FAQ’s and Special Considerations

We realize that the transition from elementary school to the Middle Years Program can be a little scary. In an effort to make the transition easier, we have implemented several policies to help with the transition. Below are some of the policies we have adopted for the 6th-8th students as well as for the rest of the IB student body. Some policies below only apply to the 6th-8th grade students. As needs arise we will address them and implement changes or policies.

1. **What time does school start and end?**
   School starts at 7:25 am and ends at 2:14 pm. However, the first bell rings at 7:19 signaling that first period is about to start and students should move towards their classes at this point.

2. **Where do the 6th-8th grade students get dropped off?**
   There are two student drop off points. The first is in front of the “A” building. The second and most common place is in front of or just off of the main office between the “B” building and the “C” building or just off the roundabout. It is advised that students be dropped off by 7 am to avoid the long lines of traffic and to ensure that students eat breakfast if they choose to do so.

3. **What time can the students be dropped off?**
   Students can be dropped off as early as 6:45.

4. **What is the restroom policy for the 6th-8th grade students?**
   All 6th-8th grade students go to the restroom with a buddy. All students may go to the restroom 15 minutes after the tardy bell rings and up until 15 minutes before the passing bell rings. This ensure minimum disruption to instruction.

5. **When do the 6th-8th grade students go to lunch?**
   The 6th-8th grade students go to lunch at 11:27 am. All 6th – 8th grade students go to lunch 5 minutes before all the older students to make it easy for them to get their meals and find a place to sit. All IB students have second lunch.

6. **What lunch options do the 6th-8th grade students have?**
   Due to state nutritional guidelines, the 6th-8th grade students have the options that are on the monthly menu. You can find a link to the monthly menus on our website or click on the following link.

7. **Where do the 6th-8th grade students hang out at lunch?**
   Most of the 6th-8th grade students hang out outside and play in the quad area during lunch. Additionally, several teachers have volunteered to keep their doors open during lunch so the 6th-8th grade students have a place to hang out if they do not want to hang out with the other students in the commons or the quad area.

8. **Can the 6th-8th grade students participate in clubs?**
   All 6th-8th grade students are encouraged to participate in all the clubs. If they cannot or do not want to join a club or if the existing clubs do not meet their needs or interest, the 6th-8th grade students can form a club according to interest.

9. **Can the 6th-8th grade students play sports at FHS?**
6th-8th grade students cannot play any of the high school sports with the high school students due to safety concerns and due to Ed. Code policies.

10. Do IB students have the opportunity participate in school wide events?
   All IB students have the opportunity participate in school wide events such as rallies, school spirit days, attend sporting events, etc. IB students are still FHS students.

11. Are these events announced or advertised?
   Yes, all events are posted on the walls throughout the school by the Associated Student Body and Student Leadership. Moreover, they are announced on Tuesdays and Thursdays during the 2nd period announcements.

13. What is the best way to communicate with my student’s teacher?
   Email is the most effective way to communicate with teachers. If you are having trouble making contact, please feel free to contact the IB Office for assistance.

14. How can I keep track of my student’s grades?
   There are several options. Some teachers post their grades online, other report grades via email. Since grades are mailed to parent once twice a quarter (Progress reports and Quarter/Semester Grades) you may request a biweekly grade check on Thursdays. Students can pick up the grade check form any day of the week prior to Thursday and submit it to all teachers on the corresponding Grade Check Thursday.

15. How do I get in contact with the IB Coordinators if I have more questions?
   Call us at 933-7435 ext. 8242 for Mr. Calderon or ext. 8268 for Mrs. Knudsen.us or email us ecaldeorn@stocktonusd.net or sknudsen@stocktonusd.net.