

Welcome to Patapsco!



Building a Strong Foundation for High School and Beyond

Agenda

- Middle School Requirements
- Scheduling Options
- GT Programs
- Easing into Middle School



At Patapsco, our mission is to:

- Provide meaningful and challenging instruction.
- Cultivate critical thinking and independence.
- Foster a physically and intellectually safe environment.
- Promote responsible citizenship in a diverse world.



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



STRIKING A BALANCE

- Course Placements
- Rigor
- Personal Interests
- Student Success
- Their Future v. Our Present



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



ALL 6th Graders Must take:

- English
- Mathematics
- Social Studies
- Science



Aligned to Maryland's College & Career-Ready Standards

6th Graders must also take:

- Health Education
- Physical Education
- Fine Arts (General Music and/or Visual Arts)
- A Careers Unit (Reading Module)

Required by
Code of
Maryland
Regulations



BASIC SCHEDULE

PERIOD	SEM 1-A	SEM 1-B	SEM 2-A	SEM 2-B
1- ACADEMIC	English Language Arts			
2- ACADEMIC	Math			
3- ACADEMIC	Science			
LUNCH	LUNCH			
4- ACADEMIC	Social Studies			
5- SEMINAR				
6- RELATED ART	PE	Health	PE	Careers
7- RELATED ART				

Squares, Slots, & Semesters?

- Schedule has 28 squares.
- 20 are used up by requirements (yellow).
- There are 8 squares left over for us to play with (blue).
- One square = one semester A or B day
- Related arts and other options can fill these slots.

So, you do have choices!

PERIOD	SEM 1-A	SEM 1-B	SEM 2-A	SEM 2-B
5- SEMINAR				
6- RELATED ART	PE	Health	PE	Careers
7- RELATED ART				

Students May Take...

- Family and Consumer Science*
- Technology Education
- Reading and/or Math Intervention**
- GT Research



*COMAR requirements for Financial Literacy met through course objectives in this subject.

**Required for some students

OPTIONS:

Performance Ensembles

Band – Chorus – Orchestra



- **Year-long class**
- 50 minute daily ensemble rehearsal and 50 minute weekly sectional (B & O)
- **Ensembles are ability-based**
- Music teachers will contact elementary programs to schedule meetings & auditions

OPTIONS:

**World Language -
French or Spanish**



- **Year-long courses**
 - 3 year program
 - Commits to study French or Spanish
 - 6th grade every other day for 50 minutes
 - 7/8th grade daily - full year, 50 minutes
- **Students receive high school credit for completing the 3 year MS WL course**
 - Grade appears on HS transcript

Who decides the options?

- Students below grade level in reading/math must take an instructional seminar (4 sq).
- Students eligible for GT Research course can elect to take it in place of RA (2 sq).
- **WL (2sq in 6th & 4sq in 7/8th)**
- Performance groups are family choice (4 sq).
- **Related Arts and reading modules are assigned, not selected.**
- Some choices are limited by scheduling needs and availability of seats.

CONSIDERATIONS

- **Exposure to the full complement of related arts offerings**
- **Readiness for rigor of academic course work**
 - WL adds a 5th academic subject
 - Common Core curriculum increased demands
 - Time available for home study
- **Preparation for HS ensembles**
- Changes can be made!

Possible Scenarios...

PERIOD	SEM 1-A	SEM 1-B	SEM 2-A	SEM 2-B
5- SEMINAR	Innovation/Inquiry Reading			
6- RELATED ART	PE	Health	PE	Careers
7- RELATED ART	FACS	Art	Tech Ed	Music

PERIOD	SEM 1-A	SEM 1-B	SEM 2-A	SEM 2-B
5- SEMINAR	G/T Rsch	WL	G/T Rsch	WL
6- RELATED ART	PE	Health	PE	Careers
7- RELATED ART	Chorus			

Possible Scenarios...

PERIOD	SEM 1-A	SEM 1-B	SEM 2-A	SEM 2-B
5- SEMINAR	Innovation/Inquiry Reading			
6- RELATED ART	PE	Health	PE	Careers
7- RELATED ART	Math Intervention Seminar			

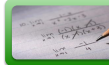
PERIOD	SEM 1-A	SEM 1-B	SEM 2-A	SEM 2-B
5- SEMINAR	Band/Strings			
6- RELATED ART	PE	Health	PE	Careers
7- RELATED ART	WL	G/T Rsch	WL	G/T Rsch

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



GT Placement Process - 5th Gr.

5th Grade

- CogAT administered to ALL students in December.
 - Meets State COMAR requirement for an ability measure.
 - Helps identify students who may underperform in school.
 - No longer requires parent/teacher request for testing.
- All students reviewed as part of G/T Placement Process.



Parental Input in Placement Process

If after reviewing the Placement Committee's professional recommendation, parents/guardians still wish to enroll their students in one or more G/T classes, they may complete the Course Placement Review form.

Forms for this academic year are due to the ES by March 20, 2017.



Who can initiate the placement process during middle school?



- Families
- Teachers
- Students

Measures Included in MS Placement Process

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



Easing into Middle School

CONNECT

PLAN

Get Connected:

- pms.hcps.org
- PM Google Calendar
- facebook.com/pms.hcps.org
- Twitter: @hcpss_pms
- [Instagram: patapscoms](https://www.instagram.com/patapscoms)
- patapscopta.wordpress.com/
- facebook.com/patapscopta/
- App store: HCPSS app
- [School Messenger \(Community Member\)](#)

News Calendar Schools
HCPSS Connect Menu Social Media
Blog Board of Education Search
HCPSS Careers Staff Hub Settings

Plan:

Outdoor Education -

- October 9-11th
- Approximate Cost +/- \$170
- Chaperones needed (you won't regret it)
- Take care of health/medical forms in advance
- Parent info night in September



The earlier a student develops important academically related behaviors, the more likely these behaviors are to become a habit.

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



Plan:

Strike a balance between school and activities -

- Consider the increase in academic demands as you register for activities outside of school
- Middle School students will have anywhere from 1-2 hours of homework per night (depending on level, number, and type of courses)
- Reading is encouraged (2.5 hrs/week)
- Encouraging organization now is critical
- Start thinking about which commitments your student will engage in and whether you need to scale back

5th Grade Middle School Visit

May 23, 2017



Questions?

