

Mount Prospect School
General PTO Meeting Minutes
May 17, 2017

Ms. Hudock Presents– Transitioning to William Annin Middle School

6th Grade at WAMS

- 1487 students
- 200 teaching staff

Teams:

- Gives a school within a school feeling through teams
- Each elementary school has students distributed among teams evenly
- School counselor per team
- Assistant Principal for each grade
- Average class size about 25, somewhere between 22-26

Teachers:

- Content specialist teachers
- 98 % are secondary education certified
- Each year – rotate teachers among teams
- Talk to MPS 5th Grade teachers about students to help form teams

Academics:

- Content subjects
 - Math
 - Science -every day unlike MPS
 - Social Studies - every day unlike MPS
 - English
 - Language Arts
- Teachers on a team communicate to level out tests/homework
 - 20 minutes per content per night
- Beginning of 6th Grade, learn how to study and learn how to do homework
 - Not developmentally ready to learn study skills in 5th Grade
- There is an extra section taught by a teacher no on the team needed to offset class size
- Math
 - MAP in 5th grade and K. Wolfe analyzes data and creates cluster groups
 - More conducive environment for teachers to minimize span of learning

- Still heterogeneous group, just don't mix highest performers with those who need most support
- All have the same curriculum
- K. Wolfe website has criteria for advanced track in 7th Grade

Miscellaneous:

- Homework Portal is transitioning to "Aspen"
 - Choose child's specific teachers for nightly homework
- Home Access Center "HAC" is for all info regarding child's performance
- Open House walkthrough 8/30
- WAMS online
 - Daily announcements
 - Friday Folders
 - After School clubs – Pay to Play
 - WAMS Athletic Organization – WAMSAO.com
 - No late busing and most end at 3:30 so must get picked up
 - Some require going home after school and be driven later to a field
- After care until 6, no before care
- Band/Orchestra/Chorus
 - Pull outs
 - Tuesday is music day so get pulled out of elective class (cycle)
 - Also one lesson/week and changes each week so student doesn't always miss same class
- Counsellors
 - 2nd SAC hired
 - Looking to hire 3rd SAC
 - Part SAC/ part counsellor
 - Jim Bust retiring
- Lunch
 - 6th 10:45
 - 7th 11:30
 - 8th 12:10
 - Study Hall 1 & 2
 - 3 full days of 40 minute lunch
 - 2 days of ½ lunch ½ study hall, get pulled out 1st half first day, and 2nd half second day
 - Optional Study Hall – go to Media center
 - 7th Grade Extra Help Math available
- School Resource Officer
 - NOT security
 - Anything illegal – shared with town police
 - Community liaison – instructional, informational, support
- Security
 - Cameras in every hallway, doors locked

- Lockdown drills
 - School open until 3:30 and need to be buzzed in
- Cell Phones
 - Not on, not on person
 - Off and in lockers!
- Viking Values
 - Similar to MPS pillars
 - Changing to Be Statements next year
 - Two times/ month – small group character education
 - Morning Meetings – every other Thursday
- School supplies – each teacher requests individually