



Mason Middle School 235 Temple St. Mason, MI 48854

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Dear Parents/Guardians of Incoming 6th Grade Students,

The end of the 2019-2020 school year has been interesting to say the least. As Mason Public Schools continues to respond and plan for the continuity of learning for our students, I wanted to provide you with an update and overview of our plans for providing virtual orientation for our incoming 6th grade class.

Typically, during the month of May, there would have been visits from current 6th graders and our counseling team to the elementary classrooms, a visit by the 5th graders to tour the middle school and ask questions, and finally, a family orientation night at Mason Middle School to hear from key school personnel about how things operate at MMS. This year, we plan to provide this information virtually in the form of interactive newsletters, videos from school personnel including teachers, and a Google Slideshow that 5th Graders can access to have their questions answered.

The transition from elementary to middle school is an important step and is often accompanied by anxiety and stress about the unknown. We have found that with continued support and encouragement all of our students transition successfully to the middle school. In fact, most current 6th graders would tell you and your child that the items that they were the most worried about (i.e. lockers, lunch time, hallway passing times, finding their classrooms, etc.) ended up not being that big of a deal after a few weeks of school.

In the coming weeks, Mason Middle School will release orientation information and links for the activities described in the second paragraph of this letter. As the information is released, please plan to spend some extra time with your 5th grader to review and interact with the content to help support your child's transition to the middle school.

While there are still many unknowns regarding the 2020-2021 school year, I am confident that through a strong partnership between school and home that we will be successful in creating a safe, nurturing, and academically appropriate learning environment for every 6th grader. Our team looks forward to working with each of you to ensure that every child in the incoming 6th grade class has a great year in 2020-2021!

Sincerely,

Ted Berryhill
Principal

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