



Welcome to Gorzycki Middle School

Cathryn Mitchell, Principal

Jamie Paige, 6th Grade Assistant Principal

Patti Hodges, 6th Grade Counselor

Differences at Middle School

- 4 Core teachers who serve 180+ students daily
- 4 Elective classes, which can be mixed 6th-8th
- Teacher/Parent conferences upon request as well as on parent conference days
- 9 week grading periods, a minimum of 9 grades per nine weeks, report cards are distributed depending on what you have selected on Parent Cloud
- 4 periods a day, about 90 minutes per class
- EXCEL daily, possibly
- Independent student transitions, 5 minutes between classes
- Independent student library visits before school, during lunch, in between classes, and after school
- Independent student management of backpacks, lockers, binders, etc.
- Communication is typically electronic, no paper flyers
- PE students must change into PE uniform

6th Grade Schedule

- Math
- Science
- World Cultures
- ELA
- Functional Fitness/PE/Dance
- Fine Arts
- Elective
- Elective



Math Pathways

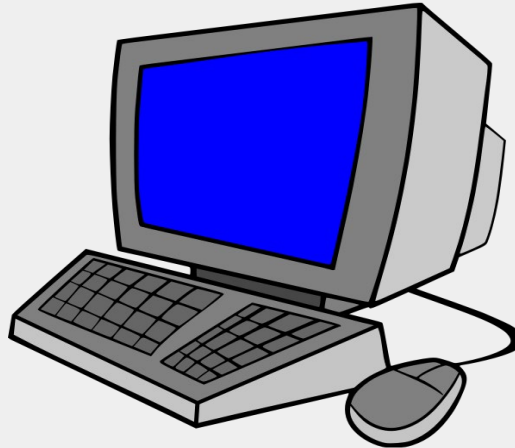
Math Pathway	6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade
Advanced	Advanced Math 6	Advanced Math 7	Advanced Math 8
Algebra Path	Accelerated Path 6/7	Accelerated Math 7/8	Advanced Algebra I
Geometry Path	Accelerated 6/7/8	Advanced Algebra I	Advanced Geometry

6th Grade Electives

- Band
- Orchestra
- Art
- Choir
- Theater Arts
- PE/Dance
- Study Skill
- CATE (Career and Technology Education)
 - Family, Food and Finance
 - Engineering Design
 - Keyboarding
 - Investigating Careers in Computer Science
 - Green Ag

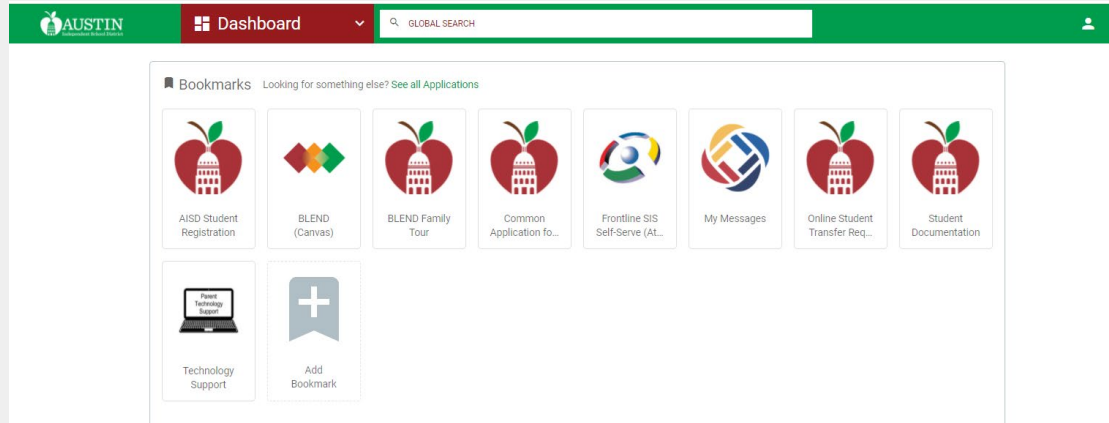
How schedules are created

- 6th grade Counselor inputs each students' courses into TEAMS. Only the 1st choice elective is entered (for each category)
- TEAMS software creates each students' schedule
- If there is a conflict, then the conflict has to be resolved. This is done by the counselor. Counselor goes back to choice sheet to determine next elective choices



Checking Grades

- EXCEL teachers check grades with the students once a week
- Grades are always LIVE in the Parent Cloud. Parents should check with their students once a week and set up auto alerts
- Progress reports are sent every three weeks if their child isn't passing
- Reports cards are sent out based on your settings in Parent Cloud



GMS Student Lockers

- Students are required to keep a GMS locker unless IEP states differently
- Locks are provided to students
- Practice how to use a combination lock with your child
- Office keeps a copy of all combinations and can help students who forget
- The day lockers are assigned, parents are invited after school to help organize (“Locker Move-In Night”)



Special Education and 504

- 504 does not have an advancement to MS meeting. 504 meeting during the month of their initial. Can ask for one if feel they need it.
- 504 Accommodations will be sent to the teachers before school.
- SPED, will have advancement ARD
- SPED students schedule will follow what the ARD states they need for class ex inclusion, study skills, etc
- SPED students will have a case manager that will reach out to them

Encourage your child to get involved

- Attend school events like the 6th grade social
- Attend extra curricular events like sporting events
- Start and/or join an after school club
- Advocate for themselves when needed
- Seek out a non-digital interest/hobby



Ways to Get Involved as a Parent

- Volunteer
 - Front Office Support
 - Tiger Mart
 - Tiger Team
 - Teacher WorkRoom
 - PTA/Booster Clubs

When you have a concern....



- Start with your child
- Concerns about grades - check the Parent Cloud together and email the teacher together
- Concerns that are personal/emotional - reach out to the counselor
- Concerns about the teacher - email the teacher and schedule a conference

An administrator can support you if any of the measures are not enough.

GMS Communication

- School Messenger
- PTA Weekly Newsletter - can sign up now
- GMS Website
 - Twitter
 - Facebook
 - GMS Newsgroup - can sign up now
- Student Daily announcements
- Parent Cloud
- Blend



Upcoming Events



- 11/01/21 Only One Gorzycki video shared with elementary
- 12/13/21 Kiker 5th grade Presentation via Zoom
- 12/16/21 Clayton 5th grade Presentation via Zoom
- 01-2022 Ongoing--Online Registration starts
- 01/13/22 Baldwin 5th grade Presentation via Zoom
- 01/21/22 Mills 5th grade Presentation at Mills
Bear Creek
- 1/28/22 Incoming 6th graders fieldtrip to GMS
- 1/28/22 Choice Sheets given to parents (electronic choice sheet)
- 2/7/21 Incoming 6th Grade Choice Sheet Night
- 2/10/21 Electronic Choice Sheets due
- 2/5/22 Orchestra Instrument Selection Day
Band Instrument Selection Day
- May 2022 Geometry Readiness Testing - Blend
- March Transition Camp
Parent Meetings will coincide with Transition Camps
First Week of School - Locker Move-In Night

Next Steps



- What Fine Arts course do I want?
- Do I want PE or Dance?
- What Math Pathway is the best for me?
 - How are my grades in math?
 - How do I perform on STAAR?
 - Do I like math?
 - I should talk to my 5th grade math teacher.
- If I don't select the Geometry Path, what other elective do I want?
 - Another Fine Arts?
 - Study Skills?
 - CTE courses?
- Write down any questions I have so that I can ask the counselors at Choice Sheet Night.
- Sign up for Transition Camp