

**CROSSROADS NORTH
MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**SIXTH GRADE
PARENT ORIENTATION**

Welcome to Crossroads Middle School

Crossroads Middle School

Crossroads North

Principal Bynoe

Assistant Principals
Riccardi & TBD

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.
SantaMaria

Music
Supervisor
Sears

L.A. / S.S.
Supervisor
Jain

Health/P.E.
Supervisor
Harding

S
H
A
R
E
D
S
T
A
F
F

Math/Science
Supervisor
Rajagopal

Tech Encore
Supervisor
Rajagopal

World
Language
Supervisor
Decker

Technology
Support
Carlson
Vargas

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
125 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

Core Novels (Teachers choose from: *Crash*; *Of Beetles and Angels*; *Flush*; *Gathering Blue*; *Front Desk*)

Informational Texts

Book Clubs

Choice novels read in small group

Word Study

affixes (Greek & Latin roots), derivations

- Independent Reading (P.A.T.T.E.R.N.S.)
- Read-Aloud
- Short Stories
- Mythology - Greek and Roman - Social Studies
- 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!

We ask that every child reads at least one
book of their choice during the summer.
More information will be sent to your
child's elementary school in June.

Writing Overview

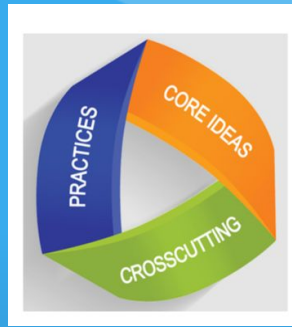
- Writing Workshop which focuses on writing process. Similar to writing instruction in K-5
- Compose in all three writing types:
Narrative, Argument, Information

Sixth Grade Social Studies

Ancient Civilizations

- Beginning of Human Societies
- Ancient Mesopotamia
- Ancient India
- Ancient China
- Ancient Rome
- Ancient Greece

*The state adopts new standards for K-12 Social Studies instruction in school year 2022-23.



NJSLS for science

Science and Engineering Practices

Cross Cutting Concepts

Disciplinary Core Ideas

- Anchor Phenomena
- Focus not on facts but on explanations, modeling and arguments supported by reasoning

Units of Focus:

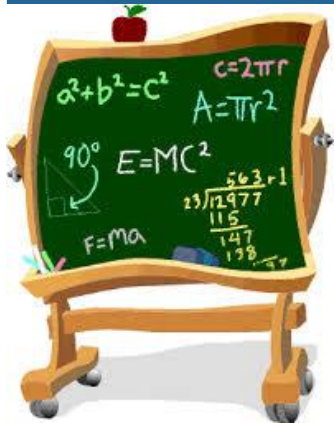
- Geology
- Meteorology
- Astronomy

Enrichment opportunity

- 6th Grade Science Fair (April)

Math Content Standards

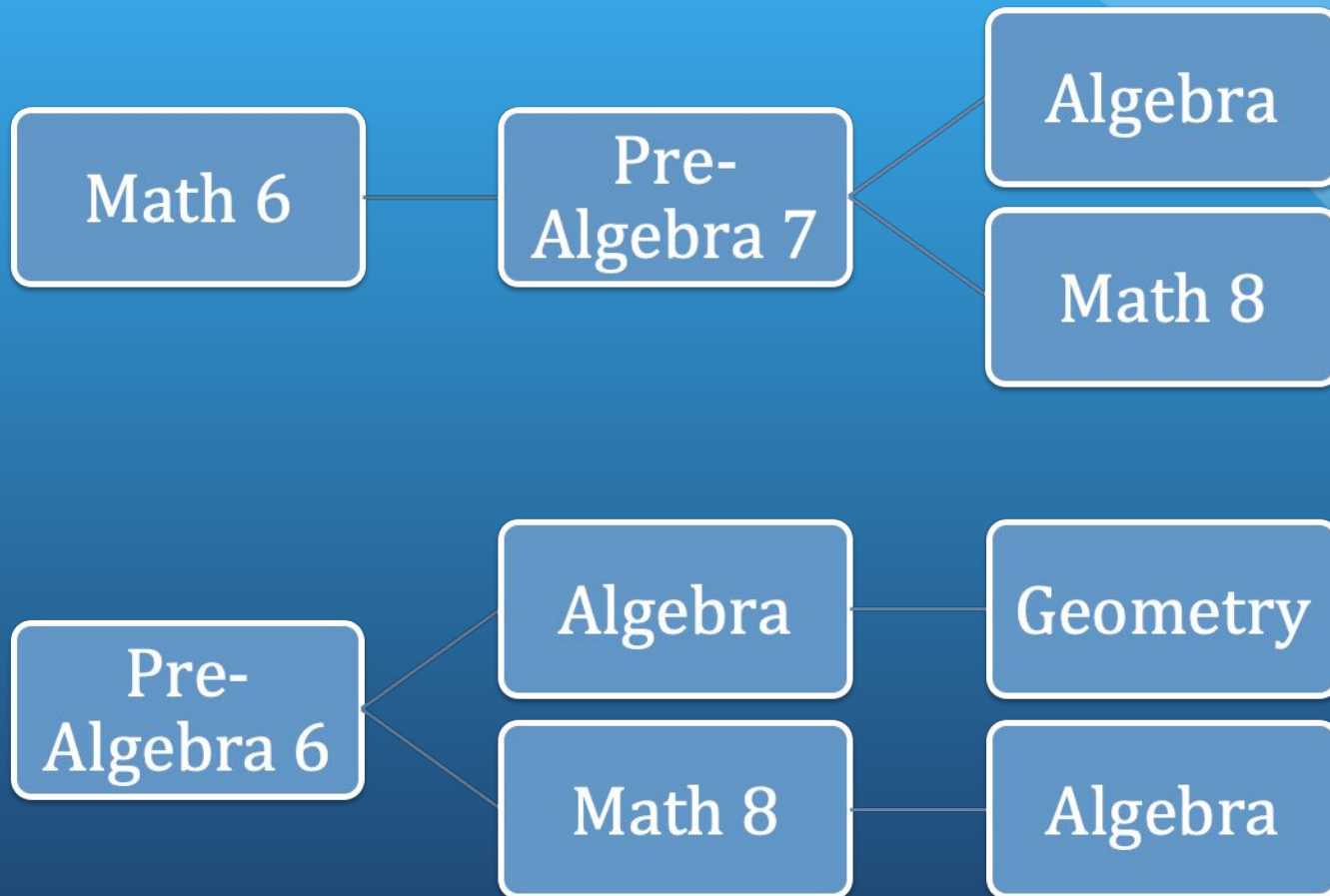
- Ratios and Proportional Relationships
- The Number System
- Expressions and Equations
- Geometry
- Statistics and Probability



Practice Standards

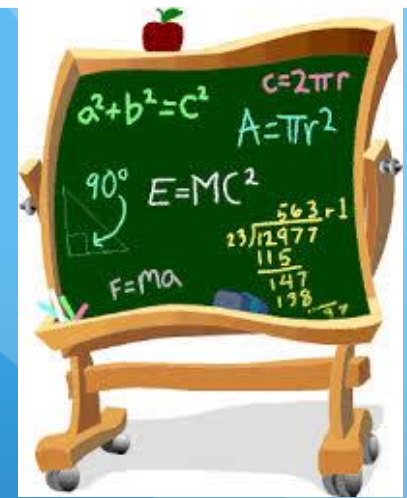
- Make sense of problems and persevere through them
- Reason abstractly and quantitatively
- Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others
- Use appropriate tools strategically
- Attend to precision
- Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning

Progression of math courses



Mathematics

- 6th Grade math courses:
 - Math 6 (on grade level)
 - Pre-Algebra (accelerated)



Math Placement

- Students in Grade 5 Mathematics will be placed in Math 6, unless their test scores are above 90%. Then we will administer a placement test, and if they score 85% or higher, they will be placed in Pre-Algebra.
- Students in Accelerated Grade 5 Mathematics will be placed in Pre-Algebra 6, if they have earned scores of over 80% in their Benchmark Assessments.

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 - one problem a day

Can be found on the website

tinyurl.com/sbsdstem

Has been updated and is ready

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Write 12,052 in words. What is the value of the 6 in 64,891?	Is a circle a polygon? Why or why not?	What is a fraction between $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$? Prove your answer on a number line.	Fact Practice Day Multiplication Go to http://www.factmonster.com/math/flashcards.html or use Flashcards	Order these fractions from least to greatest. $\frac{7}{8}$, $\frac{3}{4}$, $\frac{4}{6}$, $\frac{3}{5}$, $\frac{1}{2}$	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	A field is 32 ft. wide and 51 ft. long. What is the area? What is the perimeter?	Find a fraction, percent or decimal in the newspaper. What does it relate to? Reference the newspaper, date, and article.	Express the number 50 in at least 20 different ways. You may use all 4 operations and include fractions and decimals.	What is the improper fraction for $2\frac{3}{4}$? Explain the steps you used to get it.	If you spend \$100.00 a day, how many days will it take you to spend a million dollars? How many years is that?	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	Fact Practice Day Division Go to http://www.factmonster.com/math/flashcards.html or use Flashcards	Write 347,392 in expanded form.	Make the largest and smallest numbers you can using the digits 4, 1, 7, 8, and 2. Find their sum and difference.	I am a number less than 50. When divided by 5, my remainder is 4. Who am I? Is there more than one answer?	Jen is 12. Amy is 13. In 25 years, what will be the sum of their ages?	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	In a car lot there are 38 rows with 25 parking spots in each row. How many parking spots are there in all?	Would you rather have $\frac{5}{12}$, $\frac{4}{8}$, or $\frac{3}{4}$ of a chocolate bar? Why? Draw a picture to help explain your answer.	Define prime number. List 6 prime numbers less than 20.	Find the sums: $32.5 + 82.4 =$ $143.5 + .54 =$	A square has a side of 63 cm. What is the perimeter of the square? Explain how you got it.	
30	31					1
	Fact Practice Day Division Go to http://www.factmonster.com/math/flashcards.html or use Flashcards					

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 2022, 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, and Lifelong Activities
- **HAP** – Help and Access, daily 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
Chess Club	Student Council
Flag Football	Indoor Soccer
Volleyball	Ski Trips
Tennis Club	Cricket Club

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 “2022 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
- End of Year Crossroads Music Trip (Hershey Park)

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)
- 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
- 3:10 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. Cassaundra Michele with any questions at Cassaundra.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, 2021 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)

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
- Shaun Ruymen-Assistant Principal: Shaun.Ruymen@sbschools.org
- Sue Jain - Language Arts/Social Studies: Sugandh.Jain@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

