE program; therapists from Rutgers University Behavioral Healthcare are available for counseling and youth development programming

General Information

Homework

- 45-90 minutes as a nightly expectation
- Google Classroom

Reporting System

- Report Cards 3 times a year (trimester)
- Letter Grade System
- Genesis Online Grade Book

SPS (Student Personnel Services)

- Health Office, Counselors
- Child Study Team

General Information

Communications

- Friday Folder & Friday E-Mail
- Daily Announcements (AM/PM)
- Parent Conferences - Fall
- Joint PTO (North and South) - Visit Link for Welcome Letter
- School Website: <http://www.sbschools.org/schools/xrds/index.php>
- Facebook: <https://m.facebook.com/SBSDXRDS>
- Twitter: @SBSDXRDS

Lockers

- Hallway/Gym

Lunch

- 30 Minutes; Middle School Menu; ID Card

Arrival & Dismissal

- 8:15 Homeroom Bell
- 3:00 Dismissal Bell
- 5:10 Late Bus (Monday - Friday)

Nursing Services

- 2 Required Immunizations for 6th Grade
- Emergency Care for illness / injury
- Individual Healthcare Plans for students with health concerns
- Resource for community: health and medical services
- Maintains health records/absentee and gym excuse notes
- Please contact Ms. Cassandra Michele with any questions at Cassandra.Michele@sbschools.org

STUDENT PLACEMENT

Placement into Units Based on Criteria

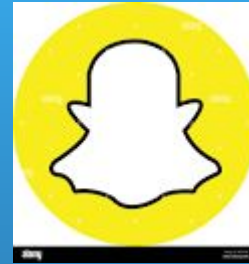
- Balance in Numbers
- Heterogeneous Grouping
- Gender Balance
- Learning/Teaching Styles
- Assessment Information
- Parent Requests - Additional information about your child's learning style & connections with other students
- Send via email to the building principal on or before June 30, 2023 kimberly.bynoe@sbschools.org

Summer Communication

- End of June with Report Card – Math Placement
- Late August: parents will receive a communication regarding unit placement (Genesis)

Social Media

- MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS AND PHONES
- IN SCHOOL AND OUT OF SCHOOL
- 13
- CONVERSATIONS AT HOME
- CHECK



CLOSING THOUGHTS...

- CORE VALUES - CARES
- CODE OF CONDUCT
- BYOD/SOCIAL MEDIA
- SCHOOL SUPPLIES
- LUNCH/SNACKS
- FANTASTIC VOYAGE
- GENESIS - SIS



Questions or Concerns?

- Kimberly Bynoe-Principal: Kimberly.Bynoe@sbschools.org
- Mark Riccardi-Assistant Principal: Mark.Riccardi@sbschools.org
- Margaret Berry-Assistant Principal: Margaret.Berry@sbschools.org
- Jonathan Medina - Language Arts/Social Studies: Jonathan.Medina@sbschools.org
- Robert Sears-Music: Robert.Sears@sbschools.org
- Michele SantaMaria - Special Education: Michele.SantaMaria2@sbschools.org
- Aparna Rajagopal-Math/Science: Aparna.Rajagopal@sbschools.org
- Thomas Decker-World Language: Thomas.Decker@sbschools.org
- John Harding-Health/Physical Education: John.Harding@sbschools.org

