

2020-2021

# Middle School Transition

## Counselor Contact Information:

### Liberty Memorial Central Middle School



1400 Massachusetts St.  
(785) 832-5400

Deb Keary (6&7)  
dkeary@usd497.org  
Jolynne Sayre-Merriman (7&8)  
jolynne.sayremerriman@usd497.org



### Billy Mills Middle School

2734 Louisiana Street  
(785) 832-5450

Kristen Kircher (A-K)  
kkircher@usd497.org  
April Ramos (L-Z)  
aramos@usd497.org

### Southwest Middle School



2511 Inverness Drive  
(785) 832-5550

Mame Fleming (6&7)  
mfleming@usd497.org  
Kierston Beets (7&8)  
kbeets@usd497.org



### West Middle School

2700 Harvard Road  
(785) 832-5500

Tiffany Fike (A-K)  
tfike@usd497.org  
Carla Schmidt (L-Z)  
cschmidt@usd497.org



It's your child's biggest transition since kindergarten so let us assure you that the counselors at all four middle schools have been working both independently and cooperatively to ensure a smooth transition for each incoming middle school student. The following list of transition activities is a brief overview of the preparation and planning that is scheduled to happen in the near future.

## Mark Your Calendar for Important Middle School Transition Events:

- |                  |                                                                                                                                                             |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| March 2          | Begin Course Enrollment in PowerSchool                                                                                                                      |
| March 19         | Course Enrollment Ends                                                                                                                                      |
| April 27, 28, 30 | Middle School Counselors Visit Elementary Schools                                                                                                           |
| May 4-5          | 5th Grade Students Visit Middle Schools                                                                                                                     |
| May 5            | Parent Night for all Middle Schools for Parents of Incoming 6th graders at 6p.m. (Billy Mills, Southwest, West and Liberty Memorial Central Middle Schools) |
| August 17        | 6th Grade First Day of School (am only)                                                                                                                     |

We look forward to working with you and your student over the next three years. Please do not hesitate to contact your assigned counselor at any time with questions. Counselors return to their schools about one week before the first day of school in the fall.

-USD 497 Middle School Counselors

# Welcome to Middle School!

Our goal is to create a positive experience for students and families as they transition to middle school. On-line class registration will begin on Monday, March 2, 2020.

Steps to follow include:

1. You and/or your child log on to your child’s PowerSchool Account (see attached directions).
2. Complete the on-line Class Registration in PowerSchool by selecting **one** elective and **one** math course. The options available are outlined below.

<b>Elective Choice</b>	<b>Band 6</b> (one year)	Students will have the opportunity to begin study on a brass, woodwind, or percussion instrument. Instruction includes learning to read band music, proper playing technique, scales, rhythm, sight-reading and other principles of music theory, music history and music performance.
	<b>Orchestra 6</b> (one year)	Students will have the opportunity to begin study on violin, viola, cello or bass. Instruction includes learning to read orchestral music, proper playing technique, scales, rhythm, sight-reading and other principles of music theory, music history and music performance.
	<b>Introduction to Technology and Communication Arts 6</b> (one year)	Introduction to Technology and Communication Arts is designed to promote academic skills, positive self-esteem and confidence. In technology class, students will be exposed to a variety of technology topics and learn real world applications of those systems and be involved in the manufacturing of a hands-on project. In Communication Arts, the student will develop public speaking and communication skills to express his/her ideas and feelings both formally or informally in a safe, success-oriented environment.
<b>Math Choice</b>	<b>6th Grade Math</b>	A major difference between the 6th grade math course and the Advanced Intro to Pre-Algebra class is the number of standards and depth of content covered over the course of a year. Both course structures are outlined below. The Intro to Pre-Algebra class combines all of the 6th grade math standards and half of the 7th grade math standards in one year. The level of rigor and demand on the student is higher. As noted above in the course descriptions, teacher recommendation, student assessment data, and classroom performance are important items to take into consideration for enrollment.
	<b>Introduction to Pre-Algebra (Advanced Course)*</b>	

3. Mark your calendar for upcoming transition events! Dates are located on the Middle School Transition sheet.

**Class registration needs to be completed by March 19, 2020.** This will complete your student’s middle school class registration process.

Sincerely,  
Middle School Counselors

## Additional 6th Grade Math Course Enrollment Information

A major difference between the 6th grade math course and the Advanced Intro to Pre-Algebra class is the amount of standards and depth of content covered over the course of a year. Both course structures are outlined below. The Intro to Pre-Algebra class combines all of the 6th grade math standards *and* half of the 7th grade math standards in one year. The level of rigor and demand on the student is higher. As noted above in the course descriptions, teacher recommendation, student assessment data, and classroom performance are important items to take into consideration for enrollment.

### Math 6 Units (6th grade standards)

Unit 1: Factors, multiples, divisibility rules, properties, exponents, order of operations, distributive property (intro)

Unit 2: Division of fractions, decimal calculations, fraction calculations

Unit 3: Integers (no calculations), coordinate planes

Unit 4: Expressions - combining like terms, evaluating, equivalence, writing, distributive property (expand with variables)

Unit 5: Single operation equations and inequalities - write and solve

Unit 6: Ratio, rates, unit rates, proportions, scale, and scale factor

Unit 7: Percents

Unit 8: Geometry - perimeter of composite figures (made up of triangles and quadrilaterals), area of polygons, nets, surface area, volume

Unit 9: Statistics - collecting data, analyzing data, displaying data, making inferences

### Intro to Pre-Algebra Units (All 6th & some 7th grade standards)

Unit 1: Factors, multiples, divisibility rules, properties, exponents, order of operations, distributive property (intro)

Unit 2: Division of fractions, decimal calculations, fraction calculations, converting fractions/decimals

Unit 3: Integers, coordinate planes, rational numbers calculations (including integers, negative decimals, and negative fractions)

Unit 4: Expressions - combining like terms, evaluating, equivalence, writing, distributive property (expand and factor with variables)

Unit 5: Single operation and multiple operation equations and inequalities - write and solve

Unit 6: Ratio, rates, unit rates (including complex fractions), proportions, scale, and scale factor

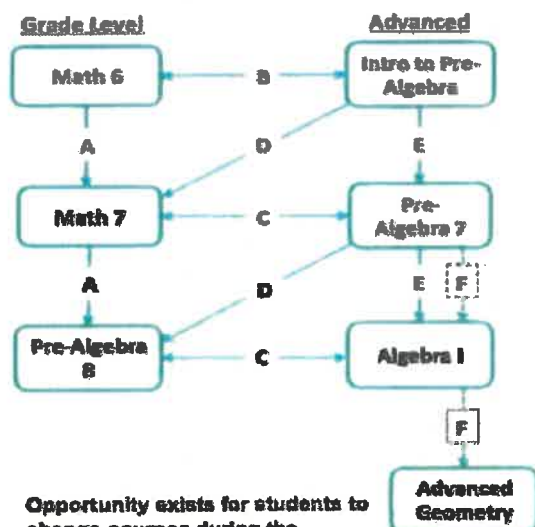
Unit 7: Percents (including simple interest, percent of change, and percent error)

Unit 8: Geometry - Perimeter of composite figures (made up of triangles, quadrilaterals, and circles), area of shapes (including circles), nets, surface area, volume

Unit 9: Statistics - collecting data, analyzing data, displaying data, making inferences, sample/sampling, population

Unit 10: Probability - Intro to probability and experimental/theoretical probability

### Middle School Course Flow

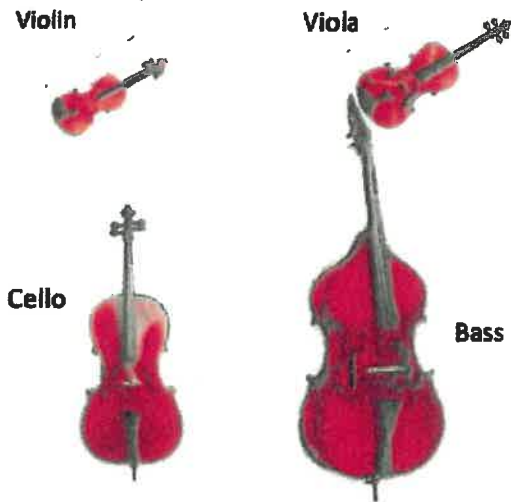


**Lawrence Public Schools – USD 497**  
**6<sup>th</sup> Grade Band and Orchestra General Information**

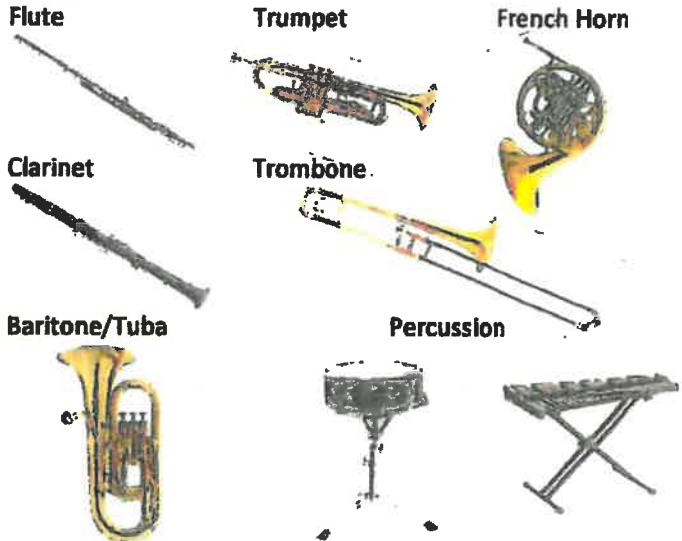


In preparation for middle school enrollment, all 5<sup>th</sup> grade students will explore band and orchestra instruments prior to enrollment in February. During enrollment students will have the option to select Band 6 or Orchestra 6. These 6<sup>th</sup> grade elective classes will be the students' only opportunity to receive beginning instruction for instrumental music. The following instruments are taught in these classes:

**Orchestra**



**Band**



Parent(s) and/or Guardian(s) should review this information with the student. Any questions can be directed to your school's band or orchestra director.

	<b>LMCMS</b>	<b>Billy Mills Middle School</b>	<b>Southwest</b>	<b>West</b>
<b>Band:</b>	Samuel Parrilla	Scott Robinson	Deb Woodall-Routledge	Paul Morgenroth
<b>Orchestra:</b>	Jillian Block	Whitney Maxwell	Amanda Peterson	Heather Madgwick

Students who wish to change their instrument and/or class selection prior to school beginning in the fall, including those who participate in the summer NOVICE program, should contact their middle school counselor.

**PLEASE NOTE:** All students will need an instrument and supplies to participate in Band 6 or Orchestra 6. Students are encouraged to rent instruments from a music store, purchase an instrument or borrow an instrument. A limited number of USD 497 District-Owned Instruments are available through the Lawrence Public Schools. A \$50.00 maintenance fee is required for the use of district-owned instruments. (Fee can be waived if both the Approved Free and Reduced Lunch Application and Form 3E – Waiver of Confidentiality are on file in the Food Service Department. Waivers will be automatically applied to accounts when all paperwork is completed and received.)

Instruments are provided based on 1) financial need, 2) instrument selected, and 3) available inventory at the time of request. Information about district owned instruments and recommended instrument vendors will be sent home in the spring after enrollment is completed.

Instrumental music instruction is provided as an elective class for all 6th graders in the Lawrence Public Schools. The school band and orchestra meet regularly during the school day. **There are no beginning classes in band and orchestra beyond the 6<sup>th</sup> grade.**

### ***Why Should I Play?***

Studies have shown that students who study music score higher on standardized tests and have more success in school. In addition, IT'S FUN!

### ***What Should I Play?***

Lawrence is privileged to offer a unique summer workshop for beginners called NOVICE. Students are highly encouraged to enroll in this program. This is a two-week trial period in June where everyone will receive high quality instruction on how to play every instrument. Our expert staff will help assess the right instrument for your child based upon their physical characteristics and natural playing abilities. At the completion of NOVICE, you will receive documentation of your child's performance and a personal conference with a music educator. NOVICE registration forms will be distributed at your next parent-teacher conference, and will also be available on the district website.

If for some reason your child cannot participate in NOVICE, he or she will briefly be allowed to try several instruments when school starts. The USD 497 instrumental music staff is determined to help all students achieve their highest potential. Selection of the best musical instrument for your child is key to success and subject to the approval of the director.

Some instruments are not introduced in 6<sup>th</sup> grade. In late spring of the 6th grade year, some students may have the opportunity to switch to oboe, bassoon, bass clarinet, saxophone, or tuba upon the recommendation of their band director. For more information about these instruments, please contact your middle school band director.

### ***Besides an instrument, what other supplies do I need?***

Once an instrument has been chosen, your child will be given a list of specific supplies to obtain. Here is a list of basic supplies. \*All method books will be provided to students.

#### **ORCHESTRA**

##### **Violin and Viola**

Shoulder pad  
Rosin

##### **Cello and Bass**

End pin rest or "Rockstop"  
Rosin

#### **BAND**

##### **Brass Instruments:**

Trumpet, Trombone, Horn, Baritone, Tuba  
Valve Oil, Slide Grease

##### **Clarinet**

Reeds (recurring need)

##### **Flute**

Swab, Cleaning rod

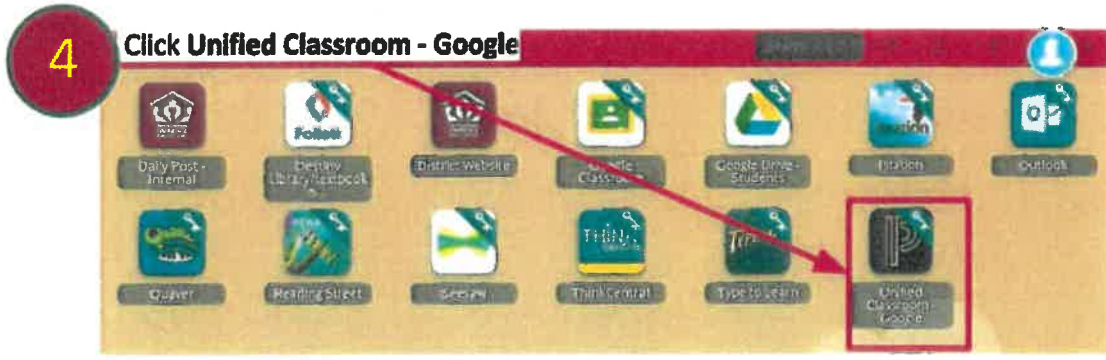
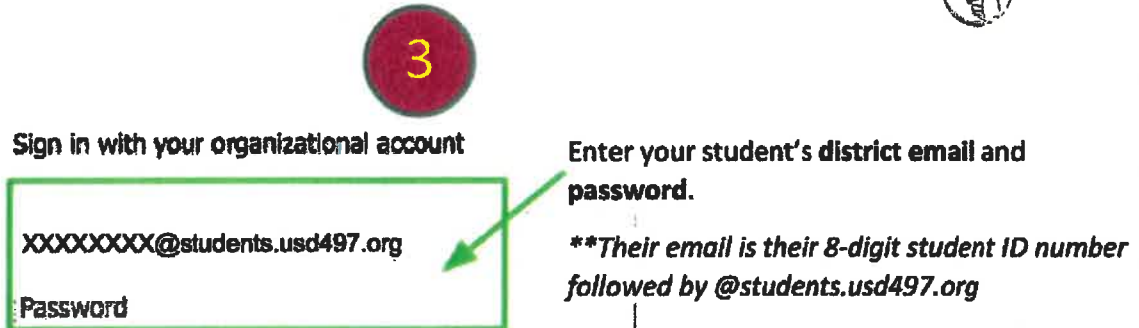
##### **Percussion**

Snare sticks, mallets, stick bag, practice pad

# Class Registration Directions (for 2020-2021 School Year)



1 Go to <http://go.usd497.org> Click Students



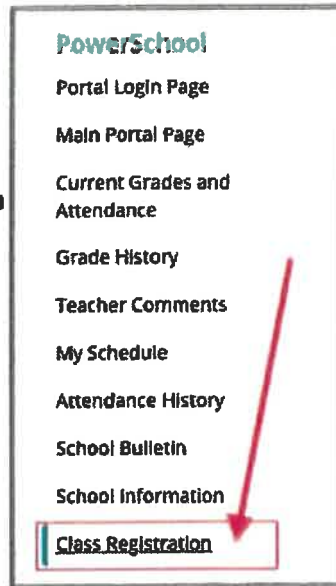
5

Click Quick Links



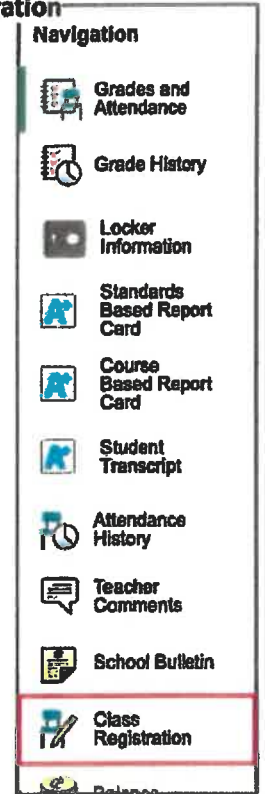
6

Click Class Registration



7

Or select Portal Login Page, and then select Class registration



8

To complete the class registration, click the pencil next to any section with a red exclamation point

View course requests

**Enquired Courses**

District required courses.

Number of requests to generate : 1

Language Arts II	Science II	Social Studies II	Music II	Art II	Advisory II	Flex II	Computer Essentials
MSQ120 - 1 credits	MSQ300 - 1 credits	MSQ400 - 1 credits	MSQ504 - 0.25 credits Skill development will	MSQ654 - 0.25 credits Skill development will	MSQ711 - 0 credits Advisory provides every	MSQ721 - 0.5 credits All 8th grade students will	MSQ744 - 0.25 credits This course introduces
English Language Arts II	Science II	Social Studies II					

**Math**

Parents/Guardians, please select the appropriate grade level math course

Number of requests to generate : 1

**Electives**

Please select either: Brass Band II OR Woodwind Band II OR Orchestra II OR Communication Arts II AND Intro to Technology II

Number of requests to generate : 1

Click the edit button to request a course

Click the edit button to request a course

Click the edit button to request a course

Click the edit button to request a course

9

Make the desired selection and click **Okay** to save

Alternates

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Drawing 1 Sem. 1	510111	skills learned in Drafting. The year will be spent learning computer drawing techniques and developing 3-D computer drawings. The course is designed for students wishing to pursue a career in engineering, architecture, construction or drafting fields.	0.5	This course is not repeatable.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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<< first = prev 1 2 3 4 next > last >>

You may select 2 courses. You have selected 0 course(s).

Cancel Okay

Please note that there may be multiple pages to select from!

10

Once all class registrations have been made your credits should add up to 7. You can then submit your form.