

# Welcome to LKMS!

## Home of the Leopards

### #leopardpride

Please MUTE your microphone.  
We will be with you shortly.

# Navigating Middle School

WORKING TOGETHER  
FOR A SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION  
TO LIME KILN MIDDLE SCHOOL



**Howard  
County**  
Public School System

# AGENDA

- Meet the staff
- PTA Message
- The MS Day
- Gifted and Talented Program
- Important Dates



## **Meet (some of) the Staff...**

**Lucy Lublin - Principal**

**Carol Kettermann - Assistant Principal**

**Beth Lucas - School Counselor A-L**

**Anna Miles - School Counselor M-Z**

**Tracy Spillman - G/T Resource Teacher**

**Robert Glaze - 6th Grade Team Leader**

**Reka Montfort - PTA President**

**A message from our PTA...**



# Learning and Leading with Equity

## *The Fierce Urgency of Now*

**VISION:** Every student and staff member embraces diversity and possesses the skills, knowledge and confidence to positively influence the larger community.

**MISSION:** HCPSS ensures academic success and social-emotional well-being for each student in an inclusive and nurturing environment that closes opportunity gaps.



### Four Overarching Commitments

VALUE

ACHIEVE

CONNECT

EMPOWER



In order to  
teach a  
child well  
we must  
know a  
child well.

Middle school is a defining point for students in the college and career readiness process.



Source: The Forgotten Middle: Ensuring that All Students Are On Target For College and Career Readiness Before High School, ACT, 2008.

# Middle School is also:



- Social/Emotional Learning
- Executive Functioning
- Exploring Interests
- Building Confidence
- Developing Resilience
- Learning Communication & Advocacy

# Finding balance between...

- Course Placements
- Rigor/Work Load
- Personal  
Interests/Activities





Preparing  
Students  
for the  
Future

**21<sup>st</sup>  
Century  
Skills**

**Academic  
Behaviors**

**High  
School  
Readiness**

**College  
and  
Career  
Readiness**



**21<sup>st</sup>  
Century  
Skills**

The diagram features a large blue oval on the left containing two dark blue rounded rectangles. The top rectangle is labeled '21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills' and the bottom one is labeled 'Academic Behaviors'. A light blue arrow points from the '21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills' box to a dark blue rounded rectangle labeled 'High School Readiness'. Another light blue arrow points from the 'High School Readiness' box to a final dark blue rounded rectangle labeled 'College and Career Readiness'. A speech bubble originates from the 'High School Readiness' box, pointing towards a list of skills in a blue rounded rectangle at the top right.

**Academic  
Behaviors**

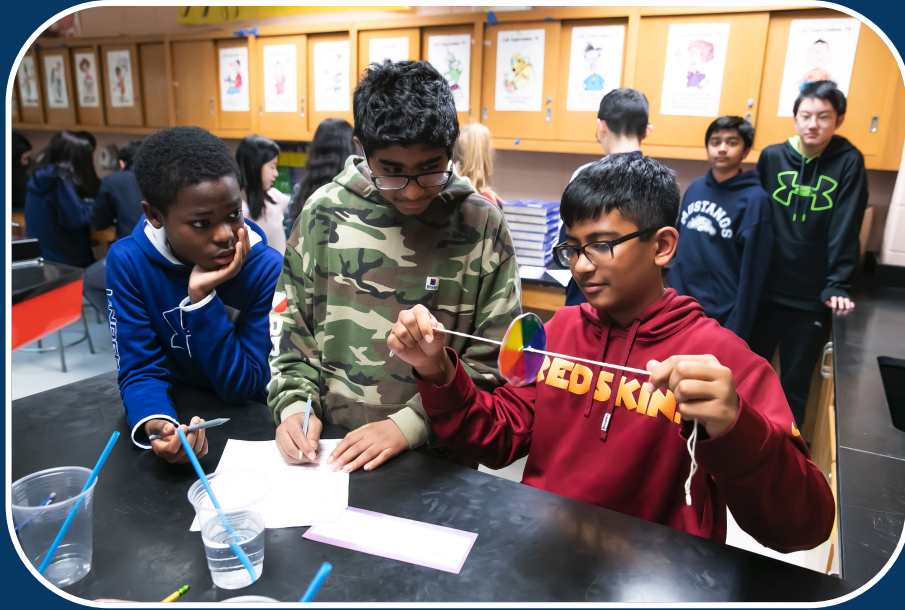
- Life and Career Skills
- Learning and Innovation Skills
- Information Media and Technology Skills

**High  
School  
Readiness**

**College  
and  
Career  
Readiness**

# Academics





The level of academic achievement that students attain by eighth grade has a larger impact on their college and career readiness than anything that happens academically in high school.

Source: The Forgotten Middle: Ensuring that All Students Are On Target For College and Career Readiness Before High School

# The Middle School Schedule



All students are enrolled in seven  
50-minute classes every day.



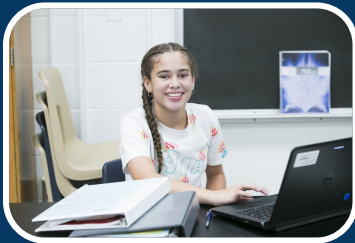
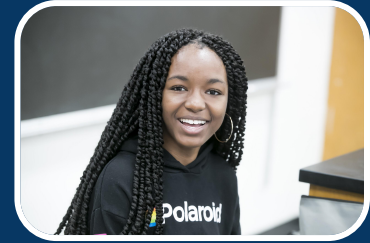
In accordance with state requirements, each year middle school students receive instruction in the following areas:

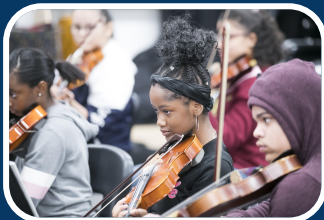
- English Language Arts
- Fine Arts
- Health
- Mathematics
- Physical Education
- Science
- Social Studies



Students are also required to receive instruction in the following during their middle school experience:

- Technology
- Financial Literacy
- Careers





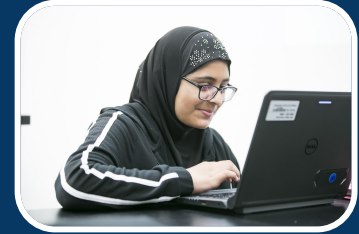
# Fine Arts Options

Students in grade 6 will choose from the following options:

- Band *or*
- Chorus *or*
- Orchestra *or*
- Art/Family & Consumer Science (FACS)/ General Music/Theater Arts combination

# Additional Course Possibilities

- G/T Research
- Seminars/Interventions in reading and/or mathematics
- Reading Package- Reader's & Writer's Workshop, Boost Your Brain, 21st Century Learning, Digital Citizenship



## Grade 6 Example Schedule

Course 1	English
Course 2	Mathematics
Course 3	Science
Course 4	Social Studies
Course 5	Physical Education/Health/Tech
Course 6 (Fine Art Choice) Ensembles are year-long	Band or Chorus or Orchestra or Art/Music/Theater/Family and Consumer Science (FACS)
Course 7 (Elective/Intervention)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-1 quarter (totaling 4): Digital Citizenship/21st Century Learning/Boost Your Brain/Reader's and Writer's Cafe or Art, Music, Theater, FACS</li><li>-2 quarters: GT Research and 1 quarter of each- Digital Citizenship and 21st Century Learning</li><li>-Year-long: ESOL, Special Education/Mathematics/Reading Intervention</li></ul>

# Finding balance between...

- Course Placements
- Rigor/Workload
- Personal Interests/Activities



# Middle School Gifted and Talented Program



**GIFTED &  
TALENTED**

EDUCATION PROGRAM



# Agenda

- Overview of the Middle School G/T Education Program
- Placement
- Process
- Questions





# G/T Instructional Seminars



# Where can I find out about G/T Instructional Seminars at my child's school?

## **Seminars offered for the SY 2015-2016:**

### Television Production (HCTV)

HCTV crewmembers create a daily television broadcast using advanced level journalism and technology skills. Must be able to arrive at school by 7:20 AM.

### Middle School Book Club

Book Club members meet once a month at lunchtime to discuss a pre-selected book. There is also a monthly countywide meeting at the Howard County Library Miller Branch for a thought-provoking discussion of the high-quality literature.

### Environmental Awareness Committee (Green Team)

Team members develop their interest in the environment, help school recycling and energy conservations efforts, and promote awareness of environmental issues in the school and community. Team members will also be responsible for submitting an entry in the Environmental Film Festival. Members meet every other week at lunchtime.

### Lego Robotics

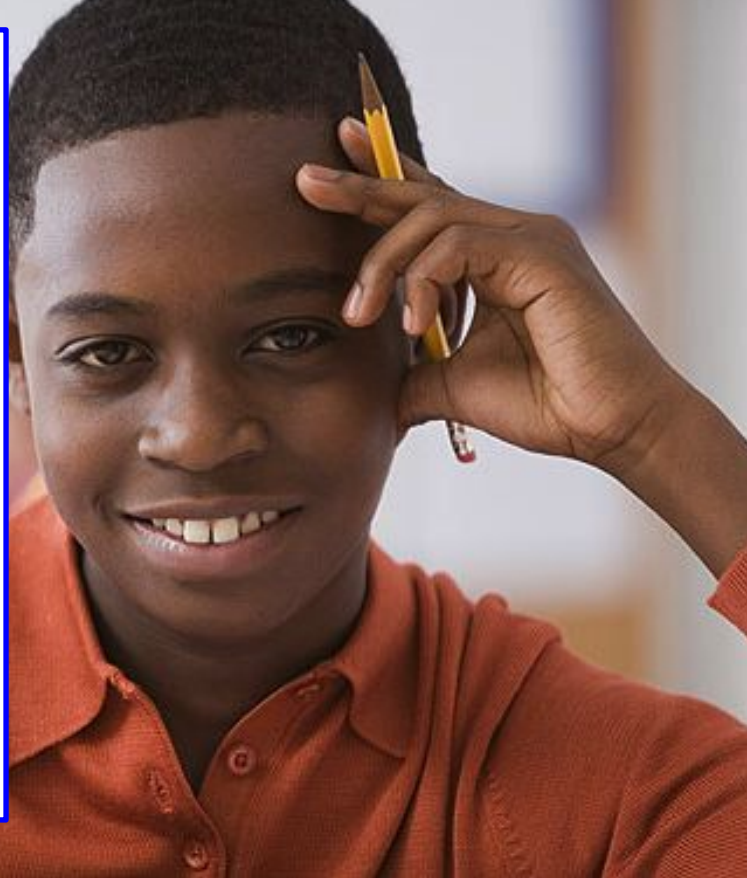
Using the LEGO Mindstorm robotics' kit, students have the opportunity to develop skills in designing and programming a LEGO robot. Must be able to meet afterschool from 3:00-4:15 on Wednesdays through December.

### School Newspaper

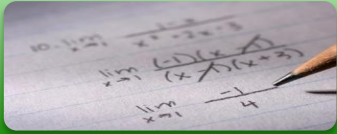
Reporters needed! Including, sports reporters, fashion reporters, and entertainment reporters! Ever wonder what it would be like to write the news, not create the news. This seminar is for students who love writing and journalism. This year we will create a school web-based newspaper and newsletter, practicing and editing writing as well.

# G/T Content Classes

- Accelerated and/or Enriched Curriculum
- Advanced-Level Content
- Inquiry-Based Instruction
- Application of Knowledge



# Middle School G/T Classes



G/T Math



G/T Science



G/T English



G/T Social Studies

# G/T Mathematics

Provides an accelerated and enriched sequence that follows a curriculum of concepts at least two years above the general education curriculum.

- 6 - Pre-Algebra G/T
- 7 – Algebra I G/T
- 8 - Geometry G/T

# G/T English

Extends the Maryland College and Career Ready Standards for English Language Arts through

- an accelerated pace,
- reading and analyzing challenging and complex literature and literary nonfiction independently,
- writing a variety of interpretive,
- and analytical pieces, and conducting independent research.

Differentiated tasks and texts are included at all grade levels.

# G/T Social Studies

Provides an enriched and accelerated curriculum, including differentiated objectives, where students explore civic and cultural principles and engage in inquiries that focus on essential, related questions.

6 – Geography and World Cultures G/T

7 – Geography and World Cultures G/T

8 – United States History G/T



# G/T Science

An enriched and accelerated curriculum where students explore cross-cutting concepts, as well as science and engineering practices.

- 6 – Earth Science G/T
- 7 - Life Science G/T
- 8- Physical Science G/T



# Placement Process For Middle School G/T – 5th Grade

## 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

- All students reviewed as part of G/T Placement Process using multiple data points.
  - Ability Measure (CogAT from 3rd grade)
  - Standardized assessments (MAP)
  - Student performance during elementary content classes, particularly on tasks requiring critical, analytical, and/or creative thinking
  - Documentation from families

# Measures Included in Placement Process

- Ability Measure (CogAT)
- Standardized assessments (MAP, MCAP)
- Student work samples
  - Interpretation
  - Critique
  - Analysis
  - Creative Problem Solving
- Student grades on assignments requiring critical, analytical, and/or creative thinking
- Documentation from families

# Middle School GT Research Class

- Authentic research to address real-world problem
- For students enrolled in G/T Math and G/T English based upon G/T Placement Committee recommendations



# Research

- Original
- Primary Research Methods
- Authentic Product
- Authentic Audience
- Contribution to the Community/Field



# Opportunities for Parent Engagement

- HCPSS G/T Website:  
[www.hcpss.org/academics/gt](http://www.hcpss.org/academics/gt)
- G/T Parent Academies
- HCPSS News for G/T Program Information
- HCPSS\_GT Twitter



# Contact Information

- Tracy Spillman
- (410) 880-5988
- [tracy\\_spillman@hcpss.org](mailto:tracy_spillman@hcpss.org)
- <https://sites.google.com/hcpss.org/gt-website-spillman-lkms/home>



## **Academic Behavior**

Motivation and behavior, combined, have more impact on a student's readiness than academic achievement.

-LearnED by Pearson

# Supporting Student Growth

At LKMS, staff and students:

- Start with the goal in mind
- Do what they do best, every day
- Celebrate effort and achievement
- Engage in positive experiences each school day
- Create excitement for the future.



## Tips For Parents: Supporting Development of Positive Academic Behaviors

- Ensure that your child has the supplies and a place to study at home.
- Set a regular time for homework.
- Encourage your child to be responsible for chores and homework.
- Provide your child with a range of experiences to allow him/her to identify areas of strength.
- Reinforce that intelligence isn't fixed. Brains grow through lifelong learning.
- Talk to your child; keep the communication lines open



BE HERE.  
BE YOU.  
BELONG.

*This school belongs  
to all of us.*



# Important Dates

Date	Activity
2/8/22 - 2/22/22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Course Recommendations for rising 6th graders available in Synergy for parents to review.</li><li>• Parents will enter student course requests in Synergy no later than 2/22/22.</li><li>• Parents will complete a Course Placement Review (CPR) as appropriate.</li></ul>
5/16/22	Rising 6th Grade Visit
August 2022 (TBD)	6th Grade and New Student Welcome Back



**[Parent Question Survey Link](#)**