

# Welcome to Horse Heaven Hills Middle School



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## You're Starting Middle School!

Congratulations! You are completing elementary school and starting middle school, so now it's time to move on up to the big leagues. This is going to be a great experience for everyone. One thing always remains the same about this important step-up. It's a chance for adventure and to start with a clean slate. These new experiences are going to cause you to feel scared, nervous, happy, and excited. If you have the right attitude and solid information about

what to expect, you'll be a middle school pro in no time. Coming to middle school means that you will be given more responsibilities. Middle school gives you a chance to show how much you have grown and matured. You now are considered a young adult and there will be new and more challenging expectations.

We are confident that you are ready to meet the expectations, and there are many people who are eager to help you if you need it.



## Attendance

*Attendance is a very important part of school success. It is important to be at school every day. If you do have to miss school, you go to the attendance window in the commons when you come back. You give your note to Mrs. Reed, who will write you a pink pass. If you don't have a note, you still go to the attendance window. You will get a green pass and your absence will be unexcused until you bring a note to Mrs. Reed.*

## Getting organized:

When you get into middle school, it's going to be very important to get organized and stay that way. Life will be much easier if you develop a system for your schoolwork and belongings. The school will provide you with a planner. This will help you keep track of your daily assignments and schoolwork.

Here are some tips for staying organized:

1. Make reminders for yourself.
2. Use your planner .
3. Be sure you understand assignments. Ask for clarification.
4. Keep your locker neat.
5. Make time for homework and do it!
6. Keep your ID card with you at all times. It is your lunch card, your

library card and your ASB card (if you pay your ASB fee). You can even use it to check out a ball at lunch.

7. **Cell phones must be turned off and in lockers at all times. Leave other electronics home.**

If you follow these steps, then staying organized will be a cinch.



## Don't Miss Your Chance to Find Out About Middle School

Our orientation is at 6:30pm on Thursday, June 2, 2011.

Come to the Horse Heaven Hills Commons to hear about middle school, meet people who will help make your transition a smooth one, and get the answers to your questions about middle school.

## Lockers:

In middle school you will be provided with your own personal locker. You can just say good-bye to cubbies and coat rooms. Lockers take some getting used to. You are going to have to remember a locker combination. It's not that hard, but it's important to keep your combo confidential. You may be worried that you will forget your

combination, but don't worry. After using it about four or five times a day, it will be burned into your memory. If you do forget, the office does have a copy of your combination. A teacher will help you if you have trouble opening your locker. If you keep your combo safe, nobody can steal your belongings. The best part about lockers is that you don't

have to carry your stuff all around school—they don't even let you do that! Keep your locker clean and organized, and it will help you a lot.



## More than one teacher

In elementary school, you had one main teacher. That changes in middle school. You have different teachers for different classes. Some teachers will teach you for more than one "period" or section of the school day. You will most likely have one teacher for reading and language arts. You will have another teacher for math and one for science. Your other teachers will most likely teach you for just one period, also. There

are seven class periods in a day. Along with reading, language arts, science, math, and P.E., you will also have social studies and exploratories or band or orchestra. If you are having difficulty in math or reading, you will probably have more than one class in those subjects. You get four minutes to go from one class to the next, and that is enough time for you to get to your locker, get whatever you need for your next class, and be

on your merry way to that class.

School hours are from

8:00 a.m. to 2:28 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. On Wednesday, school hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 1:23 p.m. Office hours are from 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Students walking to school should not arrive at school before 7:50 a.m. since there is no supervision.

## Lunch

In elementary school, you may have brought your lunch back from the cafeteria or gym to your classroom. This is not the case in middle school. You buy your lunch from the lunch line and eat it in the cafeteria. The good thing about this is that you get to sit with your friends from other classes. You can also bring a lunch from home. You don't

have to buy one.

If you decide to buy school lunch, you will put money in your account and your ID card will be scanned to pay for your lunch. There are several choices for lunch each day. Our outstanding kitchen staff provides a variety of choices from deli sandwiches to salad bar to homemade pizza. After

you eat, you may go outside and play for a little while if you want.



This is the only recess you get. There are no playground toys, but there is a basketball court. You can also just stay inside and talk with your friends if you don't want to go outside. Lunch is something about middle school that you will really enjoy.

**Visit our website at  
[www.ksd.org/hhh](http://www.ksd.org/hhh)**

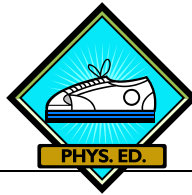
## What Do I Wear?



We expect our students to dress appropriately for middle school in clothing that will not disrupt the educational process. Here are some guidelines:

- Clothing or jewelry that refers to alcohol, tobacco, or controlled substance use is not appropriate. Neither is clothing that refers to lewd, sexual, or discriminatory messages.
- Undergarments or midriff should not be exposed. Sleeveless shirts must have a shoulder width of 2" and be sufficient to cover undergarments.
- Hats are not permitted during the school day. They may be worn to and from school and kept in your locker during the day.
- Jackets and coats are not to be worn to classes. Students are not to write or draw on their bodies or those of their classmates.
- Skirts and shorts must completely cover the student at least to the mid-thigh.
- Pajamas, flannel pants, and/or slippers are not to be worn at school.

The principals will determine if a student's clothing is disruptive to the learning environment. Students wearing inappropriate clothing will be referred to the office to call parents. Students may change the clothing or parents may be asked to bring replacement clothing.



## PE Changes

Middle school Health and Fitness is much more exciting than P.E. in elementary school. In middle school there will be one locker room for the boys and one locker room for the girls. Each person will be provided with their own lock and locker (you don't need to buy a lock). If you misplace your lock you can look for it or buy a new one for \$7.00. Also in middle school you will be required to do something called dress down. Everyone is required to wear a solid gray t-shirt and solid purple shorts. Clothes can be purchased in the office for \$15.00 per set or you can purchase them from a store. All clothing must be marked with your name. Your gym shoes must have a non-marking sole.

## Help!

Here are a few people who can help you break problems down, find the help you need and get where you want to go:

**Counselors:** Our counselors at Horse Heaven Hills are Ms. Hawkins and Mrs. Ostby. They help you with problems that might keep you from being successful in school.

**Principals:** We have one principal, Mrs. Denslow and two assistant principals, Mr. Tobery

and Mrs. Burns. Mrs. Denslow will be the 6th grade principal for your class, but if she is busy, the others will be happy to help you.

**Secretaries:** Our secretaries are Mrs. Reed, Mrs. Dickey, and Mrs. Gardner. Mrs. Reed is the person you talk to when you have been absent from school or you have a problem with your schedule or locker. Mrs. Dickey and Mrs. Gardner help your parents and you get answers to all your questions about what is going on in our

school.

**Nurse:** Mrs. Bakker is our school nurses who can help with illness or injury.

**School Security Officer:** John Ganley and Angel Martinez are our School Security Officers. They can help you with problems you see or are involved in that may interfere with safety at Horse Heaven Hills.

