

6th Grade Transition FAQ

Will there be an orientation? If so, when?

We will have a “Welcome to Kennedy” event, but it is unknown if it will be in person or whether the event will be held virtually. At this event you will meet 6th grade teachers, learn about the 6th grade schedule, and will experience a tour of the school. We do not have a date scheduled yet, but we are looking to hold this event during the first week of September and/or when school resumes.

Are we going to be attending middle school in person or from home?

Good Question! Unfortunately we don’t know for sure but we hope that we will all be attending Kennedy in September.

How will I know where my classes are so I can get to them on time?

There will be teachers and staff members in the hallways to help you find your classes. You will not be marked tardy to class the first few days of school. Your teachers know that you are learning your way around the campus.

Do I have to carry all my stuff in my backpack or will I have time in between classes to go to my locker?

All 6th grade students have their own lockers. Students are to store their backpacks in their lockers and bring their materials to classes. Students have 4 minutes between classes to go to their locker and get supplies for their next class.

How many classes do we take?

There are six classes each day and an Advisory meeting on Monday–Thursday mornings at 9:00-9:23. You will take four core classes (Language Arts, Social Studies, Math and Science) and two rotation classes. Some of our rotation classes include: Art, PE, Health and Band. You will be changing classrooms for each subject. Your first class will begin at 9:27 and our day ends at 3:35. Friday is early release at 2:35.

Do we do everything with just 6th graders?

Sometimes we have rotation classes where 6th and 7th grade students are combined (e.g., PE or Art). 6th grade students also eat lunch with 7th graders. All grade levels attend our Assemblies and Socials. Advisory is our only class that has all grade levels.

Do we have any overnight fieldtrips?

No. We usually do a school-wide fieldtrip once or twice a year.

What kinds of assemblies do we have?

Our assemblies take place in our large gym. We have awards assemblies, Guest Speaker assemblies, MLK assembly, Advisory connections and various other assemblies throughout the year.

Do we have sports? Do we have clubs?

Kennedy offers Track during spring. Other sports are available through Kidsports and other organizations. We do have several clubs at Kennedy and they vary from year to year. Students can start a club if have a group of at least 5 students and a teacher willing to host the club. Most clubs take place right after school.

Will I be in a class with all my friends?

You will have 6 classes a day plus Advisory. You might have a couple friends in each class throughout the day. Your classes will include kids from many 4j schools as well as kids from other districts and states. Middle school is a great time to make new friends.

How long is lunch? What kinds of lunches are served? Is there recess after lunch?

Lunch is 30 minutes long. Most students eat lunch in about 15 minutes then leave the cafeteria to go out for some recreation time. When the weather is nice students play outside. On rainy days students can play in the gym, hang out in the Student Center or read in the library. Students are allowed to sit where they want in the cafeteria. Kennedy offers a variety of hot lunch choices. We always offer a vegetarian choice and have a salad, fruit and vegetable bar everyday.

Do we get to pick a locker buddy?

Students do not share lockers. It is recommended that you don't share your locker combination with other students. The locks are a combination lock not a key lock. If you have the opportunity to practice using a combination lock over the summer you will be prepared to open your locker when school starts. If you can't practice, don't stress, there will be several staff members in the locker bays to help with locks and finding classes for the first couple weeks of school. Phones, backpacks and lunches are kept in your lockers. If you want to decorate your locker just make sure that nothing is blocking the latch or your locker might get jammed and may not open without assistance from someone in the office.

Will PE classes be outside or in the gym?

All students will take PE during one trimester throughout the year. Depending on the season and the sport PE will take place in both the gym and outside.

