WELCOME SIXTH GRADE PARENTS!

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2013
BRIEF OVERVIEW

- Introduction and Welcome

Topics Discussed:
- Student Support Services
- Transitioning into Middle School
- Grades 7 & 8 Units of Study
- Accelerated Courses
- Scheduling Process for Grade 7
- Guidance Direct

Q & A Session

Kitty R. Klein
Director of Guidance, K-12
Phil Lowe
Guidance Counselor
SOME ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

- What should I be doing to help prepare my child for seventh grade?
- What courses is my child required to take?
- Does my child’s current 6th grade performance have a major impact in his/her placement for grade 7?
- When should I be concerned (if at all) about courses taken at the middle school that may appear on my child’s high school transcript?
- Is there a program available to students that allows them to formulate connections between academic interests and future careers?
STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

- Guidance Counselors
  - Phil Lowe (Grade 7)
  - Cathy Cain (Grade 8)

- Social Workers
  - Kathryn Costa
  - Vilma Matos (Bi-lingual)

- School Psychologists
  - Mary DiBenedetto
  - Nina DiGioia

- Administrators
  - John Amato (Principal)
  - Kenneth Parham (Assistant Principal)
  - Directors and Department Supervisors
ROLE OF THE GUIDANCE COUNSELOR

Assist Students:

• Develop an educational plan that’s realistic and appropriate to obtaining goals

• Recognize and utilize academic strengths so that they can make effective decisions

• Analyze the interrelationships of interests and abilities

• Improve responsibility
NYS MIDDLE SCHOOL UNITS OF STUDY
(GRADES 7 & 8)

- English Language Arts - two units of study
- Social Studies - two units of study
- Science - two units of study
- Mathematics - two units of study
- Technology Education - one unit of study
- Family and Consumer Science - three quarters of a unit of study
- Physical Education
- Health - one half unit of study
- The Arts - one half unit in visual arts and one half unit in music
- Library and Information Skills - one period per week
- Languages Other Than English (LOTE)
- Career Development and Occupational Studies
At J.T. Finley Middle School, we offer accelerated courses in the following areas:

- Mathematics (Integrated Algebra - Acc)
- Science (Earth Science R)
- World Language (French I, Italian I, Latin I, Spanish I)
- Art (Studio Art)
SCHEDULING PROCESS FOR GRADE 7

- December – A letter is mailed home from the middle school principal, Mr. Amato to the 6th grade parents, requesting the selection of language.

- February – Course placements for grade 7 are entered into our data management program so that staffing decisions can begin.

- June - Final determination is made regarding course placement (including accelerated math placement), based upon final grades earned.
Students registered in accelerated courses at the middle school earn credits towards their high school diploma and courses are listed on the high school transcript.

Connect academic strengths to career Interests (Guidance Direct)
GUIDANCE DIRECT

PLAN FOR YOUR FUTURE!

• Available to all Huntington Students

• College, Career, and Scholarship Search Engine

• Student ID and Password set-up
  www.guidancedirect.com

  School ID: 8472430
  School Password: W17S1215
  -Click on ‘Create New Account’

• Take The Interest Profiler Today!
WHAT’S AVAILABLE IN MIDDLE SCHOOL

• **Extra help** - offered Tuesday and Thursday from 3:00-3:30. A late bus is also available.

• **Scheduled Team Meetings** — teachers meet in a group with both the student, parent, and guidance counselor.

• **Support Services** — Weekly progress monitoring, group counseling sessions, quarterly follow-up, and individual meetings.

• **After School Activities** — Students may choose from an array of after school clubs and activities, including interscholastic sports.
QUESTION & ANSWER SESSION

Thank you for coming!