



OPEN HOUSE 2011

VVMS 7th Grade



Introductions

- Team 1: Mertz, Stein, Swanson, Timlin
- Team 2: Andrews, Ronhovde, Schlukebier, Weller
- Specialists/Cross-teamed



7th Grade Structure - Teams

- 2 core teams
 - ~170 students each
 - Extended French students are mixed in
 - Stress consistency among teachers and between teams.
 - Meet daily to discuss curriculum and student issues





7th Grade Structure - Schedule

- Block schedule
 - Advisory, 1/2 block, 3/4 block, 5 skinny, lunch, 6 skinny, 7/8 block
 - Alternate classes on A and B days, Advisory same every day
 - Classes are year-long except for Art, Health, Design & Robotics, FACS which are semester
 - Time management and organization are KEY!

Transitions to 7th Grade

- Leap in abstract concepts
- May “hit the wall”
- Learn how to deal with new challenges—resilience, perseverance, self-advocacy
- Parents are “Guide on the Side”



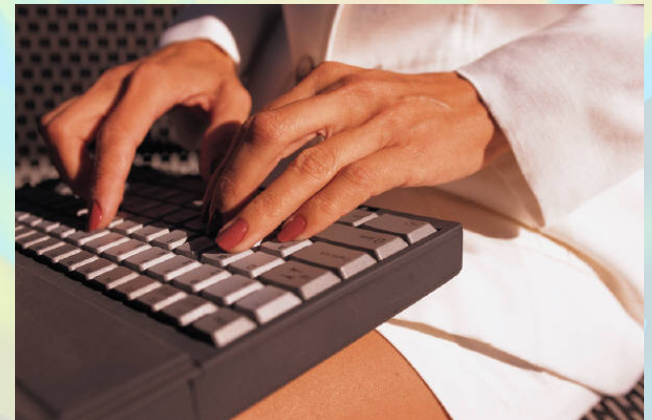
Skills Focus “How to Do School”

- Academic
 - Learning content-specific skills
 - Reading and writing across disciplines
 - Studying
- Organizational
 - Using agenda
 - Managing time
 - Breaking down large assignments
- Life
 - Making use of your resources (School View, planner, etc.)
 - Working with others
 - Learning from challenges



Communication

- Communication with teachers and your child
 - ask child FIRST, double check with teacher
 - family should schedule weekly grade/planner check-ins
 - emails returned within 2 working days





Practice & Preparation

- Do the work the night it's assigned.
- Use time well in class!
- Self-advocate for extra help
- 1-2 hours a night, will vary based on course load and student work habits
- Develop a consistent routine—time and place.





**New this year at
Valley View...**



Advisory

- Advisory is a 22 minute class that meets first period every day.
- Teachers have the same students every day for Advisory.
- Teachers take attendance in Advisory.



Advisory

- Advisory is the place for students to take their own learning in hand and to excel with the support of an adult advocate.
 - **Academic check-ins**
 - **Service learning**
 - **Team building and community building activities**
 - **Reading!**
 - **Goal setting**
 - **Time management and organizational skills**
 - **Social and communication skills**
 - **Bullying prevention**
 - **ICCCAR Values**

Standardized Grading Practices

Rationale:

- To standardize the purpose of and criteria for grading at Valley View Middle School

The purpose of a grade is...

- To communicate the achievement status of students to their parents and others

What is a grade?

- A grade is what a student knows and can do.
- What is knowledge the student can produce about a standard at the end of a learning cycle?





Standardized Grading Practices

Summative Assessments will determine **90-100%** of a student's grade. These may include. . .

- Final examination scores
- Oral fluency exams
- Final products, such as reports, projects or portfolios
- Overall assessments of performance
- Other culminating demonstrations of learning



Standardized Grading Practices

Formative Assessments will determine **0-10%** of a student's grade. These may include. . .

- Homework
- Quizzes
- Interactive notebooks/student learning journals
- Rehearsals (Music classes may count rehearsals for >10%)
- Activity participation (Physical Education)



Standardized Grading Practices

What criteria is **not** used to determine a student's grade?

- Neatness on work
- Effort or attitude
- Class attendance
- Punctuality of assignments
- Class behavior
- Work habits
- Extra credit
- Bringing Kleenex
- Bringing food for food drive



SchoolView

- New for us—please be patient 😊
- Teachers required to report progress at mid-quarter and end of quarter
- Please check that your contact information is complete and correct.
- If you haven't logged in or need assistance, please visit the media center after this presentation



Google & Moodle Sites


- New for us—please be patient 😊
- Every teacher has a Google site with calendar and syllabus—links from Valley View web page
- Moodle—primarily for students and teachers, requires password

Supply List

- Visit the Get Connected Day link on the Valley View web site



Parent Survival Guide



Valley View Middle School

HOME | DISTRICT | SCHOOLS | TEACH & LEARN | PARENTS | COMMUNITY ED | NEWS | SUPPORT SERVICES | SEARCH

VALLEY VIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL
Valley View Middle Home
Our School
Academics
6th Grade
7th Grade
8th Grade
9th Grade
Extended French
Department Teachers
Media Center
Student Services
Activities
Parents
Students

CONTACT US

Grade 7

- Teachers by Department
- Student Services Staff
- **7th Grade Parent Survival Guide**
- Algebra and Trans Math Resources
- **Enriched 7th Grade Lang Arts**
 - Summer Reading 2011 Letter
 - Note Taking Sheet
 - Characteristics of Success

Team #1

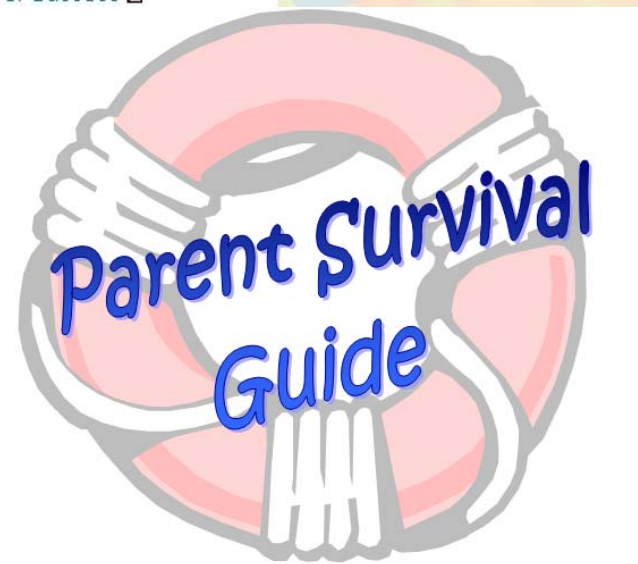
- **Kevin Mertz** - Language Arts
952-848-3336
kevmertz@edina.k12.mn.us
- **Kemberly Timlin** - Mathematics
952-848-3344
k.timlin@edina.k12.mn.us

Art

- **Cindy Groven**
952-848-3377
cingroven@edir

Extended Frer

- **Nathalie Gadin**





Thank you for coming!

6:30-7:00 PM

- Visit classrooms/Meet teachers (all specialists and classroom teachers with the exception of music teachers.)
- Walk your schedule.
- “*Just in time*” help with School View in Media Center. “*Just in time*” is a phrase used to denote the need for support.

7:00-7:30 PM

- **Please attend a session for each music class you are taking:**

7:00-7:10

Orchestra, Room 217

Band, Room 215

Singers, Room 210

7:10-7:20

Orchestra, Room 217

Band, Room 215

Singers, Room 210

7:20-7:30

Orchestra, Room 217

Band, Room 215

Singers, Room 210

- Continue with classroom or Media Center visits.