

Helena Middle School

2021-2022
Rising
6th Grade



Information for Parents & Students

WELCOME to Helena Middle School!

We are so excited to meet the new group of 6th grade students who will be joining us at HMS.

6th grade is a year of growth, change, and excitement. Our faculty and staff understand that this is a time of transition for all students, and we are ready to guide and help our students every step of the way.

HMS Administrators

Mr. Andrew Gunn, Principal

Mr. Henry Long, Assistant Principal

Ms. Christi Martin, Assistant Principal

6th Grade Bell Schedule

1st Period 7:45- 8:42

2nd Period 8:45-9:44

3rd Period 9:47- 10:46

4th Period (Advisory) 10:49-11:48

5th Period 11:51-12:50

6th Period 12:53-1:52

7th Period 1:56-3:00

Instruction at HMS

Students and parents can expect the following from our HMS courses and teachers:

- Challenging Curriculum
- High Expectations
- Differentiated Instruction
- Academic Support
- Enrichment
- Intervention for Math and Reading
- Open Lines of Communication

6th Grade

Academic Core Courses

6th grade students take the following academic core courses:

- Language Arts
- Math
- Science
- Social Studies

Physical Education and Electives

- Physical Education is a required course for all middle school students, so all 6th graders will take PE.
- 6th grade students will choose their elective course from the following options:
 - Band (year-long course)
 - Choir (year-long course)
 - Elective Rotation (4 nine-week courses)
- Please refer to the curriculum guide for a complete description of all courses.

Physical Education

- Physical Education:
 - Students will be required to change out for PE.
 - The required HMS PE shirt will be purchased at the beginning of school.
 - Tennis shoes are required.
 - The locker room is supervised by PE teachers.
 - NO ELECTRONIC DEVICES are allowed in PE.

6th Grade Elective Choices

- Year-Long Elective:
 - o Band 6
 - o Choir

- Elective Rotation (Rotate every 9 weeks):
 - o Art 6
 - o Computer Exploration 6
 - o FACS 6
 - o STEM Explore 6

6th Grade Band

Band Expectations:

- o Band students are expected to have their instruments/binders every day.
- o Progress in band is based on the individual student's motivation to reach certain benchmarks throughout the year.
- o Grades in band are based on individual participation, not ability!
- o For more information about our band program visit our website: [HMS Band](#)

Band Instructor:

- o Mrs. Burnside

6th Grade Choir

Choir Expectations:

- o Choir students are expected to come to class prepared every day.
- o Progress in choir is based on the individual student's motivation to reach certain benchmarks throughout the year.
- o Grades in choir are based on individual participation, not ability!
- o For more information about our choir program visit our website: [HMS Choir](#)

Choir Instructor:

- o Mr. Andrews

Athletics

- In accordance with AHSAA regulations, 6th grade students do not compete in school sports.
- Some sports have tryouts during the spring of the 6th grade year:
 - Cheerleading
 - Dance
 - Volleyball
 - Basketball
 - Football

*All other sport tryouts are during the 7th grade year.

Extracurricular Opportunities

- B.E.S.T. Robotics Club
- Builders Club
- FBLA
- FCA
- JUNA
- Math Team
- NJHS
- Peer Helpers
- Scholars Bowl
- Student Council
- Science Olympiad
- Special Olympics

6th Grade Counselors

Our 6th Grade Counselors are Ms. Bireley, Ms. Lane (females), and Mrs. Tolbert (males).

Ms. Bireley is with us Mondays, Wednesday and alternating Fridays. When she is not on campus Ms. Lane supports 6th grade girls and Mrs. Tolbert supports 6th grade boys.

The counselors are available to help students in a variety of ways including academic and social problem solving. They meets with classes and are also available when students request to meet individually during the school day.

6th Grade Expectations from our HMS Teachers

- Email is the best way to communicate with teachers.
- Parent conferences are scheduled through teachers.
- We have high academic standards, and homework is a key component of those standards.
- Please dress appropriately and use good hygiene. Students will be allowed to wear sweatpants and joggers this year.
- Student are expected to put their backpack and cellphone up in their locker each day.

6th Grade Expectations from our HMS Teachers

- Please purchase a binder for your child to bring to and from class. An example is linked here : [Zipper Binder](#)
- All medication must be turned in to the school nurse. If you are prone to headaches or stomach aches, it is suggested that you bring an unopened bottle of pain reliever or antacid to leave with Nurse Adrienne.
- Make sure you know how you are getting home each day. This should include a severe weather/early dismissal plan.
- Get ready for an exciting 6th grade year at Helena Middle School. Go Huskies!

DRESS CODE

We consider all of these items following dress code

jacket worn with hood down



t-shirts, blouses, or dresses with a collar or a non-revealing neckline

Dresses, skirts, skorts or shorts no shorter than three (3) inches above the knee



Clean looking jeans with no rips

Out of Dress Code:

No jeans with rips above the knees



No hats, sunglasses, or hoods in the building

No spaghetti straps or tank tops



No leggings or tights to be worn with only t-shirts

Out of Dress Code:

No athletic shorts, if shorts have a zipper they are usually in dress code



Joggers and Sweatpants will be allowed, no pajama bottoms



Camp Husky

Due to COVID precautions, we will not be having 5th grade classes visit the middle school this spring. However, we will be having our 6th grade student participate in Camp Husky their first “blended” days of school 08/12 and 08/13. This day will consist of:

- a tour of the school
- locating their locker
- introductions to teachers and people to know at HMS
- information about fun events to look forward to
- much more!

Be on the lookout for more information about Campy Husky and open house for parents.

Parent/Student Resources

Please visit the [HMS Website](#) for additional information about Helena Middle School. You will find information related to:

- o Calendar and Events
- o Breakfast and Lunch Menu
- o Registration
- o Online payments
- o Faculty and Staff Information
- o Schoology
- o Athletics
- o And More!

Parents are also encouraged to subscribe to our HMS listserv to receive email announcements. [Sign Up Here](#)

HMS Social Media

Follow up on Twitter at @HelenaMSHuskies

Follow our Instagram Account at
helenamiddleschoolal

Like our Facebook Page
Helena Middle School

FAQ's

What can be carried from class to class? Students may carry their binder and chromebook. Backpacks are put away at the beginning of the day.

Can students have their phone during the school day? No, they will need to be stored in their locker before 1st period.

Do the students have recess? No, they will participate in PE. every day

How early can my child be dropped off? Early Care? Your child may be transported by bus or be dropped through car rider as early as 7:15

Is there an after school care program at HMS? No, students will have the opportunity to participate in afterschool extracurriculars. If not they will go home by bus or car.

We can't wait to have
your child with us
at Helena Middle School!

