

St. Michael – Albertville Middle School East

Parent School Guide



Middle School... a time of transition and endless possibilities

5th Grade – Transitions & Guided Independence

In 5th grade it's time for the transition from the nurturing environment of the elementary school to the supportive middle school setting. Here the focus is on building the foundational blocks towards independence while diligently developing study skills and organizational habits as key concepts. The 5th grade program incorporates a multi-disciplinary approach towards learning using a structure of smaller teams and flexible scheduling. 5th grade students travel together throughout their day and benefit from teachers who collaborate regarding students three days a week. Students enjoy the transition to the middle school with the support of their WEB leaders, teachers, and most importantly parents who positively encourage guided independence.

6th Grade – Stretching & Growing Independence

6th grade is a time of developing the skills for self-directed study and learning, while becoming a contributing community member. The 6th grade program incorporates a multi-disciplinary approach to learning using a team approach and flexible, block scheduling. A broad scope of interdisciplinary activities, team building and leadership events help to develop the whole child during this important year of transition from childhood to adolescence. Most students state that their environmental science field trip to Long Lake Conversation Center is the highlight of their sixth grade year.

Parent School Guide

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7th Grade – Challenging & Complex

There is a lot going on in a 7th grader's life!! The emotional and physical changes of adolescence, the growing importance of peers and the increased challenges in school combine to provide a complex and sometimes confusing time for students, teachers and parents alike. The 7th grade builds upon the skills established in sixth grade, continuing to foster growth and independence, while broadening the scope of academic experiences. The academic program is enhanced by a variety of projects, activities and field trips to engage and further the development of the child using a multi-disciplinary approach to teaching. During the fall of a 7th grader's education, students spend a day focused on learning how to demonstrate their courage to make good decisions during our Courage Retreat.

8th Grade – Foundations & Preparations

The curriculum and programs in the 8th grade solidify the foundations that have been laid to prepare the student for High School, while continuing the process of becoming an independent learner and contributing community member. The 8th grade curriculum and instructional design continues to challenge students academically. Activities provide opportunities for developing leadership, career and character building. The WEB program is an excellent opportunity for many of our eighth graders to further develop these identified skills while welcoming in the new fifth grade students to our school. Several transition events help to prepare students for high school and career planning and provide insight into choices that will begin to shape their life goals and future.