



# **WORKING TOGETHER FOR A SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION TO MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**Building a Strong Foundation for  
High School and Beyond**

# Meet the Staff

- Rick Robb, Principal
- Samantha Armstead, Assistant Principal
- Lori Willoughby, Assistant Principal
- Dana Scott, School Counselor
- Gwen Taylor, School Counselor
- Jennifer Lage, School Psychologist
- Diane Cavuoti; Guidance Secretary
- Annette Baldwin, Wellness Center
- Kaitlyn Dove, Special Education
- Monica Chelidona, GT Coordinator
- Scott Howe, Gr. 6 Team Leader
- Amanda Roberge, Gr. 7 Team Leader
- Kandyce Salik, Gr. 8 Team Leader
- Tim Williamson, SS Team Leader
- Kelly Greene, ELA Team Leader
- Rebecca Stryker, Math Team Leader
- Anne Gauthier, Science Team Leader
- Anna Lentz, Orchestra/Fine Arts TL
- Dawn Francis, Choral Music
- Cara Tracey, Band
- Jennifer Wegman, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Band

# Meet the Staff

<b>B C Ni Chin Tial (Bi Bi)</b>	International Achievement Liaison BCNi_Tial@hcpss.org
<b>Danializ Arbelo-Girau</b>	Hispanic Achievement Liaison danializ_arbelo-girau@hcpss.org
<b>Anisha Thompson</b>	Black Student Achievement Liaison anisha_thompson@hcpss.org

## Roles

- Support student achievement, and monitor attendance
- Facilitate family involvement in the educational process
- Promote cultural awareness and diversity

In order to teach a child well we must know a child well.







# Learning and Leading with Equity

## *The Fierce Urgency of Now*

**VISION:** Every student and staff member embraces diversity and possesses the skills, knowledge and confidence to positively influence the larger community.

**MISSION:** HCPSS ensures academic success and social-emotional well-being for each student in an inclusive and nurturing environment that closes opportunity gaps.



### Four Overarching Commitments

VALUE

ACHIEVE

CONNECT

EMPOWER

# PVMS PTSA

- **PTSA website**     [pvmspta.weebly.com](http://pvmspta.weebly.com)
- **PTSA email**         PVMSPTAMD@GMAIL.COM or  
  lisaloveless@aol.com
- **[FACEBOOK.COM/PVMSPTA](https://www.facebook.com/pvmspta)** or search for Patuxent  
Valley Middle School PTSA and look for the bulldog

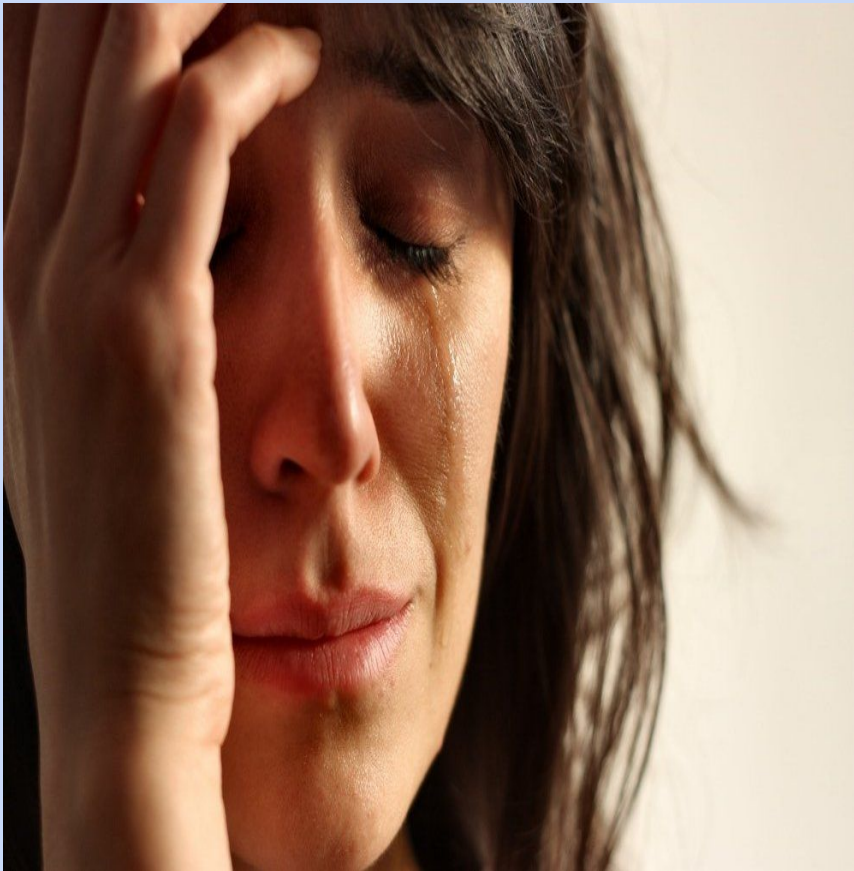
# Parent Perspective



## How PVMS helps with the transition

- This event tonight-general overview
- Meet and greet at your school
- Music Department visits
- GT notifications
- Students visit PVMS
- Summer Visits, if necessary
- Fall Orientation
- 6th grade newsletter
- Email and phone, if necessary

# Parent Perspective Cont'd



## How YOU can help with the transition

- Breathe! You are not alone
- Start attending PTA meetings NOW
- Transition from hand holding to some independence/responsibility
- Wait on buying school supplies
- Keep up with newsletters & Canvas
- Know your resources and ask questions

**Middle school is a defining point for students in the college and career readiness process.**

Source: The Forgotten Middle: Ensuring that All Students Are On Target For College and Career Readiness Before High School, ACT, 2008.

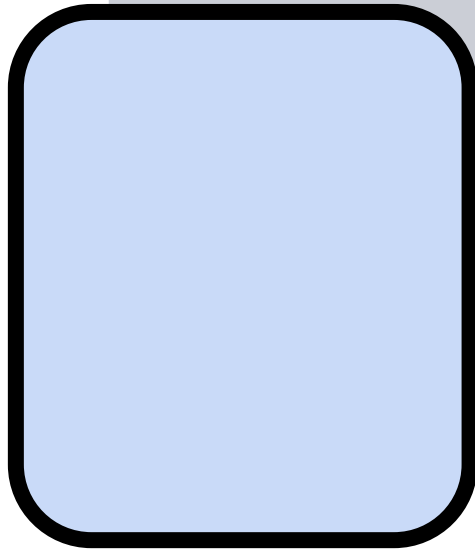
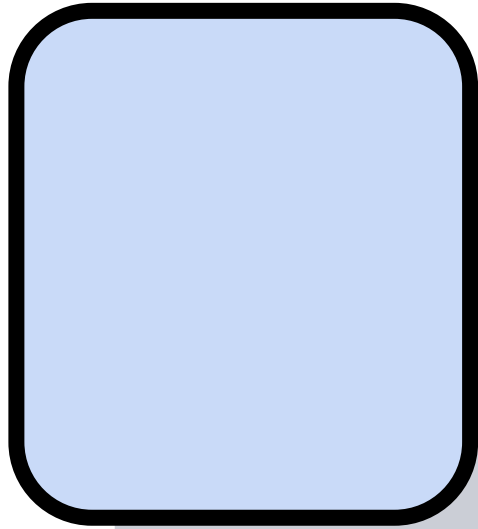




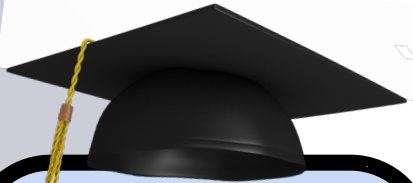
# Preparing Students for the Future







**High  
School  
Readiness**



**College  
and  
Career  
Readiness**

**21<sup>st</sup>  
Century  
Skills**

**Academic  
Behaviors**

**High  
School  
Readiness**

**College  
and  
Career  
Readiness**

**21<sup>st</sup>  
Century  
Skills**

- **Life and Career Skills**
- **Learning and Innovation Skills**
- **Information Media and Technology Skills**

**Academic  
Behaviors**

**High  
School  
Readiness**

**College  
and  
Career  
Readiness**

# Academics





**The level of academic achievement that students attain by eighth grade has a larger impact on their college and career readiness than anything that happens academically in high school.**

Source: The Forgotten Middle: Ensuring that All Students Are On Target For College and Career Readiness Before High School

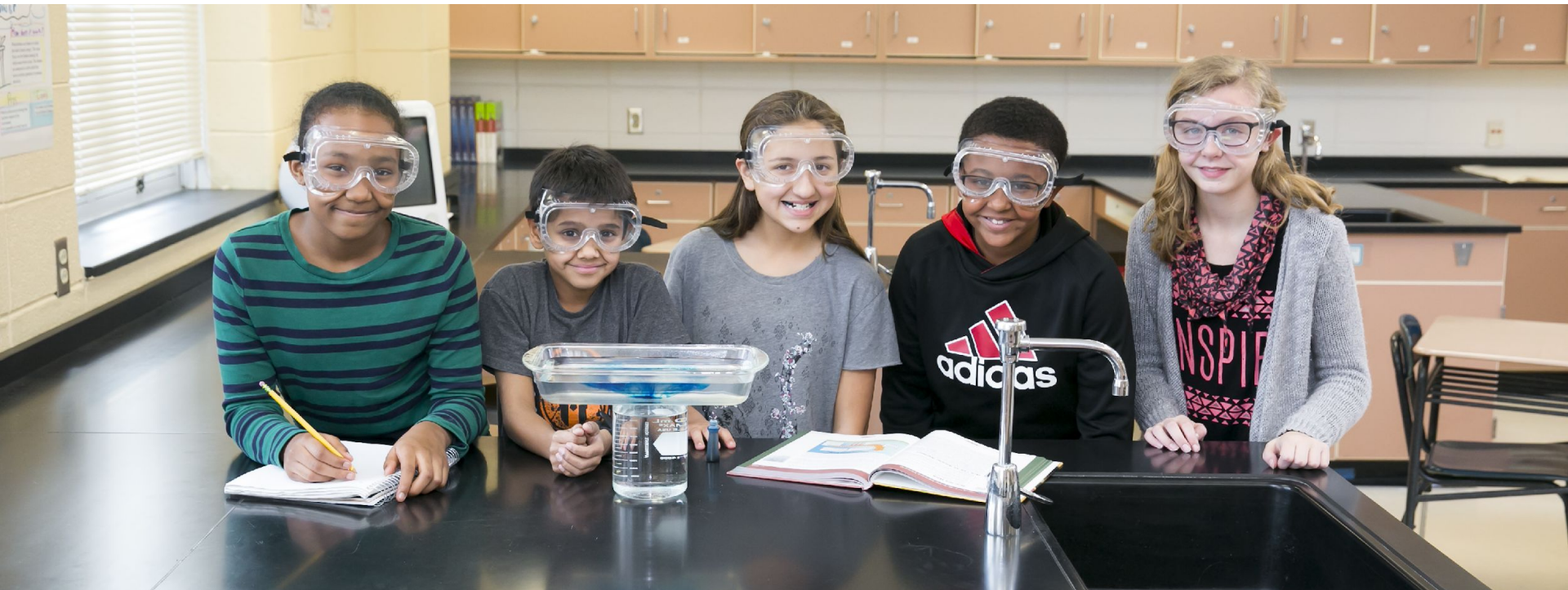


# The Middle School Schedule





**All students are  
enrolled in seven  
50-minute classes every day.**



**All students receive daily instruction aligned  
to Maryland's College and Career-Ready  
Standards in:**

**English**

**Mathematics**

**Science**

**Social Studies**



In addition, Maryland regulations require  
all students take:

**Health Education**

**Physical Education**

**Fine Arts** (Music and/or Visual Arts)





# Music Performance Ensemble Options

Band – Chorus – Orchestra



- Year-long classes
- Includes a daily large ensemble rehearsal and a weekly small sectional that are scheduled on a rotational basis
- Ensembles are ability-based.
- Music teachers will be in contact with elementary programs to schedule meetings and auditions.

# World Language 7th-8th Grade Options



## French – Spanish

- Year-long classes
- All middle school students may begin French or Spanish in 7th grade.
- Students receive high school credit for completing MS world language courses.

# Additional Course Options



**Family and Consumer Science**

**Technology Education**

**Reading and/or Math Intervention**

**Innovation & Inquiry Reading Modules**

**GT Research**



# Lunch



# Finding the Right Balance Between

- **Course Placements**
- **Rigor**
- **Personal Interests**
- **Student Success**





# Academic Behavior



**Motivation and  
behavior,**  
combined, have  
**more impact**  
on a student's **readiness**  
than academic achievement.

**LearnED**  
by PEARSON

**The earlier a student develops important academically related behaviors, the more likely these behaviors are to become a habit.**

Source: The Forgotten Middle: Ensuring that All Students Are On Target For College and Career Readiness Before High School, ACT, 2008.

# Supporting Academic Behaviors

At Patuxent Valley Middle School,  
staff and students:

- Start with the goal in mind
- Do what they do best, every day
- Celebrate effort and achievement
- Engage in positive experiences each school day
- Create excitement for the future.

# 3 WAYS

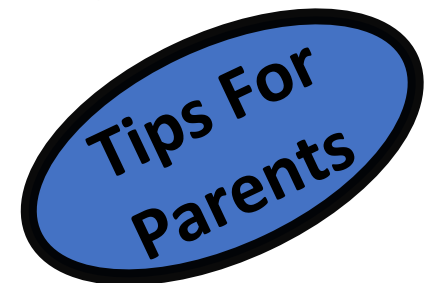
## TO SUPPORT THE WHOLE CHILD

- 1** | Teach kids that intelligence isn't fixed. They can grow their brains through lifelong learning.
- 2** | Talk to students about college and potential careers. Tell them you believe in them and in their success.
- 3** | Keep the communication lines open – set aside time to regularly talk about feelings and friendships.



# Supporting Your Child's Development Of Positive Academic Behaviors

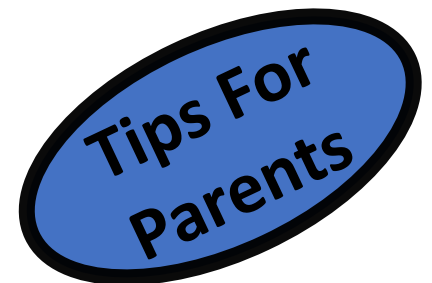
- Ensure that your child has the materials and place to study at home.
- Set a regular time for homework.
- Encourage your child to be responsible for chores and homework.
- Provide your child with a range of experiences to allow him/her to identify areas of strength.
- Talk to your child.



# 6th Grade Communication and Organization

Communication - We will send out a weekly 6th grade newsletter through email in order to update parents on upcoming events.

Organization - Students will each have a binder to manage work for each class. Please help your child develop a strong system of personal organization within the binder. One size does NOT fit all!!







# CANVAS BASICS



**To access Canvas: Go to [hcpss.me](https://hcpss.me) and use your HCPSS login and password**

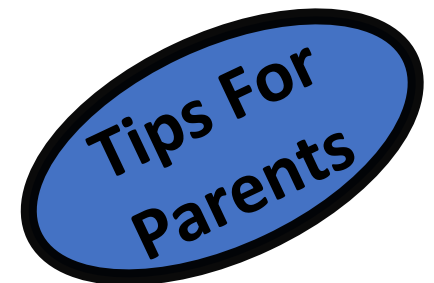
We encourage students and parents to become comfortable using Canvas to do the following:

- Check grades
- Access the calendar feature
- View assignments, due dates, and assignment details
- Send inbox emails
- Submit online assignments
- Update notification preferences to receive emails and app notifications
- View materials and resources on teachers' homepages



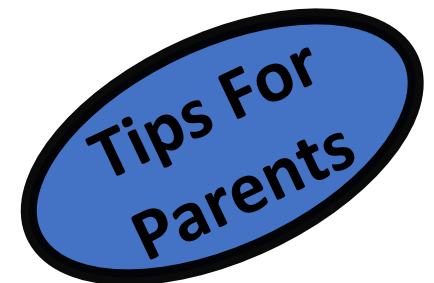
# Student Voice in Middle School

- What do you wish your parents had told you about middle school?
  - Get Organized
  - Keep up with Work
  - Communicate with Teachers
  - Get Involved
  - Have Fun!



# Lockers!!!!

- They will practice opening locks in 5th grade.
- Students receive lockers when they get their full schedules in August.
- There will be time to practice during the 1st week of school.
- Students do not fit inside lockers!!!



# NorthBay Outdoor Education Field Trip

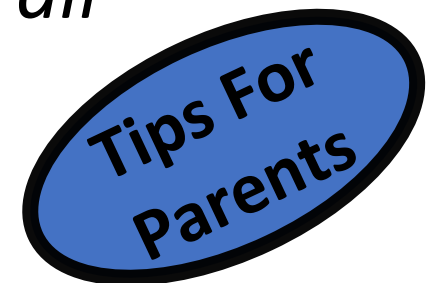
Where: NorthBay Adventure Camp

What: Part of HCPSS Outdoor Education

Cost per child: **\$175**

When: October 19-21, 2020 (3 days and 2 nights)

*Students who receive free and reduced meals will be provided with free tuition to attend. Money will be due sometime in mid-September. More details will follow during the first week of school, for all students.*



# Important Dates

Date	Activity
January 21, 2020	Performing Arts Request forms due
March 6, 2020	Course Placement Review forms due
May 19, 2020	Fifth Grade student visit
August 2020	New Student Orientation (date TBD)
August 25, 2020	First day of school
October 19-21, 2020	NorthBay



# PVMS Website

<http://pvms.hcpss.org/>

