



# DICKERSON

## JUNIOR RAIDERS

**LEAD BY EXAMPLE**

# 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.

# About the Principal



# People You Need to Know

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

# 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 vs. Elementary School

- Homework—expect a total of 45 min-1 hour of HW per night (will vary)
- HW is now part of your class average
- 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—your teachers use this daily
- Transportation changes and no bus passes

# 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)
- 5<sup>th</sup> Academic (AC and OL—Reading, Lit Apps, etc.)

## Connections

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



# Bell Schedules

## Daily Bell Schedule

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

## Flex Block Schedule (Th and Fri)

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

# Flex Block

- It is a time to get additional help in your classes or participate in additional enrichment activities (ex: PE, STEM, art, music)
- Meet every Thursday for 30 minutes
- You will sign up for the block that you want to attend in StudentVue

# Course Placement/Scheduling

- All students placed in academic classes based on our placement criteria (see website—new placement criteria will be posted in May)
- Students may qualify for AC classes after their 6<sup>th</sup> 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 Target class

# Course Requests Timeline

- Course requests will be available via ParentVue/StudentVue in early May
- Course requests are simply a list of academic classes you will be taking, NOT courses that you request to take
- 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

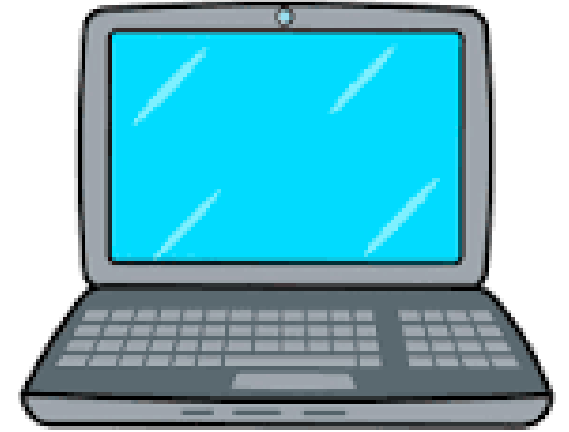
# Lockers

- Hallway 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



# Laptops

- Your parent/guardian will have the option to sign you up to receive a laptop
  - You will bring it to school every day
  - You will keep the laptop until you graduate high school
  - Opt-In will happen some time during July
  - Distribution of laptops will occur in the summer, during Meet and Greet, or during the first few days of school
  - You will be given a laptop, protective case, and charger
  - You should charge it nightly and bring your charger with you to school



# Behavior

- Students keep a behavior card
  - 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
- 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 notifications
- 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

# Breakfast and Lunch

- We do not serve breakfast
- Cost of lunch is currently \$3.50
- No outside food or drink is allowed
- We do not deliver lunches left at home
  - Parents can bring and leave it on the lunch cart at the front of the school
  - There cart will be outside of the cafeteria when you walk into the cafe
- Parents not allowed to eat in the cafeteria with you

# Buses and Dismissal



- Bus routes posted before school
- You can find information on the CCSD website
- Students must cross at the crosswalk with the crossing guard if walking home or to JFBC
- Have the conversation/plan with your parent/guardian about how you're getting home
- You cannot be dropped off or picked up on Woodlawn or Chestnut Lake
- No bus passes (riding home with another student)



# Ronald McDonald Dress-Up Days

- Once or twice a month
- Cost = \$1.00
- Themes
  - Hat day
  - PJ day
  - Tacky Tourist
  - Jersey day
  - Color wave
  - Etc.

# DICKERSON

PTSA

