



# Middle School Curriculum Night

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September 10, 2018



# Agenda

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- Middle School Program Overview
- Growth Mindset
- HighSchool Readiness Block
- Grade Level Work
- Gospel Values
- Reading Strategies
- Master Binder
- Google Classroom



# Middle School Program:

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1. High School Readiness
2. Unifying Gospel Values
3. Literacy Strategies taught across all classrooms
4. Executive Functioning
5. Social Emotional Wellness
6. Variety of Specialist Classes
7. Teacher Support Model

# Philosophy: Growth Mindset

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- **Mindset:** growth mindset not fixed mindset
- **Encourage Struggle:** learning requires thinking and purposeful struggle
- **Value Slower Thinking:** go more in depth and think more conceptually
- **Students Role in Change:** “It’s not hard, it’s challenging”

*Achieving Elusive Teacher Change through Challenging Myths about Learning: A Blended Approach*  
<http://www.mdpi.com/2227-7102/8/3/98/htm>

# HighSchool **Readiness** Block

Dear math, Who am I to solve your problems?



your  cards  
someecards.com

- **Math Block:** once a week
  - Numeracy with Ms. Fiedler-Ross or Khan Academy in HR
  - Algebra with Mr. Salm (8th graders whose performance qualifies them)
- **Reading Block:** once a week
  - Intervention with Mrs. Axtman or Reading Strategies with HR teacher
- **Study Period:** twice a week
  - ipads used only for work directly related to assignments

# Teacher Support Model

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<b>Meeting Schedule</b>			
<b>Day</b>	<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Faculty</b>	<b>Admin</b>
Thursday	ELA	Gately, Siegel, Axtman	Bedrosian
Thursday	SS/Science	Damon, Yenowskas, Axtman	Bedrosian
Thursday	Math	Salm	Fiedler-Ross
Friday	Spanish	Moguel and Recchia	co-planning

# Gospel Values = Values WE want to live by!

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- The 6 Gospel Values are values we learn and live by
- Focus on 2 per term, each for 6-7 weeks (each term is 12-13 weeks)
- At the end of the term, teachers will grade all their students on how well they live by these values.
- The grades for these 6 values will replace conduct and effort\*
  - 1=Exemplary
  - \*2=Usually lives by value\*
  - 3=Sometimes lives by value
  - 4=Does not live by value

# Gospel Values for Middle School

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1. **Gathering:** We stay positive and keep an open mind
2. **Energy:** We are present through speaking, listening, and acting.
3. **Neutrality:** We accept all people and circumstances
4. **Affect:** We remember that what we say and how we say it affects others
5. **Goals:** We strive to grow and use our peers and resources to do so.
6. **Empathy:** We understand, forgive, and have compassion for others.



# Reading Strategies\*

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- Every six-seven weeks, the middle school will focus on a different reading strategy that will be utilized in every content area
- This strategy will also be utilized during SSR time
- These reading strategies will be broad and will focus on informational text so that they are accessible in every content area
- Teachers will meet at the beginning of the six-seven week period to introduce a reading strategy and brainstorm how we will use it in our respective classes

# Reading Strategies\*

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- **Activating Prior Knowledge:** brainstorm what you already know about a topic
- **Asking Questions:** think of questions, make inferences, and discover answers while reading
- **Word Attack:** break words to determine meaning
- **Context Clues:** use the information around a word to infer its meaning
- **Main Idea & Supporting Details:** determine the main idea of a text and will locate supporting details
- **Summarizing:** provide a succinct and unbiased summary of a text

# \*Master Binder: Organize T.I.M.

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- The Middle School will continue using the Master Binder system this year
- Teachers will perform a pre-announced binder check during each unit of study or chapter
- \*Teachers will notify students about specific materials to remove from the binder once a unit or chapter is finished. These materials will be kept all year in an accordion folder at home.
- \*Binder checks will count for 5% of students' end of term grades

# Google Classroom\*

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- Google Classroom will replace Edmodo
- Teachers have a Google Classroom for each of their classes
- Teachers will post homework on Google Classroom nightly
- Parents will have access to what is posted on Google Classroom through Guardian Emails



# Guardian Emails\*

- Parents/Guardians will receive an invitation to join Google Classroom
- You will have the option of receiving weekly or daily automated Guardian Emails - we recommend daily!
- Emails will show you all the activity going on in **all** the Google Classrooms your child is enrolled in

The screenshot displays a Google Classroom page for a class named "Weekly summary for Felix" (Aug 1 - Aug 5, 2016). The page is divided into sections for "Student work" and "Class activity from last week".

**Student work**

Missing from last week

- U.S. History - due Jul 26**  
**My top five influential figures in American History**  
Create a top 5 list of the most influential figures in American history from the people listed in the handout. For each figure, write a brief explanation (in your own words) on why they are on your list. It will be going over this in class so make sure you are ready to justify your choices.
- English and American Literature - due Jul 27**  
**What is the Harlem Renaissance? Who started it?**

Due next week

- U.S. History - Due Aug 9**  
**"The Price of Free Speech" Reading and Questions**  
Read the handout attached and answer the questions listed in the Google Doc. All answers should be in your words.
- Marine Biology - Due Aug 13**  
**Aquarium Investigation Project**  
Select three aquatic animals you would like to learn more about this semester. Answer the questions in the Google Doc. These facts will be used as the basis for your end of year presentation.

**Class activity from last week**

- U.S. History**  
Kristen Gould
- Assignment - Due Aug 9**  
**"The Price of Free Speech" Reading and Questions**  
Read the handout attached and answer the questions listed in the Google Doc. All answers should be in your words.  
Posted Aug 5
- Question**  
**What document ended the War? What were the major components of the document?**  
Posted Aug 5
- Assignment - Due Aug 16**

# Summary

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1. High School Readiness
2. Unifying Gospel Values
3. Literacy Strategies taught across all classrooms
4. Executive Functioning
5. Social Emotional Wellness
6. Variety of Specialist Classes
7. Teacher Support Model