

Midland Park Jr./Sr. High School

7th Grade Orientation

2021



Agenda

7th & 8th Grade:

- Philosophy
- Team
- Communication
- Program
- Activities
- Transition
- Guided Tours of MPHS
 - During Bagel Breakfast in August 2021



Philosophy of Education

Our Philosophy

To develop well rounded students who will develop the love of learning and become responsible, critical thinking global citizens.

- Midland Park instructs and reinforces students on certain work ethics. We focus on:
 - Attendance
 - Attitude
 - Character
 - Communication
 - Cooperation
 - Organizational skills
 - Productivity
 - Respect
 - Self Advocate
 - Teamwork

Middle School Team

The Middle School

“ I will care for these students personally, listen to their voices, respect their concerns, and engage them in meaningful educational experiences.”

International Center for Leadership in Education



▣ The Team Approach

- ▣ MS Teachers engage in weekly academic inquiry teams, which allows time to...
 - ▣ Identify/act on individual student needs
 - ▣ Coordinate testing/project schedules
 - ▣ Develop interdisciplinary curricula
 - ▣ Set up parent meetings

Freedom with Responsibility

- ▣ Advocate for yourself
 - See teacher for extra help
 - See teacher upon return from an absence
 - Notify teacher of any planned absences
- ▣ Expectations
 - A neat notebook, completion of homework, and class participation are expected
- ▣ Critical thinking and analysis
 - Transition from knowledge-based learning to application of knowledge
- ▣ Studying for assessments.
- ▣ Looking at your notebook the morning of a test will not be sufficient



Excuses



Responsibility

7th & 8th Grade Program

Core Classes

- English
- Math
- Social Studies
- Science
- Physical Education/Health
- World Language

▣ Electives

- Band
- Chorus

▣ Exploratory Classes

(Marking Period/Semester Classes)

- Reading
- Writing
- Financial Literacy
- T.V. Workshop
- Technology (7th Grade)
- Digital Design (8th Grade)
- Art 7/8
- Culinary Arts 7/8



Student Communication Protocol

1. Student talk to teacher
2. Student talk to guidance counselor/Student Assistance Counselor
2. Student talk to Assistant Principal
3. Student talk to Principal

Our goal is to promote self-advocacy and independence

English 7

▣ Reading:

- Fiction & Nonfiction Studies
- Novels: *The Outsiders* and a Choice Novel/Unit with three multicultural novels. Summer Reading -Holocaust Literature
- Interaction with texts from a variety of sources

▣ Writing:

- *Organization and Process*
- Writing Workshop – 3 major units
 - Types: Argumentative, Analytical, Narrative, Informational (throughout the year)
 - In-class essay writing

▣ Projects:

- Mini-Projects throughout units
- “Say something nice” bulletin board
- Interdisciplinary Research Paper

▣ 21st Century Skills:

- Explorations of how English concepts integrate and influence one another
- *Constructing evidence-based claims*
- Higher levels of critical thinking: analysis, synthesis
- Collaboration
- Technology-based learning and assessments

▣ Vocabulary:

- ▣ Sadlier Vocabulary Workshop



English 8

□ Focus on Grammar & Vocabulary

□ Literature:

- *The Giver*, by Lowry
- *Of Mice & Men*, by Steinbeck
- Holocaust Short Stories

□ Expanding the Writing Process

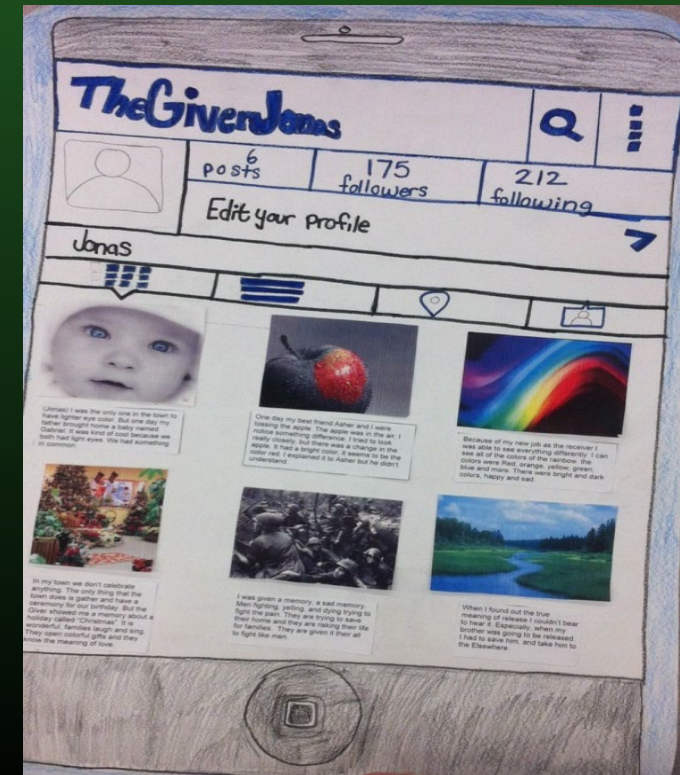
- Argumentative Writing
- Current Events Research Paper (Interdisciplinary)

□ Skills:

- Character Analysis
- Theme Identification
- Interpreting figurative language
- Development of writing skills

□ The Giver Writer's Workshop:

- Write an original dystopian short story



World Cultures 7

- ▣ Students will use primary and secondary sources to gain an understanding of the world around them.
 - ▣ Study people and their cultures over time
 - ▣ Formation of governments and economies
- ▣ Skills
 - ▣ Taking perspective- understanding events from multiple points-of-view
 - ▣ Analysis- the WHY of events
 - ▣ Reading for Understanding
 - ▣ Communication of research and ideas through creative methods (videos, demonstrations, presentations)
 - ▣ Infusing technology into research and demonstration of knowledge
- ▣ Possible Projects: make a travel brochure, propose a solution to a world problem, redesign Epcot.

Ancient World History 8

- ▣ Ancient World history from prehistory to the Renaissance
- ▣ Skills:
 - Research and Analysis
 - Development of thesis statements
 - Showing support for thesis through research/ documents
- ▣ Assignments:
 - Interdisciplinary Research Paper (Partnered with English)
 - Renaissance Fair
 - Middle Ages Simulation
 - Election Campaign for Hindu Gods

Math 7

▣ Content:

- ▣ The Number System
 - Integers and Rational Numbers (Lots of Fractions and Decimals!)
- ▣ Expressions and Equations
 - Combining Like Terms, Simplifying Expressions, Solving Multi-Step Equations
- ▣ Ratios and Proportions
 - Solving Proportions, Finding Percents, Scale Models, Tax, Tip, Discount, Etc.
- ▣ Geometry
 - Angles, Area, Volume, Surface Area
- ▣ Statistics and Probability
 - Collecting, Displaying and Analyzing Data
 - Finding Simple and Compound Probability
 - Making Predictions

▣ Skills

- Problem solving
- Application of Content
- Number Sense & Mental Math
- High focus on decimals and fractions

*“If you are not willing to learn, no one can help you.
If you are determined to learn, no one can stop you.”*

Pre-Algebra 8

▣ Content:

- Rational Numbers
- Graphs and Functions
- Exponents and Roots
- Ratios, Proportions and Similarity
- Geometric Relationships
- Measurement and Geometry
- Multi-Step Equations
- Graphing Lines
- Data Prediction and Linear Functions

▣ Skills

- Number sense
- Mental math
- Small group activities



MATH HONORS

The content for the honors courses is rigorous and fast-paced. The curriculum of each course is designed to prepare students for higher level math courses in high school.

PRE-ALGEBRA HONORS

(7TH GRADE)

- ▣ Faster-paced and more in-depth
- ▣ All of Math 7 content is covered (most topics are covered to a deeper understanding than in Math 7)
- ▣ Math 8 content that is not specifically covered in Algebra 1 is also covered after state testing

ALGEBRA I HONORS

(8TH GRADE)

- ▣ Cover core Algebra 1 content, including some early Algebra II content
- ▣ Discussions of content to develop deeper understanding
- ▣ Focus on solving complex linear equations, and graphing and factoring polynomials

7th GRADE SCIENCE

NEXT GENERATION SCIENCE STANDARDS

- ▣ Consist of performance expectations
- ▣ Involve critical thinking and evaluation of evidence



SEVENTH GRADERS WILL ANSWER QUESTIONS, SUCH AS:

- ▣ How do substances combine or change to make new substances?
- ▣ How do cells contribute to the functioning of an organism?
- ▣ If no one was there, how do we know Earth's history?

8th GRADE SCIENCE

HIGH FOCUS ON:

- ▣ Evidence of a common ancestry
- ▣ Selection and adaptation
- ▣ Stability and changes on Earth
- ▣ Human impacts
- ▣ Relationships among forms of energy
- ▣ Electromagnetic spectrum

SKILLS:

- ▣ Inquiry
- ▣ Critical thinking
- ▣ Problem solving

ACTIVITIES:

- ▣ Perfectly adapted organism project
- ▣ Human impact report



World Language

Spanish 7

- ▣ Introduction to the Spanish Language and Culture
- ▣ Communicate in real life situations
- ▣ Cultural experience of Spanish speaking world
- ▣ Fundamental skills
- ▣ Utilize Language Apps



Spanish 8

- ▣ Increase Proficiency in the Spanish language
- ▣ Able to use grammar and vocabulary correctly
- ▣ Appreciation and acceptance of the heritages and cultures of the Spanish speaking world
- ▣ Utilize Language Apps

World Language

French

- ❑ Introduction to the French language and culture through authentic sources (video, podcasts, magazines)
- ❑ Teaching fundamental skills of listening, speaking, reading, & writing through interactive, fun activities
- ❑ Building "personal connections" through a pen-pal exchange
- ❑ Using online tools to hone interpersonal and interpretive skills
- ❑ Extra-curricular activities, such as the French Club and fund raising.



Physical Education and Health

Physical Education

- ▣ Focus on fitness, cooperation, and participation
- ▣ Students learn to work together
- ▣ Increase physical fitness
 - Endurance training
 - Weight room
- ▣ Introduced to many activities and games
- ▣ Get their own gym locker

Health 7

- ▣ Interactive curriculum consists of...
 - Fitness
 - Nutrition
 - Hygiene
 - Character Education
 - Career Education



Performing Arts

- ▣ All 7th grade students are required to take at least 1 Performing Arts Class
- ▣ Choice of Chorus, Band, or Chorus & Band
- ▣ Performing Arts classes alternate with P.E. classes via 'Green' and 'White' school days.

Chorus

- ▣ Refine vocal production techniques
- ▣ Develop music literacy
- ▣ Exposure to choral music of different cultures, and genres
- ▣ Winter and Spring concerts

Band

- ▣ Develop skills in instrumental music.
- ▣ Band rehearsals during the school day on a rotating schedule
- ▣ Some rehearsals outside the regular school day
- ▣ Concerts and other performances

SHIP Program

Secondary Program for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing

- ▣ Collaborative classes with a Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- ▣ FM systems
- ▣ CART (Communication Access Real Time Translation)
- ▣ Interpreters - ASL
- ▣ Important part of the Midland Park School District



Guidance/Assistance Counselors

Guidance Counselors

- ▣ Same Counselor 7-12 (Know your child/family)
 - Mrs. Owens - A-Le
 - Mrs. Wall - Li-Z
- ▣ Liaison for Parents, Students, & Teachers
- ▣ Help students prepare for their future (college)
- ▣ Serve as academic advisor

Student Assistance Counselor

- ▣ Available to meet confidentially with students individually or in small groups
- ▣ Promotes positive self esteem and wellness
- ▣ Promotes healthy friendships and relationships
- ▣ Provides substance abuse education and prevention

7th /8th Grade

Extra Curricular Activities

Clubs & Activities

- ▣ Student Government
- ▣ Color Guard/Marching Band & Concert Band
- ▣ Musical/Stage Crew
- ▣ French/Spanish Club
- ▣ Library Club
- ▣ MS Newspaper
- ▣ Poetry Club
- ▣ Science Club
- ▣ Ski Club
- ▣ REACT Club
- ▣ Chess Club
- ▣ Brain Busters
- ▣ Computer Club
- ▣ Intramurals

Sports

- ▣ Fall
 - Boys/Girls Soccer
 - Volleyball
 - Cross Country
- ▣ Winter
 - Boys/Girls Basketball
 - Wrestling
- ▣ Spring
 - Baseball
 - Softball
 - Track & Field

Newspaper Club



Marching/Concert Band

- ▣ Dedicated individuals travel to perform and compete:
 - Syracuse (Championship)
 - Nashville, TN
 - The Intrepid (NYC)
 - Battery Park (NYC)
 - Disneyland, CA

- ▣ *Panther Paws*
- ▣ MS students collaborate to produce a newspaper, they:
 - Pitch articles
 - Research
 - Write
 - Take pictures
 - Edit
 - Design lay out



Ski Club

- ▣ Run by staff advisors
- ▣ Tuesday trips to Mountain Creek
- ▣ 20+ Students attend
- ▣ Bussed to Location



Dramatics

- ▣ Musical is open to 7-12th graders
- ▣ Cast of over 45 students
- ▣ Performances in March
- ▣ This year's Musical:
 - Beauty and the Beast

Junior High Athletics

Midland Park sustains a successful Jr. High Athletic Program that supports 12 sports teams. We believe this helps the transition to the very competitive high school athletic programs



- ▣ Bussing to and from events
- ▣ Follow the rules of the NJSIAA
- ▣ Uniforms supplied
- ▣ Practice 3-4 days per week
- ▣ Access to Athletic Trainer
- ▣ Certified coaches
 - Many are/were successful varsity coaches as well

Transition

What to expect

- ▣ Departmentalized Classes
- ▣ More Electives
- ▣ More Independence
- ▣ More Responsibility
- ▣ Continued Accountability
 - Attendance (12 Absences)
 - Tardies (detention)
 - Retention/Summer School

Helpful Tips

- ▣ Be Organized
 - (develop a system)
- ▣ Write down HW
- ▣ Seek Help
- ▣ Utilize PowerSchool
- ▣ Come to School
- ▣ Get involved in activities



For more information...

The Middle School Program of Study can be found on
the MPHS website

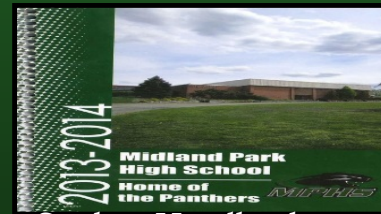
<http://www.mpsnj.org>

In the Academic Section under Programs of Study

The More Information-The Better

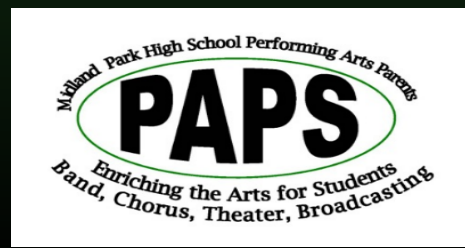
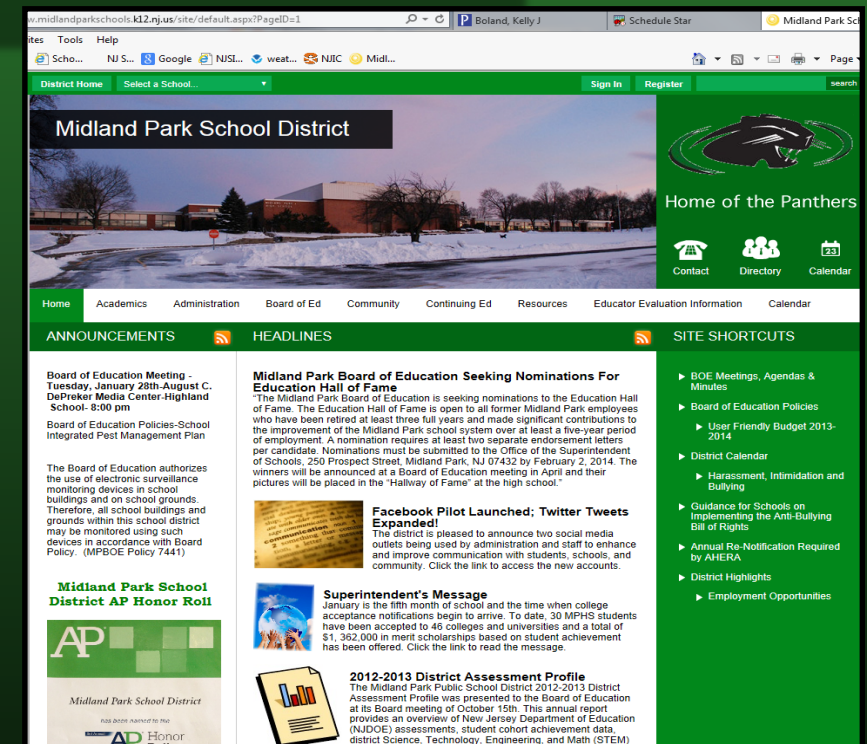
www.mpsnj.org

- ❑ Register to receive E-Blasts (District Website)
- ❑ Utilize district website to get information on:
 - Sports
 - Clubs/Activities
 - Board of Ed. Policies (etc.)
 - Curriculum
 - Faculty contact information
 - And more....
- ❑ Student Handbook (*PTA sponsored*)
- ❑ Get involved in the school...



Student Handbook

District Website



All students
must be
Re-Registered
when they enter
the Junior/Senior
High School,
(Mailed at the end
of April).

Due: June 1st

MIDLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION
MIDLAND PARK, NEW JERSEY

PROOF OF RESIDENCY
Re-Registration – Grade 7

The Midland Park Board of Education requires that you provide the following information:

Your Address _____

Names of student(s): _____

Student Name (Print)	Age	Grade	School Attending

Please provide the following proof of residency documents:

_____ Copy of deed or lease.

And two (2) of the following:

_____ Current utility bill (portion with address and date).

_____ Current telephone bill (portion with address and date).

_____ Driver's License

_____ Bank Statement

PARENT STATEMENT

I, _____, affirm that I am the _____ natural parent _____ legal guardian of the student(s) listed above. I further state that this form and the attached documentation constitute true and accurate proof that the student(s) reside(s) with me within the Borough of Midland Park and will continue to do so for at least the next twelve (12) consecutive months. If any student listed above no longer resides with me, or if I move my residence out of the Borough of Midland Park within that twelve (12) month period, I will promptly notify the Midland Park Board of Education in writing.

I certify that the foregoing statements made by me are true. I am aware that if any of the foregoing statements made by me are false, I am subject to punitive action.

_____ Signature

_____ Date

PLEASE RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM WITH COPIES OF REQUIRED DOCUMENTS TO THE MAIN OFFICE OF THE SCHOOL YOUR CHILD WILL BE ATTENDING IN SEPTEMBER

Parents and Students had been asked to complete the Online Course Selection Form.

If you have not completed this form, please be sure to complete the Google Form (link above) by Friday, May 14th.



Midland Park Jr/Sr High School

Guidance Department

MPHS 7th Grade Class Selection 2021-22

Dear 6th Graders and Parents,

We are so excited to have you join us in 7th Grade at Midland Park Middle School! You are such an important part of what will make our school special next year. Every year from now until you graduate, you will continue to build on the classes you are about to select, so please be thoughtful about the choices you are about to make. Make sure you read all the directions carefully!

Good luck and we look forward to seeing you soon!

Your counselors,
Ms. Owens & Mrs. Wall

If you have questions or concerns, please email your guidance counselor (assigned by student's last name).

Ms. Owens | A-Le - mowens@mpsny.org

Mrs. Wall | Li-Z - ewall@mpsny.org

* Required

Email *

Your email

Student First Name *

Your answer



SAVE THE DATE



**AUGUST 25, 2021
7th GRADE WELCOME
AND
BAGEL BREAKFAST!**

Please mark your calendar

Date: Wednesday, August 25, 2021

Time: 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Place: Midland Park Jr./Sr. High School

Thank-You for Attending

- **If you have any questions, feel free to contact us at any time.**