

# QUESTIONS ASKED DURING THE VIRTUAL RISING 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION NIGHT JANUARY 10, 2022

*QUESTIONS ARE LISTED IN THE ORDER THEY WERE ASKED*

QUESTION	ANSWERS
My student may use an address that feeds into a different middle school. How do we get connected to that middle school's orientation and transition information?	We suggest that you reach out to your new school to inquire.
Will the administrators follow our students as they go through middle school?	Currently, administrators do not follow a cohort of students throughout middle school. Each year you will more than likely have a new administrator.
How will scheduling work for DEC students?	DEC students will be scheduled the same way as students attending neighborhood schools. Staff at the DEC will support their students, in the same way that staff at neighborhood schools support their students.
Can I take orchestra and art in sixth grade?	At this time in 6th grade, students enrolled in orchestra are not able to take art. Each year you will be asked to select your courses, so you will have another opportunity to select art in seventh or eighth grade.
Can we take dance in sixth grade?	Currently dance is not offered in 6th grade. Dance may be offered for seventh and eighth grade students starting next year.
Are there school clubs?	We do have an after-school program with clubs and other activities.
Will there be buses available for students?	Based on your address, you may be assigned to ride a bus.

QUESTION	ANSWERS
If you are in a GT class in 6th grade, are you required to stay in GT for 7th and 8th grade?	You are not required to stay in GT classes. With a parent request, students can be moved out of GT classes.
Are students able to move into G/T in a subject later on (in 7th or 8th grade), if they do not start in G/T in 6th grade?	Yes! Please contact Mr. Bond if you would like to request a GT placement review for your child.
If you have not been in a GT class in elementary school can you be placed or recommended for GT class in 6th grade?	Yes, students can be placed in GT classes even if they were not in GT classes in elementary school. If your child's teachers do not recommend your child for GT, the parent/guardian can complete the course placement review form in Synergy to request this change. Currently that form is due on 2/22/22 by 8am.
What is the requirement to be in a GT class?	There are a variety of ways students can be enrolled in a GT class, such as test scores, grades work samples and teacher recommendations. If your child is not recommended for a GT class, the parent/guardian can complete the course placement review form in Synergy to request this change. Currently that form is due on 2/22/22 by 8am.
Is there a target time-limit for daily homework?	Yes. There is specific guidance about how much homework students can be assigned. Our teachers do an excellent job at recognizing the whole child and the need for balance.
Will vaccination become a requirement for students to attend in-person?	At this time, it is not required. We are not sure if this will be a requirement in the future.
Does Lake Elkhorn offer after-school clubs?	We do have after school programs with clubs and other activities.

QUESTION	ANSWERS
When will students receive their schedules?	Students will be able to pick up their schedules at orientation the week before school starts. During your orientation visit, you will have the opportunity to walk to each of your classes and practice opening your locker. For students unable to attend orientation, schedules will be provided on the first day of school.
Will there be outdoor education next year?	As of right now, we do not know what next year will look like for outdoor education.
How can students find their course recommendations for next year?	Log into Synergy. There is a menu on the left hand side that will prompt you to see course recommendations.
Is middle school just like elementary school but with more classes and homework?	<p>Middle school is different from elementary school in that students have a bit more independence and responsibilities.</p> <p>After your first month in middle school, students say things like:          We don't have to walk in straight lines!          We have lockers.          We have different people in our classes all day at different times in the day.</p> <p>We think you will love it!</p>
What happens if a student gets lost trying to find his or her class?	Teachers stand in their doorway during hallway transitions to assist you with finding your classes. You will also get a map of the school.

QUESTION	ANSWERS
How has LEMS helped the current 6th graders to adjust to all of the new Covid-19 restrictions and changes?	Families did a great job at preparing their children for the changes Covid-19 created and our students have been very resilient, patient and adaptable. Each year, during the first week of school, Lake Elkhorn has a special schedule to go over school routines and begin building relationships. This year we embedded the changes due to Covid-19 into those lessons and activities. Teachers frequently use situational things to reteach as necessary, too.
Are students allowed to go to lockers between classes?	Students can access lockers in the morning when they arrive, before and after lunch and at the end of the day.
How are classrooms set up?	Each classroom is set up differently based on the layout of the classroom. Oftentimes, teachers will change the layout of seating with a new quarter.
Can students eat outside or inside?	Students can choose to eat inside or outside in the designated area.
Do students have assigned seating?	Yes. For the time being, we have seating charts for each class.
Is FACS (Family and Consumer Science) a cooking class?	Some of the units do involve cooking, but students will also learn many other valuable life skills.
What happens if a student is late?	The expectation is for all students to be actively getting to class on time. If a student is repeatedly late, there could be discipline measures like a phone call home, lunch detention and/or afterschool detention.
Can students get detention?	Yes, but we do not like assigning detention unless we really have to.
Can students take FACS if they are also in orchestra?	It depends on the schedule. It may not be possible to take both in sixth grade.

QUESTION	ANSWERS
Do middle school students have recess?	Yes. However, in elementary school students have an additional time block for recess. In middle school, recess and lunch are combined during a 30-minute block of time.
Will students have lots of books to carry? Can they have a backpack?	There may be some books students will have to carry. In other classes, they will find some of the work/texts online. This year, students can carry a backpack to classes. There is a possibility this may change next year.
Are we randomly assigned homerooms?	Homerooms are assigned by grade, in alphabetical order.
Do students have band field trips?	Band does have field trips. Each year Lake Elkhorn Middle School participates in "Music in the Parks" with the chorus and orchestra.
Is there a trip to North Bay planned for next year?	At this time, there is not a field trip planned for North Bay at Lake Elkhorn or other HCPSS middle schools.
Can you go over the phone policy?	Generally, cell phone use is not permitted at school. Sometimes students are given times when they are allowed to use them as a reward. In addition, sometimes teachers will allow students to use cell phones if it is part of a lesson.
Are there any overnight field trips?	Right now, HCPSS does not permit overnight field trips.
How many students are at Lake Elkhorn?	We have almost six hundred students at Lake Elkhorn. Students are pretty evenly divided between all three grades.
Is there still a Black Student Achievement Award?	Yes! We can't wait to celebrate you!
Is there a young author's contest?	Yes! There is a countywide young author's contest.