

HAINES MIDDLE SCHOOL



COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL
DISTRICT 303

305 South Ninth Street, St. Charles, Illinois 60174-2667 331-228-3100 Fax 331-228-3101

Pamela Jensen
Principal
Robert Fraser, Jr.
Assistant Principal
Kristina McKnight
Assistant Principal

January 9, 2015

Dear Parents/Guardians of Incoming 6th Graders:

Welcome to Haines Middle School! In the next few months, you and your child will have the opportunity to attend transition activities to assure a smooth transition from 5th grade to 6th grade at Haines. We look forward to working with you during this transition time.

Enclosed with my letter are two important documents, which are color coded. They are:

1. **D303 Middle School Explore Course Descriptions (white)** – identifies the elective choices offered at each grade level and provides a brief description about each course.
2. **Exploratory Course Selection Form (green)** – indicate your child's choices. **Please be sure to sign and return this sheet to your elementary school or to Haines by January 20, 2015. Remember, your choices are final.**

Note: Once you make your course selection, we will not be able to change your child's schedule. Teacher staffing is determined by course requests.

Listed below are important activities, events, and dates that will aid in a smooth transition to 6th grade. Please mark your calendar.

- > **Tuesday, January 20th** – Return the Exploratory Course Selection Form (green) to your elementary school or directly to the Haines Main Office.
- > **Week of April 14th** – Fee packets will be mailed home to all parents.
- > **Monday, May 4th** – Come to Haines for the 6th Grade Parent Information Night, program begins at 6:30 P.M. This program is for incoming **6th grade parents only (no students)**. Please plan on attending our Parent Information Night which is designed to help you understand the transition from 5th to 6th grade. Presentations are intended to address curriculum as well as provide information that will help you support your child as they acclimate to Haines.
- > **Students**, will have a field trip to Haines with their 5th grade class for a building tour and to learn about life as a sixth grader. For most students, these tours will take place after the Parent Information Night.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact your next counselor Mrs. Swanson by e-mail Kara.Swanson@d303.org or phone 331-228-2985. We look forward to seeing you on Monday, May 4th.

Sincerely,

Pamela Jensen
Principal

Name of Student _____
(Please print first and last name)

Haines
Middle School
Grade 6
Exploratory
Course
Selection Form
2015-16

Signature of Parent /Guardian _____

All Selections Are Final. Teacher staffing is determined by course request.

Check one of the three large boxes to designate your child's choice of Non-Core Classes

Grade 6 Performance Music and Exploratory Course Option

Mark the box with an X if you are choosing this option of exploratory courses as well as a full year of band / choir / orchestra. Students will experience four nine week offerings of our Exploratory Wheel:
1. Study Skills 2. Careers in Technology, Engineering, and Transportation 3. PLTW: Design and Modeling; and 4. Art.

If you did not participate in band or orchestra in elementary school you will need to contact the director before signing up. Band: erik.swenson@d303.org Orchestra: sandra.sebolt-pogge@d303.org

(You may choose up to two of these. They will split the days.)

_____ Band – instrument you play _____

_____ Choir

_____ Orchestra – instrument you play _____

▼ Or you may choose this option ▼

Grade 6 Performance Music and Foreign Language*/Applied Study Skills Option

Mark the box with an X if you are choosing this option of a full year of band / choir / orchestra as well as a full year of Foreign Language or Applied Study Skills (in lieu of foreign language course).

If you did not participate in band or orchestra in elementary school you will need to contact the director before signing up. Band: erik.swenson@d303.org Orchestra: sandra.sebolt-pogge@d303.org

(You may choose up to two of these. They will split the days.)

_____ Band – instrument you play _____

_____ Choir

_____ Orchestra – instrument you play _____

(Choose 1 only)

_____ French OR _____ Applied Study Skills

_____ Spanish

_____ German IF you chose Foreign Language, please check this box acknowledging you have read the Foreign Language progression chart attached to the back of this sheet.

▼ Or you may choose this option ▼

Grade 6 Foreign Language*/Applied Study Skills and Exploratory Course Option

Mark the box with an X if you are choosing this option of exploratory courses as well as a full year of Foreign Language or Applied Study Skills (in lieu of foreign language course). Students will experience four nine week offerings of our Exploratory Wheel: 1. Study Skills 2. Careers in Technology, Engineering, and Transportation 3. PLTW: Design and Modeling; and 4. Art.

(Choose 1 only)

_____ French OR _____ Applied Study Skills

_____ Spanish

_____ German IF you chose Foreign Language, please check this box acknowledging you have read the Foreign Language progression chart attached to the back of this sheet.

If your child requires additional academic learning support, he/she may be scheduled during one of the above options.

All Selections Are Final. Teacher staffing is determined by course request.

***If your child will be taking a Foreign Language, we anticipate there will be an additional fee.**

This completed & signed form is due to your 5th grade teacher by Tuesday, January 20, 2015

2015/2016 Middle School Foreign Language Course Descriptions

Students will develop skills in written and oral communication. They will study the aspects of the target culture, such as art, music, and daily life, and learn to compare their native culture with the culture of the target language. The target language will be used throughout the course, and students will be encouraged to use the target language to communicate with their teacher and peers. Students will progress through Foreign Language according to the chart below.

