

Dear Future PGMS 6th Grade Families,

Greetings and welcome to Pacific Grove Middle School! We are very excited your student will soon be joining us in sixth grade. I thought I would take a moment and share some information and hopefully answer some questions you or your students may have.

When transitioning to middle school, a lot of kids are a combination of excited and nervous to join middle school, but turns out middle school isn't much different from elementary school. We are a school that practices kindness and compassion. We use the Character Strong program during our weekly advisory period for students to engage in and learn ways to be kind to one another, celebrate our differences, and do the right thing, even when no one is watching. Students participate in kindness challenges, with the themes ranging from eating lunch with someone new, to writing an anonymous note of kindness to someone you don't know.

Students will have six classes, Core (ELA and History with the same teacher), Math, Science, and PE. In addition, our students can choose either the music path (band and orchestra) or what we call the elective wheel. The elective wheel is a quarterly rotation of four electives, Stem, Keyboarding, Home Economics, and Art.

Just as in elementary school, your student will be surrounded by adults that care about the academic and social emotional well being of all of our students. In addition to our wonderful counselor Ms. Cadigan, we are lucky enough to host Ms. Sonda Frudden and Ms. Zoe Roach one day a week to assist students with the transition and allow them to continue the relationship they've created at the elementary schools.

One last point to mention, our rising 6th graders will take a field trip to PGMS on Friday, May 20th with their 5th grade class. We are assembling some key members of the 6th grade team to meet and greet students to give some information about what they can expect in 6th grade! We also fully expect to hold our registration roundup which is scheduled for July 26th and July 27th. July 26th is for 6th grade only and students new to PGMS, where myself, our assistant principal Mr. Tovani, and our counselor Ms. Cadigan will present information to aid in the transition. This is a great time for parents and students to practice that pesky locker, walk their classes, and generally get to know the school before the school year opens. It's an opportunity for your student to feel confident on their first day of middle school! We'll be in contact as we get closer to the beginning of the new school year.

We look forward to meeting, supporting and getting to know your students as they join us at PGMS!

Kindly yours,

Sean Roach