

TMMS 2018-2019: Teacher, Parent & Student Conference

Welcome back! We are looking forward to a productive, exciting, and engaging year with your family. ☺

Staff:

Karena Fleming, email: kfleming@tmesnm.com

6A homeroom; 6A/6B/7A/7B/8A/8B **Writing**

Sherry Haworth, email: sgwyn@tmesnm.com

6B homeroom; 6A/6B/7A/7B/8A/8B **Science**

Amanda Hagerty, email: ahagerty@tmesnm.com

7A homeroom; 6A/6B/7A/7B/8A/8B **Literature**

Lorette Lambert, email: llambert@tmesnm.com

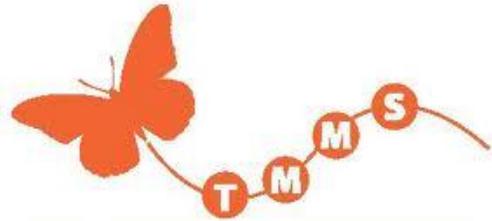
7B homeroom; 6A/6B/7A/7B/8A/8B **History**

Alissa Sanchez, email: asanchez@tmesnm.com

8th homeroom; 6A/6B/7A/7B/8A/8B **Math**

New 8th grade teacher,

8th homeroom; 6A/6B/7A/7B/8A/8B **T.B.D.**



The Montessori Middle School

Arrival and Departure:

6th, 7th and 8th grade students are required to be present no later than 8:25 am for morning classes. Attendance will be taken at 8:30 am. Students later than 8:30 need to be signed in the front office in order to be marked tardy and not absent. Students who arrive before 8:30 will go to their homeroom teacher and may use the time for organization, community service, and homework or study time. All students not picked up from the middle school will be escorted to After Care (normal fees apply) at 4:00 pm sharp.

Parent Communication & Conferences:

Parent communication: Vital during the middle school years. Please ask your child daily about their homework (daily homework is expected Mon-Fri with some projects and weekend work), paperwork sent home, upcoming trips, and their personal and social life. Please inform us as soon as possible if there are academic, social or personal concerns. We are here to work with you to support your child. The best way to help students through this transitional time is to keep current with communication.

Conferences: Throughout the year, all middle school classes will have 3 mandatory student-led conferences. During this time, students will review their work as well as let parents know about some of their triumphs and struggles. This is an important one-on-one time with your student and is mandatory. Please plan vacations around this time-the dates are listed on the school calendar for the entire school year. Additional conferences may be scheduled per teacher discretion.

Parent Volunteers:

Each homeroom class is in need of a strong representative parent as well as parents who are willing to help serve as volunteers. If you have any skills that you are willing to share with us, please let the homeroom teacher know. 8th grade students participate in a volunteer internship program in the spring. If you are interested in learning more about how to become an Internship Site Supervisor at your place of business, please email Ms. Alissa.

Shutterfly:

We have used Shutterfly sites for posting homework and important dates with great success for the past few years. This year there is one site per grade level. We encourage students to become members as well as their parents. These sites are updated frequently, but students are expected to be the master of their homework. They should know and should have their homework written down every single day. 😊

6th Grade address: <https://tmms6thgrade.shutterfly.com>

7th Grade address: <https://tmms7thgrade.shutterfly.com>

8th Grade address: <https://tmms8thgrade.shutterfly.com>

Fine Arts:

Students will participate in all Fine Arts classes. Fine Arts classes will be held during the week. Students will be offered a Visual Arts class, General Music, and Orchestra. These classes are mandatory and are graded. Students will have the option of choosing either General Music or Orchestra. Student's absences will directly affect students' grades and should be avoided. Participation in the annual Spring Gala is mandatory. Please refer to the school event calendar when planning trips and vacations.

Academics and Homework:

The middle school staff is committed to providing a strong foundation for your child's academic future. In order to prepare them for high school, we have recognized that developing a regular homework routine and meeting deadlines is crucial for their success. As such, our homework policy is that work is due on the assigned due date. **Late work is only accepted during the week it was due, no later than that Friday.** If not turned in by that Friday the work was due, the grade will be a zero. If your child is absent on a due date, the work should be turned in the day they return. If there are extended absences due to illness or unforeseen circumstances, each day the student was absent will be allotted to make up work. Each student will receive a planner during the first weeks of school in order to keep track of due dates and other information. Please check these daily to keep up with student homework!

Behavior Rubrics:

Our discipline policy is centered on working with students to identify and problem-solve issues. Our way of communicating with you that issues have arisen at school is through behavior rubrics. Please be sure to sign and return rubrics as soon as possible. If there are multiple rubrics issued, the student may lose trip or other privileges as outlined on the rubrics.

Supplies:

Supplies are an important key to academic success. Time in class is lost when students are careless with their supplies. We ask that ALL '**Individual**' supplies are labeled with your child's name. This year in addition to the list, there is also a one-time \$10 Science lab fee. Community Supply drop-off day will be August 3rd this school year. Please only drop off the items listed as '**Community**' supplies on August 3rd. '**Individual**' Supplies should be brought in the first day of school.

Cell phones/electronics:

Cell phones and electronics are not permitted unless they have been designated for specific academic purposes. If electronics are used outside that setting (without permission/ringing during class etc.), they will

be confiscated and the parent will need to collect them from the office or the teacher at the end of the day. Each teacher will have a "phone jail" for students to turn in their phone if it is not authorized for use during that class. Students who surrender their phones at the beginning of class or use phones with permission will have the phone returned to them at the end of class.

Trips:

6th & 7th grade- Camp Oro Quay: We will start the school year off with an overnight community trip to Camp Oro Quay, in the Sandia Mountains. 6th & 7th grade students will need to arrive on Monday, August 6th by 8:30 am with their gear. We will depart the school at 9:00 am. They will return after the end of the school day Tuesday, August 7th. During the time that we are at Camp Oro Quay, students will participate in meetings to review middle school policies & procedures including: dress code, behavior policies and consequences, trips, using a planner and the 7 Norms. Beyond our class meetings, students will also be able to swim and participate in plenty of community building exercises, including a low ropes and a high ropes course! The culmination of the ropes course is a zip-line through the pine trees. Students leave Camp Oro Quay with a greater sense of themselves, their community, and their peers and this is the best way to start middle school. Trip costs of \$120 needs to be paid by the first day of school.

8th grade- Mesa Verde: 8th grade students will depart for their 2 night/3 day trip to Mesa Verde, Colorado on August 8th. Students will need to arrive on Wednesday, August 8th by 8:30 am with their gear. We will depart the school at 9:00 am. We will return Friday, August 10th at 5:30 pm. During the first week of school, eighth grade students will get to know each other through ice breakers and will participate in meetings to review middle school policies and procedures, including: dress code, behavior policies and consequences, the 7 norms, and review using a planner. During the trip, students will begin to learn about independence, responsibilities, working together as a team and becoming a role model. The cost for the trip is \$130 and should be paid by August 8th. At registration, you should have received a packing list and field trip permission slip for beginning of the year trips.

Big Trips: Each grade will take an individual Big Trip at the end of the school year. These trips are a transformative experience, and we request that all students attend as it is a cumulative experience based on many of the year's lessons. We will provide some fundraising opportunities to earn money for these trips, but we highly encourage families to brainstorm and implement ways to earn money ALL year for the trip. Start now and the task will be manageable to accomplish. Ideas for raising money include: garage sales, creating/selling jewelry or t-shirts, baby-sitting, yard work, dog walking, etc. **6th grade Big Trips typically cost around \$150; 7th grade Big Trips typically cost around \$200. 8th grade trips are significantly more because they are international and can cost up to \$3,000.**