

Brandon Koger
Principal



Jennifer Gardner
Asst. Principal

5317 Glover Lane, Milton, Florida 32570 • (850) 983 – 5630
<https://hms.santarosaschools.org>

Hello soon to be Hobbs Middle Jaguars!

Welcome, incoming 6th graders, to Hobbs! We are excited to have you next year!

Attached to this message are a few pieces of important information. First, is an orientation packet. This will cover all the important information you need, to prepare for 6th grade. It includes the Hobbs Middle FAQ sheet, the 2026-27 school calendar, and the 2026-27 school supply lists.

Second is information about 6th grade classes. This includes information about the electives we offer.

Third is the '6th Grade Schedule Information' and '6th Grade Elective Choices' sheet for the 2026-27 school year. The 'Schedule Information' sheet discusses what your student's schedule will look like next year. The '6th Grade Elective Choices' sheet will allow your student to tell us what elective class they would like to take next year (everybody takes PE as their first elective). Hobbs Middle administration will be visiting each elementary school over the next few weeks to discuss the elective choice sheet. **This sheet is due back to your student's fifth grade teacher by Monday, April 27th.**

Finally, please join us for a parent night, Thursday, April 23rd, 2026, at 6:30 PM in the Hobbs Middle Cafeteria. There, we will cover the information in the orientation packet. It will also give you an opportunity to meet the Hobbs Middle administrative team, as well as allow you to ask questions and get your first look at the school. Parents and students are invited!

We are excited to have you next year, and we look forward to three amazing years at Hobbs Middle School!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brandon Koger", is written below the word "Sincerely,".

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- **School Hours:** School hours are 8:15 AM – 2:29 PM.
- **School Handbook and Code of Conduct:** The school handbook and the district code of conduct will be made available electronically. We will also review this information with students at the beginning of each semester. Both of these should be read carefully by students and parents as the student will be tested on the contents.
- **Backpacks:** Book bags and backpacks are permitted on campus. Each student will receive textbooks to use at home. Students will have textbooks while at school, too. If the textbook is consumable, the student will have one copy, pages will be torn out and taken back and forth from school to home.
- **Physical Education:** Most 6th grade students take P.E. Gym lockers are available for students taking P. E. to rent for \$1.00. They are to be used for storing P. E. clothes during the week. Students must supply their own combination lock for these lockers. Dress code for P.E. is a solid white top and solid black shorts/pants.
- **Medication:** Any medication, either prescription or nonprescription, to be administered to a student on school premises or at school functions (including field trips), must be brought to the school by the parent/ guardian/ authorized adult representative for retention and administering. No student will be allowed to have medication, prescription or nonprescription, with the exception of an EpiPen, medication to relieve headache, or an asthma inhaler, in his/her possession on school premises, on school transportation, or at a school function. EpiPens, insulin pens, or asthma inhalers will be permitted to be carried with parental permission and physician's signature on the "Dispersion of Medication Form."

Medications must be in the original prescription container, properly labeled, and given to the school health technician.

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (CONT'D)

- Cafeteria Info: Breakfast and lunch are served daily. A la carte items are also available. Meals may be paid for daily or pre-paid for a period of time. If lunches are not pre-paid then students must be prepared to pay daily. Students may also bring lunch from home. Drinks from home must be in a sealed can or carton. Information about free and reduced lunches will be sent home at the beginning of the year.
- Bus Schedules: Bus schedules are published by the District Department of Transportation. A student may obtain bus numbers for the morning and the afternoon routes from that list. The phone number for the Santa Rosa County Department of Transportation is 850-983-5150. ***As well, bus schedules will be available during 6th grade schedule pick-up.***
- Orientation: **Schedules for 6th grade students will be picked up Thursday, August 6th, 2026 from 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM. This time will allow your student to walk their schedule and find their way around campus.**

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ATTENDANCE POLICY

- Regular attendance and punctuality are essential to good achievement. Any student who arrives late to school must report to the office before going to class. Any student who has been absent from school must bring a signed note from home stating the reason for the absence. Notes must be turned in within 3 days of returning from an absence. Parents may excuse 9 days of absence per school year without a doctor's note. Any further absences will require a doctor's excuse note. **Failure to turn in an acceptable absence excuse note within three school days will result in an automatic unexcused absence.** If a student accumulates 5 unexcused absences, the parent/guardian will be required to attend a school conference and complete a truancy plan.
- **Excused Absences:** Absences granted for personal illness, illness or death of a member of the immediate family, medical or dental appointments, and special emergencies or pre-arranged absences approved by the principal or designee.
- **Unexcused Absences:** Absences for shopping trips, vacations, pleasure trips, truancy, suspension or dismissal from school, or other avoidable absences which have not been pre-arranged and approved by the principal or designee.
- **Hobbs Middle School Truancy Procedures**
 1. **Tier I: Initial Truancy Meeting:** Triggered at 5 unexcused absences in 30 days for the second time or 10 unexcused absences in 90 days for the first time.
 2. **Tier II: Attendance Improvement Discussion:** Triggered at 5 unexcused absences in 30 days for the third time or 10 unexcused absences in 90 days for the second time.
 3. **Tier III: Referred to School Services and Administration:** Triggered at 5 unexcused absences in 30 days for the fourth time or 10 unexcused absences in 90 days for the third time.
 4. **Tier IV: Truancy Petition Filed:** Triggered at 5 unexcused absences in 30 days for the fifth time or 10 unexcused absences in 90 days for the fourth time.
- **Truancy Plans:** Active truancy plans resume the following school year. If your student is currently being monitored through a TMP, the conditions of that TMP remain.

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DRESS CODE

- A dress code teaches students standards and about following rules. Both are important in creating an academic environment in which students can learn safely and successfully.
- Students may not wear clothes or tattoos that show obscene or offensive language, drugs, tobacco, alcohol, or advertisements for such products.
- All shirts, tops, and dresses **MUST COMPLETELY COVER THE SHOULDER (3" index card width)**. Spaghetti straps, halter-tops, tube tops, muscle shirts, undershirts or sheer tops as outer-garments **ARE NOT ALLOWED**. **No low-cut** or tight shirts or blouses are allowed. Tops must not reveal cleavage, lower back, abdomen, or midriff, including when arms are raised, sitting, or when leaning forward. **Student clothing is to cover undergarments completely.**
- All shorts, skirts, and jumpers must be no shorter than **fingertip length (arms relaxed, hanging down by the side).**
- No spandex shorts (e.g. Nike Pros) or other form fitting shorts are allowed to be worn alone. When wearing spandex shorts or other form fitting shorts, a long shirt or dress must be worn over them and must adhere to the fingertip length.
- When wearing leggings, jeggings, compression pants, yoga pants, or other spandex-type pants, a shirt must be worn that fully covers the lower back and midriff, including when arms are raised, sitting, or when leaning forward.
- Students **are not** allowed to wear clothing that is excessively torn or ripped (this includes jeans). Jeans with rips that excessively expose skin or undergarments are not allowed.
- Pants are to be worn at the waist. **No sagging pants**- No undergarments showing above pants.
- Pajama pants are for sleeping and not school. They are not allowed to be worn at school.
- Armbands, wristbands, belts, or other items with heavy metal projections and chains, including wallet chains, are prohibited.
- Students are not allowed to wear hats or hoods inside the building.
- Students may not wear sunglasses inside the building.
- Shoes must be worn at all times (unless medical reasons indicate otherwise). Bedroom shoes or slippers are not permitted.
- The Principal or the Principal's designee has the final authority for interpreting whether a student's apparel/appearance conforms to the dress code. We will be reasonable, but we will also enforce the rules.

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SANTA ROSA
COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOLS
2026-27 ACADEMIC CALENDAR

PRE-PLANNING August 3-7, 2026
 POST-PLANNING May 26-27, 2027
 STUDENTS BEGIN August 10, 2026
 STUDENTS LAST DAY May 25, 2027

9 Weeks

Aug. 10 – Oct. 9 (44 days)
 Oct. 13 – Dec. 18 (43 days)
 Jan. 5 – Mar. 12 (47 days)
 Mar. 16 – May 25 (46 days)

Report Cards

October 23
 January 15
 April 2
 May 25 (Elementary)
 June 11 (Middle/High)

Mid-Term Reports

September 9
 November 12
 February 5
 April 2

APPROVED IN SESSION

AUG - 7 2025

Early Release & Holidays

September 7 Labor Day
 October 12 Teacher Planning Day (No school for students/workday for teachers)
 November 11 Veterans Day
 November 23-27 Fall/Thanksgiving Break
 December 16-17 Semester Exams – Middle/High Schools
 December 18 Early Release for all students – Semester Exams Middle/High Schools
 Dec. 21 – Jan. 1 Winter/Christmas Break
 January 4 Teacher Planning Day (No school for students/workday for teachers)
 January 18 Martin Luther King Jr. Day
 February 15 Presidents Day
 March 15 Teacher Planning Day (No school for students/workday for teachers)
 March 22-26 Spring Break
 May 21, 24 Semester Exams – Early Release for Middle/High Schools
 May 25 Early Release/Last day of school for all students–Semester Exams Middle/High Schools
 May 31 Memorial Day

SANTA ROSA SCHOOL BOARD
SUPERINTENDENT

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION DATES

May 20 – Blended Academy 5:00 P.M.
 May 20 – Locklin Tech. 7:00 P.M.
 May 22 – Gulf Breeze High 11:00 A.M.
 May 22 – Pace High 2:30 P.M.
 May 22 – Navarre High 6:00 P.M.
 May 24 – Milton High 7:00 P.M.
 May 25 – Santa Rosa High/Adult 7:00 P.M.
 May 27 – Jay High 5:00 P.M.
 May 27 – Central High 7:30 P.M.

Semester Exams

1st Semester
 December 16, 17, 18
 2nd Semester
 May 21, 24, 25

Senior Final Exams

May 19, 20, 21

Storm Days (if needed)

2nd Semester: March 15, May 26

*Dates/Times subject to change

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2026-27 School Supplies (All Grade Levels)

Every student will be required to keep a binder. This will be used in all classes. The binder will consist of:

- 1) a three-ring binder (2-inch, any color); may be larger than 2-inch, not smaller
- 2) colored Tabbed Plastic Index/Page Dividers (to be replaced as they wear)
 - a. **MUST** have blue, green, yellow, red + any 5th color (other than the 4 listed)
 - b. hint, to get the right colors, shop the 8-tab pack, not the 5-tab pack
 - c. **preferred** to have pockets
- 3) keep a pack of **lined loose-leaf paper** in the binder; to be replenished throughout the year

Every student should keep a pencil bag. These supplies will need to be replenished throughout the year:

- 1) pens/various colors
- 2) pencils; if mechanical/pencil lead
- 3) eraser tops
- 4) 1-pack of colored pencils, standard colors
- 5) glue sticks
- 6) highlighters (no purple)
- 7) Post-It notes
- 8) 3 x 5 index cards
- 9) for 7th and 8th grade: scientific calculator (e.g. TI-30Xa)

For your first period teacher:

- 1) 4 boxes Kleenex (more as needed)
- 2) 2 reams copy paper
- 3) 2 packs dry erase markers (black or blue)
- 4) 1 **large** container hand sanitizer
- 5) 2 containers cleaning wipes (bleach free)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- ✓ Backpacks, book bags, and brief cases are allowed at school (no wheels)
- ✓ Elective class supply lists are provided separately the first day of school
- ✓ Science lab fee of **\$5.00**
- ✓ **\$25.00** uniform rental fee for symphonic band
- ✓ **Additional supplies may be requested by individual teachers. The most common request will be composition notebooks and/or spiral notebooks. Having a few on hand would be helpful.**

Science Lab Fee



"In no instance are these supplies required or collection of fees mandatory according to the Santa Rosa County School Board Policy 4.19."

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2026-27 School Supplies (PE)

Uniform requirements (all items are used during Physical Education class every day):

- 1) tennis shoes (with tied laces for safety)
- 2) socks
- 3) solid white T-shirt
- 4) solid black shorts (or black shorts with white trim)
- 5) combination Master Lock

Note: Last year, the school sold PE uniforms. If you would like to purchase a uniform through the school, our Hobbspitality Committee will have them for sale during our 6th grade orientation (in April) and during schedule pick-up (the week before school starts).

Miscellaneous Supplies. These supplies will need to be replenished throughout the year:

- 1) notebook paper
- 2) pencils/pens
- 3) **deodorant**

Additional Athletic Wear to Consider

Students are required to dress out for Physical Education class every day. When the weather gets colder, students are encouraged to wear warmer clothes such as: black sweatpants and white sweatshirt. During the colder weather, the color of jackets and coats does not matter.

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2026-27 School Supplies (Art)

Every ART student should keep an ART pencil bag.

- ✓ Art lab fee of **\$20.00**
- ✓ **Additional supplies may be requested throughout the year for specific projects.**

Pay Art Fees Here



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2026-2027 Elective Descriptions

Fitness Grade 6 – Grade 6. Full Year.

The purpose of this course is to provide students with the knowledge, skills, and values they need to become healthy and physically active for a lifetime.

Comprehensive Physical Education Grade 6/7 - Grade 7. Full Year.

The purpose of this course is to provide a foundation of knowledge, skills, and values necessary for the development of a physically active lifestyle.

Comprehensive Physical Education Grade 7/8 - Grade 8. Full Year.

The purpose of this course is to build on previously acquired knowledge, skill, and values necessary for the implementation and maintenance of a physically active lifestyle.

Media Assistant - Grade 7, 8. Full Year. *Must Complete Application.*

This course covers the basics of information literacy utilizing the Florida FINDS (Focus, Investigate, Note, Develop, Score) research model.

Visual Art 1, 2, 3 - Grade 6, 7, 8. Full Year.

Students are introduced to the rigor and routine of the art production process including: planning, producing, and reflecting on art and students investigate contemporary and historical art themes using 2D and 3D media, skills and techniques.

Student Government Association (SGA)/Yearbook/ITV - *Appears as 'Critical Thinking' on Student Schedule* - Grade 7, 8. Full Year. *Must Complete Application.*

The purpose of this course is to teach leadership skills, parliamentary procedure, problem solving, decision making, communication skills, group dynamics, time and stress management, public speaking, human relations, public relations, team building, and other group processes. Students will also participate in helping to create the school's yearbook and daily announcements.

Spanish 1* – Grade 8. Full Year. *high school credit

The student will develop communicative skills in all 3 modes of communication and cross-cultural understanding. Emphasis is placed on proficient communication in the language. An introduction to reading and writing is also included.

AVID 6th – Grade 6. Full Year.

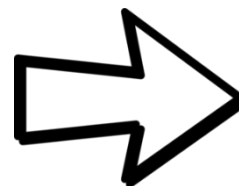
Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) is an academic elective course that prepares students for college readiness and success, and it is scheduled during the regular school day as a year-long course.

AVID 7th – Grade 7. Full Year.

Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) is an academic elective course that prepares students for college readiness and success, and it is scheduled during the regular school day as a year-long course.

AVID 8th – Grade 8. Full Year.

Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) is an academic elective course that prepares students for college readiness and success, and it is scheduled during the regular school day as a year-long course.



**Computer Application Business -
Grade 6. Full Year.**

The content includes instruction in intermediate keyboarding, word processing, electronic presentation, computer hardware, internet, and introductory spreadsheet, and skills for business applications.

**Information and Communication
Technology 1 - Grade 7. Full Year.
*Must Complete Application.***

Fundamental computer information and content including digital technologies associated with web development, multimedia, word processing, spreadsheet, database, internet communications, cybersecurity, and computer programming.

**Digital Information Technology
(DIT)* - Grade 8. Full Year. *high
school credit**

Digital Information Technology includes the exploration and use of databases, the internet, social media, spreadsheets, presentation applications, management of personal information and email, word processing and document manipulation, HTML, web page design, and the integration of these programs using software that meets industry standards.

**Reading 1, 2, 3 – Appears as
'Research' on Student Schedule -
Grades 6, 7, 8. Full Year.**

This course incorporates reading and analysis of literary and informational selections to develop critical reading skills.

**Band 1 – Beginning. Grade 6, 7, 8.
Full Year.**

This year-long, entry-level class, designed for students having little or no previous band experience with woodwind, brass, and/or percussion instruments, promotes the enjoyment and appreciation of music through performance of high-quality, beginning wind and percussion literature from different times and places.

**Band 2 – Intermediate. Grade 7, 8.
Full Year. Pre-Approval Required.**

Students with previous band experience build on instrumental technique, music literacy, and aesthetic response through rehearsal, performance, and study of a variety of high-quality band literature. Instrumentalists expand their knowledge of music notation, music theory, sound production, and personal and group rehearsal strategies.

**Band 3 – Symphonic. Grade 7, 8.
Full Year. Pre-Approval Required.**

Students with previous band experience expand on their instrumental technique, music literacy, and aesthetic response through rehearsal, performance, and study of a variety of intermediate-level, high-quality band literature.

**Band 4 – Jazz. Grade 7, 8. Full Year.
Pre-Approval Required.**

Students with considerable band experience strengthen their instrumental technique, music literacy, and aesthetic response through rehearsal, performance, and study of a variety of advanced, high-quality band literature.

**Intensive Reading I, II, III
(Foundational Skills in Reading)
– Grades 6, 7, 8. Full Year.**

This course is designed for students reading below grade level. The course includes foundational skill standards to be used until a student has mastered the grade level standard.

**Foundational Math 6, 7, 8
(Foundational Skills in Math) –
Grades 6, 7, 8. Full Year.**

This course supports students who need additional instruction in foundational mathematics skills as it relates to core instruction.

**Learning Strategies – Grades 6, 7,
8. Full Year. *Pre-Approval Required.***

The purpose of this course is to enable students with disabilities to acquire and generalize strategies and skills across academic and community settings to achieve annual goals based on assessed needs and the student's individual educational plan (IEP).

**Gifted Elective – Grades 6, 7, 8. Full
Year. *Pre-Approval Required.***

This course is designed to enable exceptional students to acquire and apply the skills and abilities needed to enhance academic achievement through experiences which provide enrichment, in-depth learning, and /or accelerated study of academic curriculum requirements.

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6th Grade Schedule Information 2026-2027

Hobbs Middle School incoming 6th grade students, welcome to middle school! We know you are looking forward to your 6th grade classes. Several variables affect class placement choices, and most decisions are made over the summer after test scores and grades are finalized. Students attend **6 classes daily**, 4 of which are “core” classes and 2 of which are non-core or electives.

Step 1: Placed into four (4) Core Classes

1. Language Arts 1 (On-level or Advanced)
2. Math 6 (On-level or Advanced)
3. World History (On-level or Advanced)
4. Earth/Space Science (On-level or Advanced)

Students will **automatically** be placed into these courses based upon the student’s state assessment results and the student’s grade average for their previous course(s). Teacher recommendation and parent request may be considered. The final decision for a student’s schedule is the responsibility of the principal.

Step 2: Elective Choices/Options

There are **2 electives** built into our day. Most students will take P.E. as 6th graders (it is required). If you are unable to take P.E. due to a medical condition or some other reason you believe disqualifies you from P.E., please contact Student Services and send documentation from a doctor or other resource.

On the back, please rank your 2nd elective preference. Please see the attached Elective Description Sheet for more information. Some electives require special applications to be considered for that elective. **Please note, not all requests can be honored due to scheduling restrictions, but we will honor as many as possible.**

Step 3: Communicate Special Requests

Parents and families, if you have specific elective or any other schedule requests you would like us to consider, please do so by contacting Student Services (contact information below). Please do so *now* so we can have your student’s schedule ready for the start of school. **Special requests due by May 28, 2026.**

Mrs. Hansen (6th Grade and ALL ESE)
hansenr@santarosa.k12.fl.us
850-983-5630, ext. 3265

Ms. Hodge (7th and 8th Grade)
hodgec@santarosa.k12.fl.us
850-983-5630, ext. 4056

We’re excited for the 2026-2027 school year! Thank you for being a part of this journey with us!
– HMS Administration

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6th Grade Elective Choices 2026-2027

Student Name: _____ **Student 57#:** _____

Elective #1

Check One:

- ☐ Physical Education (P.E.) – *required* **OR**
☐ I am unable to take PE and have contacted Student Services.

Elective #2

Rank the second elective you want most with a '2'. Rank your next choice with a '3'. Please **rate your top five (5)** in order of preference (#2-6).

- ☐ AVID 6 (see course description; application recommended)
☐ Band 1 – Beginning (try on required by July; visit www.hobbsmsband.com for details)
☐ 2-D Studio Art 1
☐ Computers (Computer Applications Business 1/2)
☐ Second P.E. (take P.E. for BOTH electives)
☐ Reading 1 (may be required based upon test scores)
☐ Intensive Reading 1 (may be required based upon test scores)
☐ Foundational Math 1 (may be required based upon test scores)

Parents, does your student require any of these classes through their EP/IEP?

- ☐ Gifted Elective (Pre-Approval Required through EP)
☐ Learning Strategies (Pre-Approval Required through IEP)

Parent/Guardian Signature

Student Signature

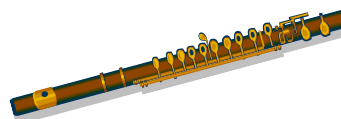
Due back to your 5th grade teacher by April 27, 2026!

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Hobbsmsband.com

April, 2026



Dear Current 5th Grade Students and Parents: Students – Have fun learning how to play an instrument while learning how to read music! Parents – Here is how to give your child this opportunity!

Come Join Beginner Band at Hobbs MS! **No previous music training required. Just simply show up during the time scheduled for your last name:**

- Last Name starting A through F: Tuesday, April 21st, anytime between 3:30 and 6:00 p.m.
- Last Name starting G through L: Thursday, April 23th, anytime between 3:00 and 6:15 p.m. (6:30 is 5th grade open house in cafeteria.)
- Last Name starting M through R: Tuesday, May 5th, anytime between 3:00 and 6:00 p.m.
- Last Name starting S through Z: Thursday, May 7th, anytime between 3:00 and 6:00 p.m.

Text Mr. Colón at the number provided below if you need to attend a different night than last name.

During this selection time, your child will **have the opportunity to try all of the band instruments** with the assistance of Mr. Colón and his professional helpers. This is the best method to determine which instrument is best suited for your child. By the end of the process, Mr. Colón will indicate which instrument your child will be assigned to learn and play in the Hobbs Beginner Band elective class. Additionally, we will answer all your questions concerning the best method of acquiring the instrument assigned to your child, including instruments on scholarship for students who financially qualify.

We would like to also invite you to our free Spring Band Concert on Friday, May 15th at the Milton HS auditorium at 6:30 p.m. Also, check Hobbsmsband.com any time to become familiar with our band website.

We look forward to **seeing you on your designated instrument selection time above!**

Sincerely,

Robert Colón (pronounced Cologne)
Hobbs Band Director
**850.583.6989 (best way to
Contact Mr. C, text capable #)**



Park anywhere near the main office parking lot and follow the posted signs to the band room. Allow a minimum of 20 minutes for selection once you arrive.

Visit hobbsmsband.com/about.html to learn about our state-recognized program!



Did you know? A ten-year study, tracking more than 25,000 students, shows that a formal music education improves test scores. Regardless of socioeconomic background, musically literate students get higher scores in standardized tests than those without a formal music education.

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