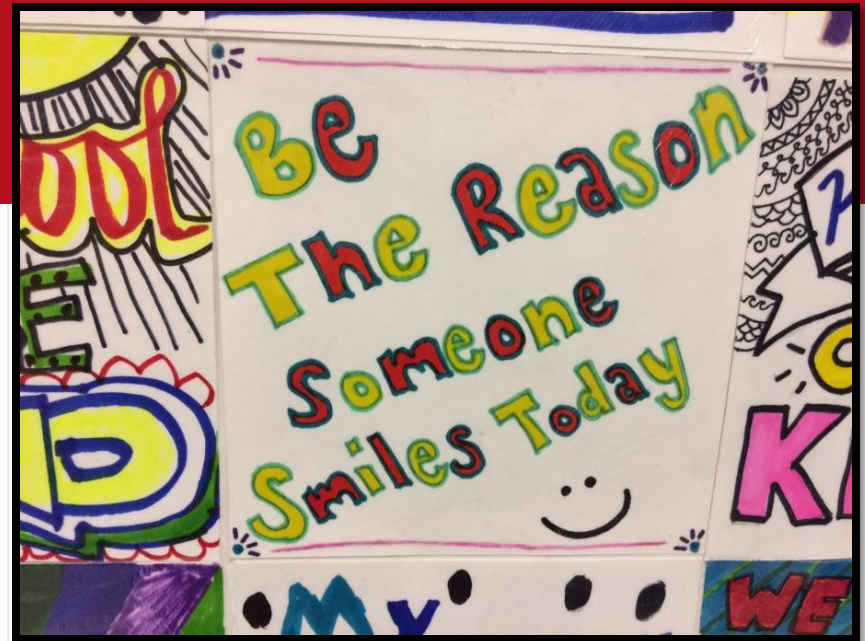


Welcome to Masconomet Middle School *Creating a Culture of Kindness*



"Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn."
-- Benjamin Franklin

Who We Are

- Your Child's “Team”
 - Teachers
 - Guidance Counselors
 - Special Education Coordinator
 - Assistant Superintendent/Assistant Director of Student Services
 - Paraprofessionals
 - Principal/Assistant Principal
 - Additional Resources:
 - School Nurse
 - Adjustment Counselors
 - Autism Specialist
 - Speech and Language Therapist
 - Language Based Learning Disabilities Specialist
 - Literacy Specialist
 - Team Chairperson



How We Communicate

- **Internally**
 - Six-Day Cycle Academic Team/Guidance meetings
 - Schedule allows for proactive collaboration whenever necessary
- **Externally**
 - PowerSchool
 - Blackboard
 - Teacher Web Pages
 - Weekly Principal's Update to Parents
 - Parent's Open House in September
 - Parent Conferences in October
 - One-to-One Parent Meetings (when necessary)
 - Required 504/IEP Meetings
 - Transition Meetings



Student Support Center

- Supported by a Licensed Teacher and Adjustment Counselors
- Homeroom
- Directed Study
- Transitions
- Hospitalizations
- Lunch Groups
- School/Class Refusal
- Test Anxiety
- Reflection and Behavior Processing



School Day Schedule

Orientation ½ Day for 7th Grade:

August 29th

First Day of School For All Students:

- September 3rd – Early Release Day

Student Report Time*:

7:35 a.m.

- Students who report after 11:00 a.m. will be marked tardy-absent

Delayed Start Time:

10:00 a.m. (New)

Student Dismissal Time*:

2:15 p.m.

*except for planned early dismissals and weather-related issues |



School Day Snapshot

Year-Round Courses

- All students have four core classes: English, Math, Science, Global Cultures (in a rotating format)
- Foreign Languages: Spanish, French and Chinese
- Learning Lab (if applicable)
 - Time to work on specific learning goals
 - Focus is not homework/study time

Trimester Courses

Art, Health, Geometry Lab

Half-Year Courses

- Band, Chorus, Song Writing
- Physical Education



Team Assignments

- **Team assignments mailed in early August**
 - Random Assignments
 - Increases opportunities to meet new people
 - Reinforces adaptability/flexibility skill building
 - No friend/team requests
 - Special circumstances may alter placements
- **Heterogeneously Grouped**
 - Exceptions:
 - Accelerated Math (placement test required)
 - Learning Center Math and ELA



Afterschool Activities

- **Open Library**
 - Opportunity for students to complete homework/collaborate with other students
- **Daily Teacher Extra Help (Monday – Thursday)**
- **Excels Program**
 - Begins mid-way through each Trimester
 - Social Skills Clubs
- **Other Activities**
 - Student Council
 - School newspaper
 - Math Team
 - Science Team
 - Gay/Straight Alliance
 - Dances
 - School musical
 - Etc.



How to Become Acclimated

- **Transition Planning**
 - Individual Meetings
 - Masco attends transition meetings at elementary schools (as necessary)
 - Masco staff may visit elementary programs
- **Incoming 7th Grade Parent/Guardian Orientation**
 - May 16th 6:30 p.m.
- **School Tour for Students in June**
 - Conducted through elementary schools
 - Individual visits
- **Summer Opportunities**
 - Summer reading group
 - Locks for practice may be provided
 - Stop in and visit
 - Schedule a formal tour
 - Become used to building layout and day-to-day requirements (such as lockers, team location, room locations, schedule, etc.)



Meet Our Student Services Staff



What Is Anxiety

A feeling of worry, nervousness, or unease, typically about an imminent event or regarding something with an uncertain outcome.



Causes of anxiety and impact on functioning?

Causes

- Fear of failure
- Lack of control
- Perfectionism
- Family history

Impact

- Avoidance (school/social)
- Sleeping/eating disturbances
- Executive Functioning (academic and environmental)



Feelings define how we interpret situations

- Anxious
- Sad/Depressed
- Happy
- Frustrated



All or Nothing Terms

- Everyone
- No One
- Impossible
- Always
- Never
- Can't

What can you do?

- Coach
- Listen to venting
- Guide
- Reframe
- Reality checking



Parent Group

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Questions?

