



DICKERSON

JUNIOR RAIDERS

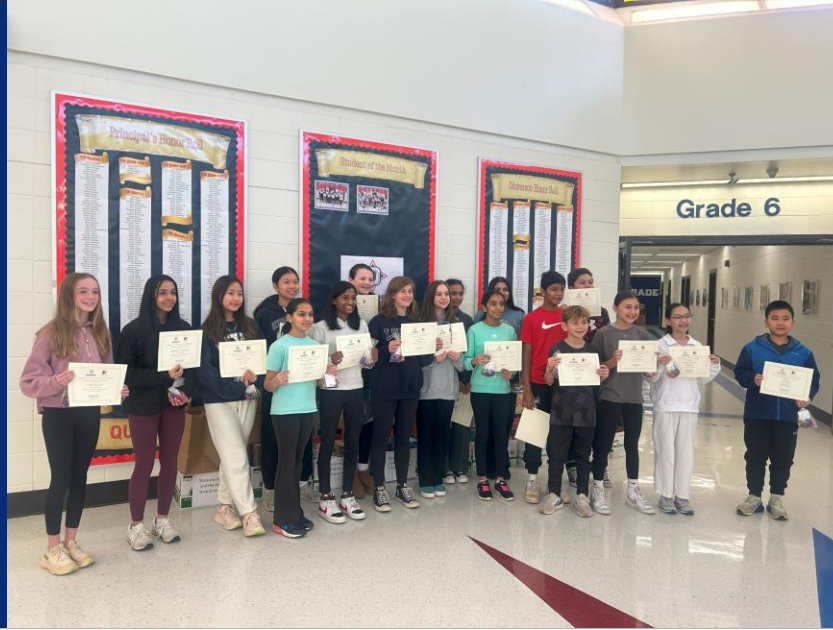
LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- PTSA
- Foundation
- Important 6th Grade Info
- Q & A with Admin, Subject Area Coordinators and Parents, or Self-Guided Tour

Our Beliefs

- Mission Statement—One Team, One Goal: Student Success!
- Vision—To be a school of excellence where all students succeed.
- Motto—Lead by Example.



PTSA

Jennifer Pila and Charul Patel
2024-2025 PTSA Co-Presidents

DICKERSON
MIDDLE SCHOOL

PTSA funds programs that enrich and celebrate our students, teachers and staff. By donating to the PTSA, you support the following programs:



- ❖ Over \$8,000 in Staff Appropriations
- ❖ 6th, 7th, & 8th Grade Dances
- ❖ Field Day
- ❖ Honor Roll Celebrations
- ❖ Health and Wellness Supplies
- ❖ Staff Appreciation and Conference Week
- ❖ Supplemental Clinic Supplies
- ❖ End of Year Ice Cream Celebration
- ❖ 8th Grade Celebrations

PTSA Volunteer Opportunities

- 8th Grade Breakfast
- Ambassadors & School Tours
- Community Outreach
- Copy Crew
- Dances
- **Field Day**
- Front Office Volunteers
- Health & Wellness
- Hearing/Vision/Scoliosis Screening
- Honor Roll
- Hospitality
- Landscaping
- Legislation & Advocacy
- Lunch Chaperones
- Media Center Volunteers
- **Meet & Greet**
- Newcomers Reception
- Picture Day
- **Reflections Competition**
- Seasonal Celebrations
- **Spirit Wear**
- TOTY & CEOTY

The image features a bright green background. In the top left corner, there are two balloons: one with pink and white polka dots and another with red and white concentric circles. In the top right corner, there are two more balloons: one with red and white horizontal stripes and another with blue and white concentric circles. The text "WELCOME TO" is written in a blue, outlined, serif font. Below it, the words "Candy Land" are written in a large, pink, cursive font with a thick yellow outline. The overall theme is festive and colorful, typical of a children's party or a themed event.

WELCOME TO

Candy Land

DICKERSONPTSA.ORG



More Information and Toolkit Sign Up

Sign up for Weekly Email Blasts

Find Volunteer Opportunities

Membership, Donation Drive and Spirit Wear Sales

president@dickersonptsa.org

DICKERSON
PTSA

DMS Foundation | The Middle Matters



INTENT

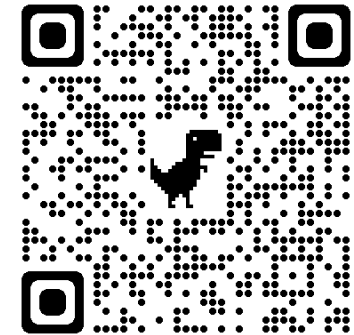
- ❖ **Fund** Tools, Technology and Subscriptions
- ❖ **Enhance** the Student Experience
- ❖ **Support** Teachers and Administration

IMPACT

- ❖ **Tools & Subscriptions:** Pocket Lab, MI Write, WozEd, Membeam, Wifi hotspots, Glowforge, Student Agendas, Atlases, Equipment for Morning Broadcast
- ❖ **Experience:** Gym floor resurfacing, Gym and School wall decals, teacher pennants and photo wall, basketball hoops, outdoor equipment, school entrance TV monitor, FAF speaker
- ❖ **Teachers:** Fund the morning monitor, Model PLC Conference, Teacher grants, Beginning of the Year Gift Cards, Substitutes for teacher collab days

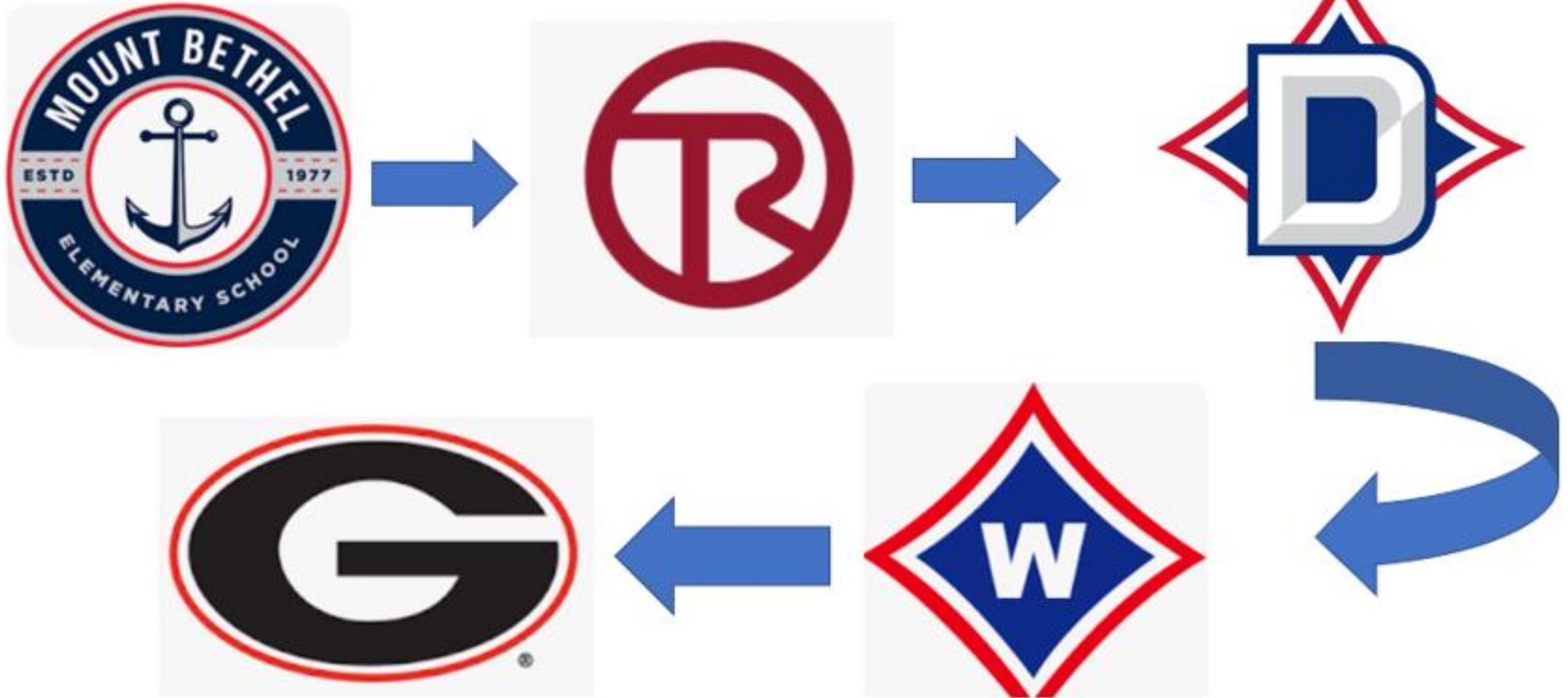
INFORMATION

- ❖ High Donor Event is **April 25th**
- ❖ Patron Drive is **October 14 – 25th**
- ❖ Foundation Fall Festival is **October 25th**



DICKERSON
MIDDLE SCHOOL

About the Principal



People You Need to Know

- Principal, Brad Blackman
- Assistant Principal, Janie Smalley
 - 6th Grade AP; Testing Coordinator; Connections Scheduler
- Assistant Principal, Valerie Johnson
 - 8th Grade AP; Academic Scheduler
- Support and Services Administrator (SSA), Rachel Bloom
- 6th Grade Counselor, Katharine Hamer

Recognitions

- 2023 Model PLC School



- 2024-2025 GA DOE
Literacy Leader Award,
and Math Leader Award



- U.S. News and World Report



Dickerson Middle School

855 Woodlawn Dr Ne, Marietta, GA 30068 | (770) 578-2710 | [Website](#)

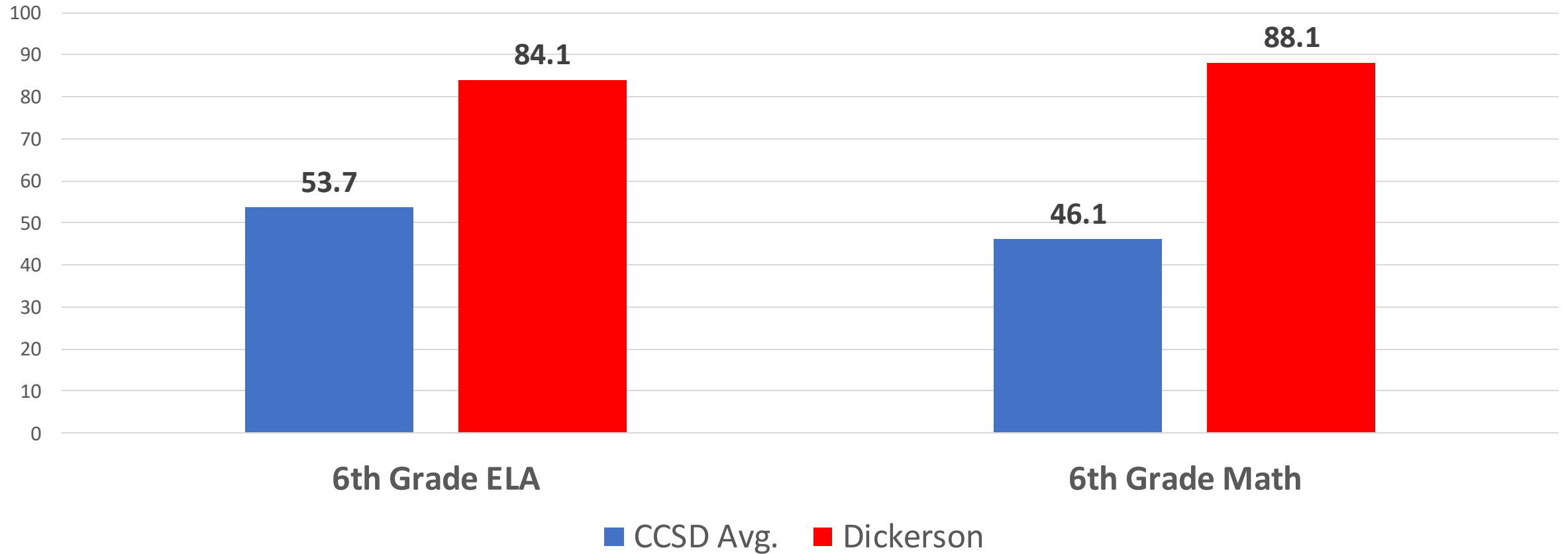
🏆 Award Winning ⓘ

#2 in Georgia Middle Schools

Overall Score 99.82/100

Academic Excellence

6th Grade EOG Milestones Level 3-4 Learners



General Information

- School Hours are from 9:08-4:15
- Students travel to different classes
- Will attend 7 classes and have 7 different teachers
- Students will receive new Connections classes each quarter; music classes are year-long
- No more recess 😞

Middle School Classes

Academic

- Math (7/8, 6/7, Advanced, On-Level)
- Science (AC and OL)
- Social Studies (AC and OL)
- Language Arts (AC and OL)
- Reading (AC and OL)

Connections

- Band (year-long commitment)
- Orchestra (year-long commitment)
- Chorus (year-long commitment)
- Health
- PE
- Art
- Business
- Music Tech

Course Placement/Scheduling

- All students placed in academic classes based on our placement criteria (see website)
- Students can be moved out of AC classes once you receive course requests, but no waiving into AC classes
- NO EXCEPTIONS to placement criteria
- Although students may qualify for AC classes after their 6th grade year, we do not make mid-year changes
- Balance is key to managing stress, expectations, and adjustment to middle school schedule—it is ok to not be in all AC classes
- Students who qualify for gifted services will be served in their AC course(s). No more pull-out Target classes
- Students with an IEP will be placed in classes according to their plan
 - Mrs. Rachel Bloom (SSA) will be in the Learning Commons from 7:00-7:30 if you have specific questions

Math 7/8

- CCSD notified parents of students who scored in the 99thile on 5th Grade Math Iowa
- This is CCSD criteria and there can be no exceptions
- This was designed to get students who would have gone through the single-subject acceleration process into the 7/8 classroom sooner
- It provides students the opportunity to hyper-hyper accelerate in math
- If your child is in Math 6/7, they can still get to multi-variable calculus (you will double up in math at Walton)
- You will take 7/8 in 6th grade, Algebra in 7th grade, and Honors Geometry in 8th grade
 - Students will take Geometry at Dickerson instead of Walton
- We will send home resources and a skills assessment to help you make an informed decision and to support your child in the coming weeks
- Ms. Johnson and Ms. Whalen will be available in the cafeteria following presentation to answer specific Math 7/8 questions

Special Education Information

- Students will be assigned an IEP case manager who will be responsible for conducting your child's annual IEP
- Once your student is assigned a case manager, he or she will be your point of contact for IEP related questions or concerns
- IEP and classroom accommodations will be reviewed and shared with your student's teachers before the first day of school
- Students with an IEP will be placed in classes according to their plan
- Mrs. Rachel Bloom (SSA) will be in the Learning Commons from 7:00-7:30 if you have specific questions

Course Requests Timeline

- Course requests will be available via ParentVue in early May for all rising 6th graders
- If you think there is an error, you will complete a Forms link that will be sent out via CTLS
- Course requests are simply a list of academic classes your child will be taking, NOT courses that you request for your child
- Schedules will be released shortly before school starts and available at Meet and Greet (August 1)
- Connections classes will not be assigned until after the school year starts and after students rotate through each of the Connections classes

Bell Schedules

Daily Bell Schedule

- HR - 8:45-9:15
- 1st - 9:15-10:08
- 2nd - 10:11-11:04
- 3rd - 11:07-12:00
- 4th - 12:03-1:25 (w/ lunch)
- 5th - 1:28-2:20
- 6th Connections - 2:24-3:17
- 7th Connections - 3:20-4:15

Flex Block Schedule (Th and Fri)

- HR - 8:45-9:15
- 1st - 9:15-10:03
- 2nd - 10:06-10:54
- Flex Block - 10:57-11:27
- 3rd Period - 11:30-12:50 (w/ lunch)
- 4th - 12:53-1:41
- 5th - 1:44-2:33
- 6th Connections - 2:36-3:24
- 7th Connections - 3:27-4:15

Flex Block

- It is a time to get additional help in classes or participate in additional enrichment activities (ex: PE, STEM, art, music)
- Meet every Thursday for 30 minutes
- Students will sign up for the block that they want to attend in StudentVue (this is a great opportunity to sit and have a conversation with your student before they sign up)

Behavior

- Students keep a behavior card in their agenda
 - Teachers will sign a student's behavior card for minor classroom infractions
 - Students may redeem their infraction with the teacher they earned it from
 - If the infraction is not redeemed, the student does not earn the FAF reward
- If a referral occurs, minimum consequence is in-school suspension (ISS)
- Celebrate students who do what they are supposed to do
 - Fresh Air Friday
 - Junior Raider Joe's
 - Students of the Month
 - Clean Card Behavior Winners—Gift Cards
 - Honor Roll

Dress Code

- We follow the District dress code
- Appropriate shoes shall be worn—no slippers
- Midriffs shall be covered
- Appropriate under-garments shall be worn and may not be visible
- Strapless garments and tank tops shall be worn with a jacket
- Caps, hats, bandanas, head coverings are not to be worn in school
- No pajama pants – change from previous years
- Appropriate shorts/dresses may be worn—at least 4” inseams



Cell Phones, Smart Watches, and Laptops

- Cell phones are not to be used during the school day—should not be seen or heard
- Students should not use their watches to scroll through their text messages
- Phones are available in the front office for students to use
- If in violation, student's behavior card will be signed
- If student is not feeling well, they should go to the nurse, not text parent
- School laptops are District property and can be revoked if used improperly.

PBIS

- We have school-wide expectations that all students must follow
- We expect our students to L.E.A.D. by example
 - L—Life-long learner
 - E—Empathetic
 - A—Accountable
 - D—Dependable
- Students who receive no infractions in a week, will be rewarded with Fresh Air Friday (FAF)
- Students who do receive an infraction, have an opportunity to redeem; if not redeemed, student will attend Reflection

Buses and Dismissal



- Bus routes posted before school
- You can find information on the CCSD website
- Have your child ride the bus the first day of school so they know their bus number, slot, bus driver name, etc.
- Students must cross at the cross walk with the crossing guard if walking home or to JFBC
- Have the conversation/plan with your child about how they're getting home
- Do not drop-off or pick up students on Woodlawn
- No bus passes (riding home with another student)
- Here Comes the Bus applies to Dickerson too!

Middle School vs. Elementary School

- Homework—expect 45 minutes – 1 hour per night
- HW is part of a student's class average
- Conference Week in October—will conference with one teacher
- 5 academic teachers instead of 1-2
- No recess or ASP
- Intramurals is offered before school
- Most clubs meet before school
- Familiarize yourself with CTLS Learn
- Transportation changes and no bus passes

Lockers

- Lockers have not been used in any East Cobb middle school since COVID, and that practice will continue
- Students will still have lockers in PE, Band, and Orchestra
- Walton does not have lockers either
- Benefits of no lockers:
 - Increased instructional time due to less transitions for locker breaks
 - Decrease in discipline incidents
 - Less classroom disruptions as students have all their materials ready for class and don't need to leave to go to their locker



Breakfast and Lunch

- We do not serve breakfast
- Cost of lunch is currently \$3.50
- Purchase of additional items (“extras”) is not monitored, so have that conversation with your child. Monitor My Payments Plus to keep an eye on it.
- No outside food or drink is allowed
- We do not deliver lunches left at home
 - Leave on a cart, and we will place cart outside of the cafeteria
- Parents not allowed to eat in the cafeteria with your student

Clinic—Nurse Vanessa Moulthrop

- Students may carry OTC medications with proper form
- Nurse will be available during Meet and Greet for medicine drop-off
- Clinic form and emergency contacts



Laptops and CTLS



- You will have the option to sign up your child to receive a laptop (usually in July)
 - They will bring it with them every day to school
 - They will keep the laptop until they graduate high school
 - Distribution of laptops will occur in the summer, during Meet and Greet, or during the first few days of school
 - Students will be given a laptop, protective case, and charger.
 - They should charge it nightly and bring their charger with them to school.
- CTLS—what it is and why to use it

Methods of Communication

- Junior Raider Report (Friday afternoon @ 4:30)
- CTLS
- Email
- PTSA e-Blast (goes out Monday morning)



Self Guided Tour

- If you would like, you may tour the 6th grade hallways, common areas (cafeteria, learning commons, etc.), and the Connections hallway
 - Teachers will be in the hallways to assist
 - Band, Orchestra, Chorus, and PE teachers will be in their classroom for subject specific questions
- Q & A if you would like to stay
- We will stop the tour and Q & A at 7:30
- Hope to see you on Friday, August 1st for our Meet and Greet!
- Math 7/8 questions in the cafeteria
- Special Education questions in the Library Learning Commons

If This Kid Can Make It, So Can Your Kiddo



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