CROSSROADS NORTH MIDDLE SCHOOL

SIXTH GRADE PARENT ORIENTATION

Welcome to Crossroads Middle School

Crossroads Middle School

Crossroads North

Principal Bynoe

Assistant Principals
Riccardi & Mathews

6th Grade Units

Comets Neptune Polaris

7th / 8th Grade Units

Theta Rho Tau

Sigma Kappa Zeta

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

SHARED STAFF

- Supervisor of Special Ed. Faigin
- Math/Science Tech Encore Supervisor Rajagopal
- Music Supervisor Sears
- Counselor Supervisor Finkelstein
- L.A. / S.S. Supervisor Medina
- World Language Supervisor Decker
- Health/P.E. Supervisor Knapp
- Technology Support Carlson Kroun

Kmiec - Extracurricular Activities
Knapp - Athletics

Crossroads South

Principal Capes

Assistant Principals
Kmiec & Lopez

6th Grade Units

Aurora Phoenix

7th / 8th Grade Units

Beta Chi

Delta Gamma Omega

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

CROSSROADS MIDDLE SCHOOL STRUCTURE

6th Grade Units

Approximately 100 - 120 students per unit

Unit Names

NORTH: Comets, Neptune, Polaris
SOUTH: 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 & Angels,* and *Gathering Blue*

Informational Texts

- Pair with core texts to build knowledge and skills

Book Clubs

- Realistic Fiction in Verse & Graphic Memoir

Word Study

- Tier 2 Vocabulary
- Targeted Morphemes: Bases & Affixes

Other Practices:

- Independent Reading
- Read-Aloud

INDEPENDENT READING PROGRAM: ***PATTERNS***

P**arents **A**nd **T**eachers **T**ogether, **E**ncouraging the **R**eading of **N**onfiction and Novel**S

Summer Reading Recommendations

- One Book
- A List of Recommendations
- tinyurl.com/XRDSReading2026

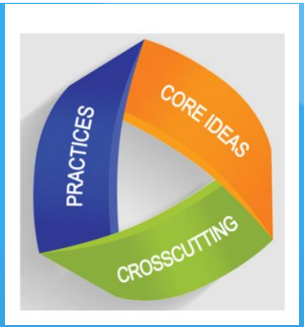
Writing Overview

Writers' Workshop:

- Mini-lessons
- Conferencing
- Ample practice in narrative, information, literary analysis, and argumentative composition
- Sentence-level and NoRedInk 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
- Disciplinary and Content Literacy course that hones 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 instruction	• Explanations • Modeling • Argument with reasoning

Units of Focus:

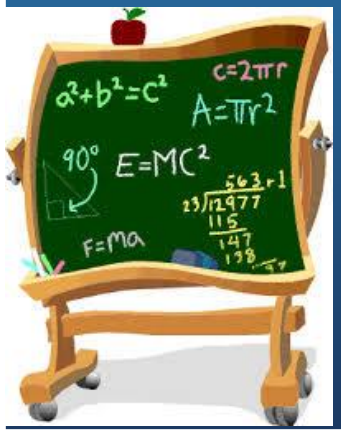
- Astronomy
- Geology
- Meteorology

Enrichment opportunity

- 6th Grade Science Fair (April)

Math Content Standards

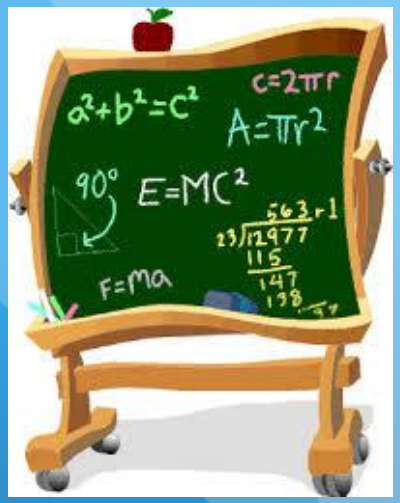
- Ratios and Proportional Relationships
- The Number System
- Expressions and Equations
- Geometry
- Statistics and Probability



Practice Standards

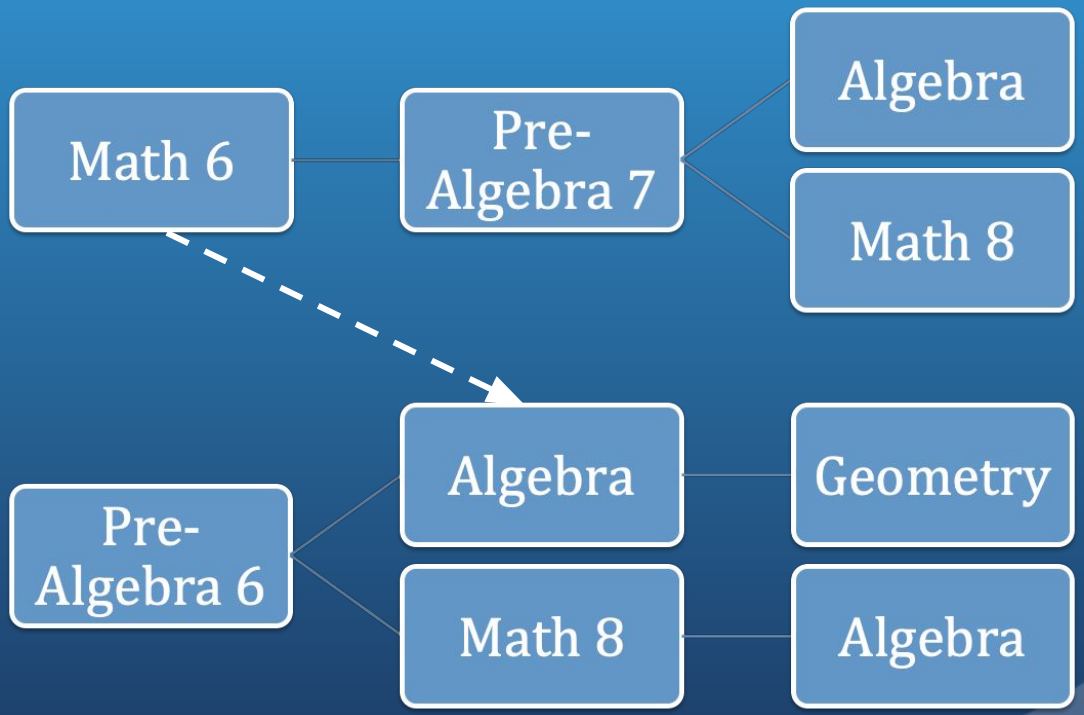
- Make sense of problems and persevere through them
- Reason abstractly and quantitatively
- Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others
- Use appropriate tools strategically
- Attend to precision
- Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning

Mathematics



6th Grade math courses:

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



Math Placement

Placement letters in Genesis in early July - anticipated date second week of 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
	Independence Day 	Order these fractions from least to greatest. $\frac{7}{8}, \frac{3}{4}, \frac{4}{6}, \frac{3}{5}, \frac{1}{2}$ Show your work.	Define a prime number. List the first 10 prime numbers. List the first 10 composite numbers. Is 1 prime or composite?	In a car lot there are 38 rows with 25 parking spots in each row. How many parking spots are there in all?	
10	**11**	**12**	**13**	**14**	**15**
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?	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?	Find the prime factorization for the number 48 using a factor tree. Tutorial for extra help	What is the improper fraction for $2\frac{3}{4}$? Show the steps you used to get it.	*Fact Friday*: Adding & Subtracting Facts Click on the link above. Choose from one of the options listed to practice your facts. Pick an option that would challenge you.	Prime factorization
17	**18**	**19**	**20**	**21**	**22**
Kris's math grades are 82, 71, 89, 88, 82, and 92. What is his mean grade? What is the median? What is the range? Video Link to help	You have $10. You buy a book for $4.99 and markers for $2.99. How much change would you get?	Divide 2979 by 4 Divide 544 by 34 Video help Multiply 324 x 21 Multiply 2315 x 123 Video help	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.	*Fact Friday*: Multiplication Facts Click on the link above. Choose from one of the options listed to practice your facts. Pick an option that would challenge you.	

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

http://tinyurl.com/sbsdstem

Crossroads World Languages

"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 World Language through a language of their choice: French or Spanish.

Crossroads World Languages

Students and parents will make their selection for a MS language (French or Spanish) via a Google survey in class the week of June 8th. Students will study this language throughout their time in middle school.

Crossroads World Languages

The Crossroads World Language program is designed to be age-appropriate and engaging for all middle school learners in either French or Spanish. Students will receive all necessary materials and support from their teacher.

Beyond the Core

- **World Language Program**
  - Spanish or French
- **Encore Classes –** Art, Music, Health, Digital Tools (focus on SCRATCH coding)
- **HAP –** Help and Access, school-wide -- chorus and access to teacher support

- **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/Heredity.

- **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	Makerspace Club
Online School Newspaper	Wellness Club
Anime and Gaming Club	Student Council
Community Service Club	Robotics
Engineering 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 "Best Communities for Music Education" by the NAMM Foundation!

<u>Program Offerings</u>

General Music (non-performing)

Choir, Orchestra, Band, Jazz (performing)

Spring Musical (extra-curricular)

General Music

- Students who do not participate in middle school band/orchestra/choir 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
- Region/Honors Ensembles
- Spring Musical
- *Music In the Parks Festival* ~ Hershey Park

Counseling Services

- 6th Grade Counselor: Mrs. Dailey
- 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

- 45-60 minutes as a nightly expectation
- Google Classroom

Reporting System

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

SPS (Student Personnel Services)

- Health Office, Counselors
- Child Study Team

General Information

Communications

- Friday Folder & Friday E-Mail with Principal's Newsletter
- Daily Announcements (AM/PM)
- Parent Conferences - Fall
- Joint PTO for 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
- 3:00 Dismissal Bell
- 5:00 Late Bus (Monday - Friday); 4:00 (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday)

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

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, 2026 kimberly.bynoe@sbschools.org

Summer Communication

- 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…

- CODE OF CONDUCT
- BYOD/SOCIAL MEDIA
  - New District Policy
- SCHOOL SUPPLIES
- LUNCH/SNACKS
- FANTASTIC VOYAGE
  - July 29th
  - August 19th
  - Must RSVP
  - Invitation to sign up will come to your email early-mid July
- GENESIS - SIS

Questions or Concerns?

- Kimberly Bynoe-Principal: Kimberly.Bynoe@sbschools.org
- Mark Riccardi-Assistant Principal: Mark.Riccardi@sbschools.org
- Aju Mathews-Assistant Principal: Aju.Mathews@sbschools.org
- Jonathan Medina - Language Arts/Social Studies: Jonathan.Medina@sbschools.org
- Robert Sears-Music: Robert.Sears@sbschools.org
- Laurie Faigin - Special Education: Laurie.Faigin@sbschools.org
- Aparna Rajagopal-Math/Science: Aparna.Rajagopal@sbschools.org
- Thomas Decker-World Language: Thomas.Decker@sbschools.org
- Edward Knapp-Health/Physical Education: Edward.Knapp@sbschools.org
- Amy Finkelstein-Counselors: Amy.Finkelstein@sbschools.org