Welcome

Gaithersburg Middle School
Back to School Night
September 17, 2020

2020-2021

Some helpful Zoom reminders:

- This is a webinar format of Zoom.
- Please type any questions you may have in the CHAT
- We will share all the information first and then respond to questions.

GMS Back to School Night Agenda

- GMS Mission and Vision
- What makes GMS unique
- Meet the staff
- Roles of students, teachers, counselors, administrators and parents
- GMS Virtual Learning Expectations
- Attendance procedures/Absent make-up class procedure
- Staying organized in Virtual Learning
- Where to go for tech help/repairs
- Using ParentVue-seeing assignments/attendance
- PTA

GMS Vision and Mission

- **Vision:**
  Gaithersburg Middle School strives to make a positive difference in the lives of youth by developing 21st century critical thinkers so that every student is college and career ready.

- **Mission:**
  - provides a positive, rigorous learning community
  - utilizes data-driven instructional practices and academic interventions;
  - collaborates effectively with staff, students, families, and feeder schools
  - supports all students to grow and to excel intellectually, emotionally, and socially.

GMS: What makes us special?

- Diverse student population
- Restorative Justice
- French Immersion Program
- Special Programs:

Autism, Bridge, METS

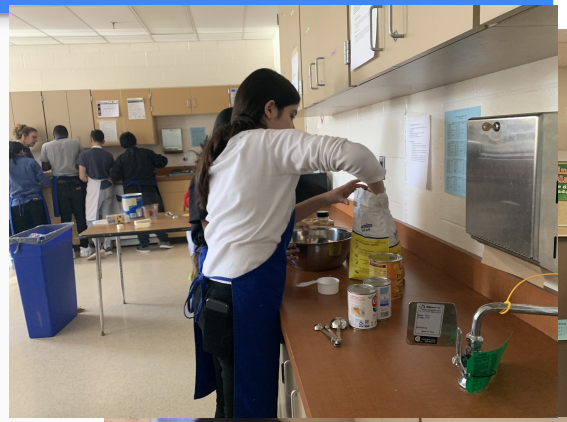
GMS: What makes us special?

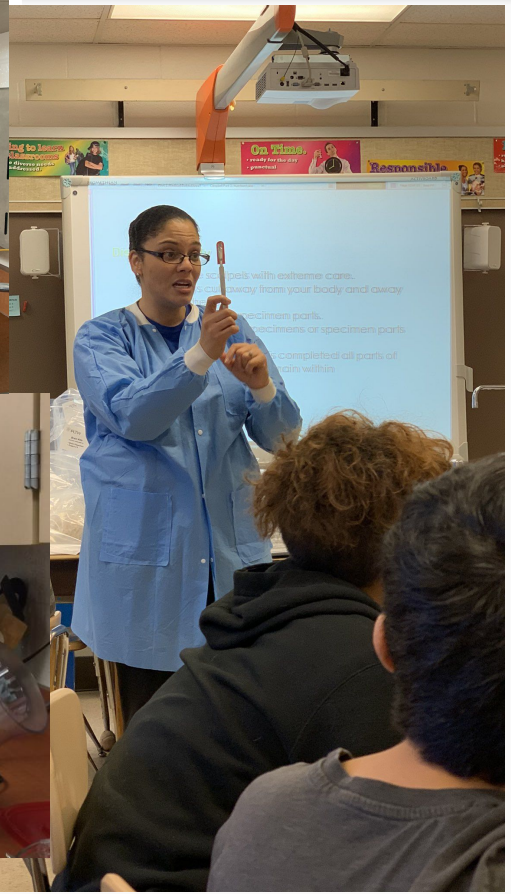
- GMStrong! Grant
- Swimming Pool
- International Exchanges

GMS: What makes us special?

Electives

- Project Lead the Way Medical Detectives
- Cooking
- Coding
- Art
- Music

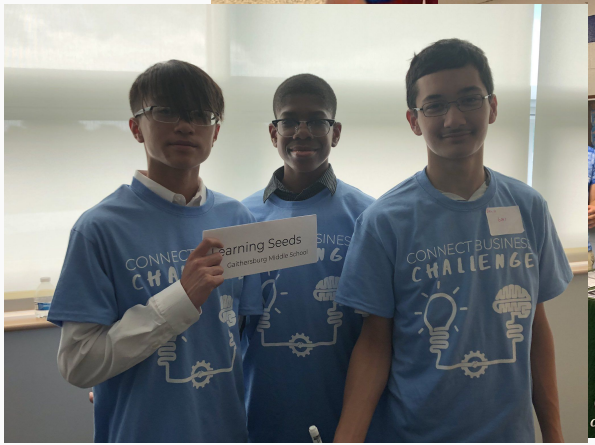




GMS: What makes us special?

<u>After School Activities</u>:

- Drama
- Pride Club
- Boys Choir
- Girls Choir
- Newspaper Club
- (featuring a new Activism section)
- Chess Club
- GEMS
- Guys of GMS
- Invent the Future STEM Club
- Minority Scholars Program (MSP)
- Girls with Goals



GMS: What makes us special?

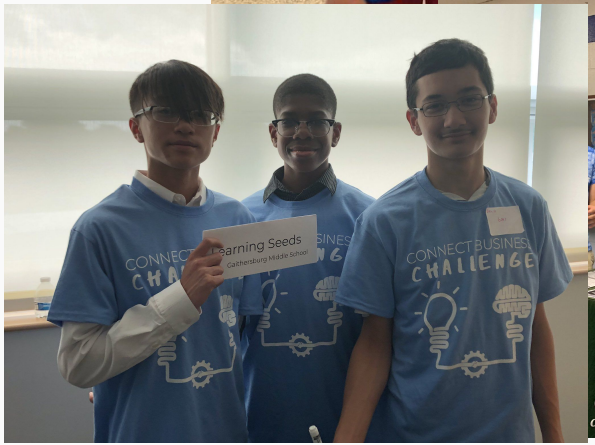
Intramurals:

- Yoga
- Cheer
- Step
- Dance
- Group Fitness

After school activities begin on September 28th

Registration is from September 18th – 25th

Registration link and activity information is listed on the GMS web site.



MCPS Food Distribution Site

- GMS is a meal distribution site. All sites will serve breakfast & lunch.
- A student must be enrolled in an MCPS school to receive these meals.
- We will continue with the drive up or walk up curbside meal service model.
- Meals will be served from 11a.m. – 1p.m., Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday (no meal service on Thursday)
- Students/families will need the student identification number and/or letter with barcode in order to pick up a meal. Standard meal prices will be charged.

MEET OUR
Staff

Home of the Vikings:

Principal/6th grade Administrator
Ann Dolan
Ann_B_Dolan@mcpsmd.org

6th Grade
Team Leader
Anne Isleib
Anne_L_Isleib@mcpsmd.org

6th Grade
Team Leader
Julie Sanders
Julie_A_Sanders@mcpsmd.org

6th Grade
Counselor
Fara Moskowitz
Fara_Moskowitz@mcpsmd.org

6th Grade
Counselor
Erica Oben
Erica_A_MerrillOben
@mcpsmd.org

Home of the Vikings:

Asst. Principal/7th grade administrator
Kelly Bean
Kelly_A_Bean@mcpsmd.org

7th Grade
Team Leader
Peggy Khoury
Margaret_Mannhaupt-Khoury@mcpsmd.org

7th Grade
Team Leader
Tyreece Woodly
Tyreece_Woodly@mcpsmd.org

7th Grade
Counselor
Allyson Swailes
Allyson_P_Swailes@mcpsmd.org

7th Grade
Counselor
Erica Oben
Erica_A_MerrillOben@mcpsmd.org

Home of the Vikings:

Asst. Principal/8th grade administrator
Sharif Robinson
Sharif_K_Robinson@mcpsmd.org

8th Grade
Team Leader
Noel Larcamp
Noel_C_Bolmer@mcpsmd.org

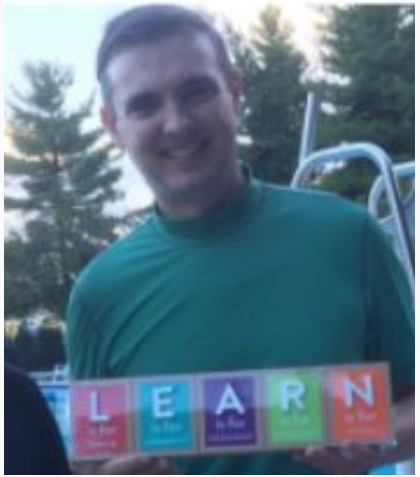
8th Grade
Team Leader
Ernie Padilla
Ernie_A_Padilla@mcpsmd.org

8th Grade
Counselor
Susie Ikpegmbe
Susie_I_Ikpemgbe@mcpsmd.org

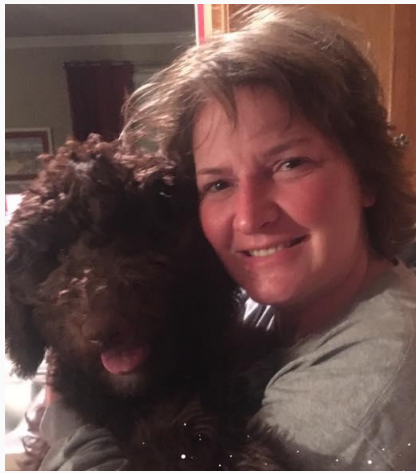
8th Grade
Counselor
Erica Oben
Erica_A_MerrillOben@mcpsmd.org

Content Specialists

Sohee Cho
Math
Sohee_Cho@mcpsmd.org



Tom Evans
Language Arts
Thomas_T_Evans@mcpsmd.org



Crystal Stottlemyer
ESOL/Reading
Crystal_D_Stottlemyer@mcpsmd.org

Content Specialists

Edna Graham
Social Studies
Edna_L_Graham@mcpsmd.org

Christine Rizkallah
World Languages
Christine_S_Rizkallah@mcpsmd.org

Stephanie Lopez
Science
Stephanie_M_Lopez@mcpsmd.org

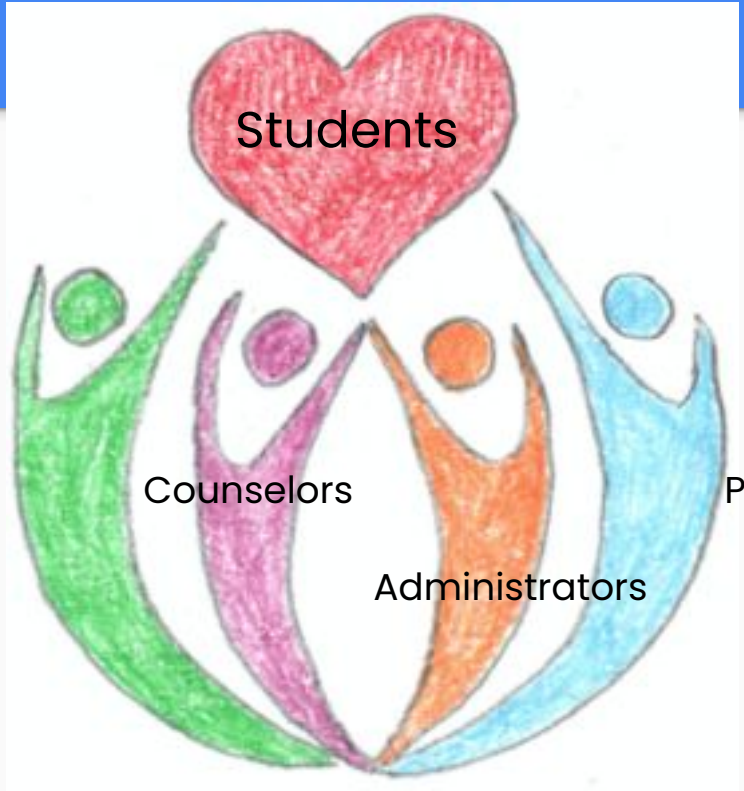
Katie Becker
PE/Health
Katie_E_Becker@mcpsmd.org

RTSE - Special Education Resource

Amy Johnson
LAD/Autism Services
Amy_K_Johnson@mcpsmd.org

Liz Bandura
Bridge Program
Elizabeth_Palumbo@mcpsmd.org

We are here for you...

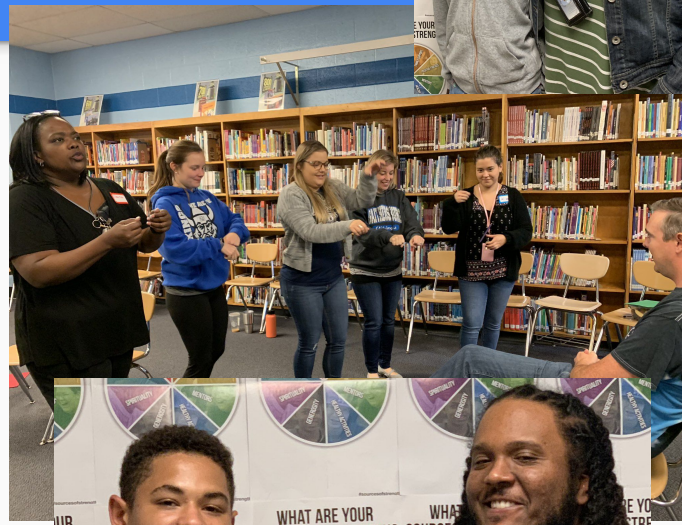


General student expectations.

Students are expected to:

- Attend each Zoom class on time (If something comes up, let your teacher know ASAP!)
- Participate in class
- Complete and submit assignments by the due date
- Use teacher feedback to improve assignments
- Use Synergy to check your grades
- Follow each teacher's classroom expectations
- Be respectful by listening to one another and valuing other perspectives

General teacher expectations..



Teachers are expected to:

- Take attendance
- Create equitable and challenging lessons
- Teach curriculum
- Grade and offer feedback on assignments
- Communicate with students and parents/guardians
- Be respectful by listening to one another and valuing other perspectives

General counselor expectations...

School counselors are expected to:

- Create and update schedules
- Provide social and emotional support to students
- Coordinate meetings with students, parents/guardians and teachers
- Communicate with students and parents/ guardians
- Help students facilitate concerns with peers/staff
- Be respectful by listening to one another and valuing other perspectives

Come on in to your virtual
School Counseling Office at GMS!

PARENT INFORMATION

KEEP CALM AND DREAM ON

DIFFERENT
INDIVIDUALS
VALUING & ACCEPTING
EACH OTHER
REGARDLESS OF:
SKIN COLOR, GENDER
INTELLECT
TALENTS OR
YEARS

Welcome

Ms. Oben

Ms. Pinto

Ms. Moskowitz

Ms. Ikpemgbe

Ms. Swailes

Click on your School Counselor for more information.

Come On In!

General administration expectations...

Ann Dolan
Grade 6
Principal

School administrators are expected to:

- Ensure the school community works together
- Oversee attendance
- Run daily school operations
- Communicate with students and parents/guardians
- Be respectful by listening to one another and valuing other perspectives
- Visit classes online to provide staff and students with feedback

Kelly Bean
7th grade
Assistant Principal

Sharif Robinson
8th grade
Assistant Principal

General parent/guardian expectations...

Parents and guardians will:

- Communicate student's needs to teachers and counselors
- Ensure student attends online classes and is on time
- Monitor completion of assignments and grades in myMCPS Classroom
- Be respectful by listening to one another and valuing other perspectives
- **Use Synergy to update contact information and check students grades**

GMS Student Schedule

Time	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
8:45-9:00	Student Preparation (Organize materials for the day, log into Canvas, Zoom)				
9:00-10:00	Period 1	Period 5	Homework time	Period 1	Period 5
10:00-10:15			Break		
10:15-11:15	Period 2	Period 6	Optional Check-in Pd 1: 10:05 - 10:25 Pd 2: 10:30 - 10:50 Pd 3: 10:55 - 11:15	Period 2	Period 6
11:15-12:30	Lunch and Wellness Break				
12:30-1:30	Period 3	Period 7	Optional Check-In Pd 4: 12:30 - 12:50 Pd 5: 12:55 - 1:15 Pd 6: 1:20 - 1:40 Pd 7: 1:45 - 2:05	Period 3	Period 7
1:30-1:40	BREAK			BREAK	
1:40 - 2:40	Period 4	Homeroom/ Advisory		Period 4	Homeroom Advisory
2:40 - 2:45	Break				
2:45 - 3:15	Targeted Student Intervention	Homework time	Homework time	Targeted Student Intervention	Homework time
3:15-3:30	Student Closure (Organize assignments and plan for self-paced work)				

GMS Student Daily Schedule

- **Target Student Intervention:** Teachers invite students to participate in reteaching or reassessment or enrichment.
- **Homeroom/ Advisory:** Students are scheduled into an advisory/homeroom for school culture/climate/social emotional engagement. Attendance will be taken.
- **Wednesday:** Students work on self-paced work for the week from all of their classes. Also, in the afternoons, they can access the teachers for the periods listed. Attendance to these periods is optional and may be required if a student is requested to attend by the teacher.

GMS Marking Period 1 Calendar

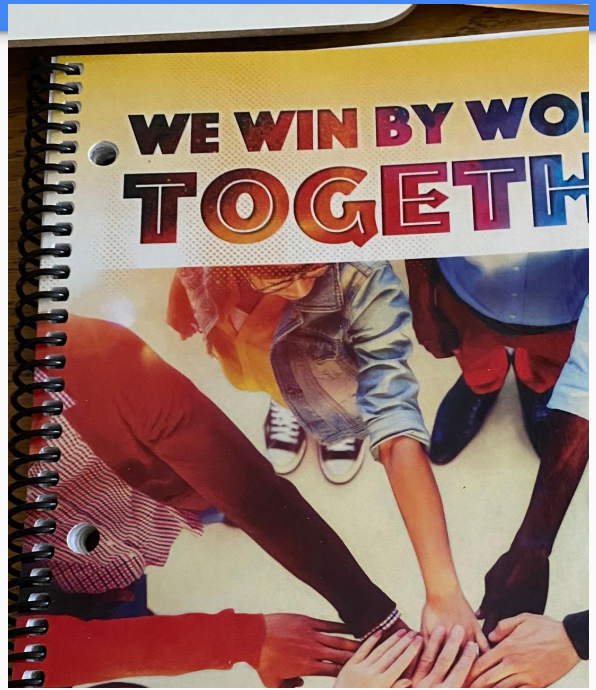
Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
August 31-September 4	Full Day Live Periods 1 - 4	Full Day Live Periods 5 - 7, HR	Wednesday Schedule	Full Day Live Periods 1 - 4	½ Day Periods 5 - 7, HR
September 7-11	No School Holiday	Full Day Live Periods 5 - 7, HR	Full Day Live Periods 1 - 4	Full Day Live Periods 1 - 4	Full Day Live Periods 5 - 7, HR
September 14-18	Full Day Live Periods 1 - 4	Full Day Live Periods 5 - 7, HR	Wednesday Schedule	Full Day Live Periods 1 - 4	Full Day Live Periods 5 - 7, HR
September 21-25	Full Day Live Periods 1 - 4	Full Day Live Periods 5 - 7, HR	Wednesday Schedule	Full Day Live Periods 1 - 4	Full Day Live Periods 5 - 7, HR
September 28-October 2	No School	Full Day Live Periods 5 - 7, HR	Full Day Live Periods 1 - 4	Full Day Live Periods 1 - 4	½ Day Periods 5 - 7, HR
October 5-9	Full Day Live Periods 1 - 4	Full Day Live Periods 5 - 7, HR	Wednesday Schedule	Full Day Live Periods 1 - 4	Full Day Live Periods 5 - 7, HR
October 12-16	Full Day Live Periods 1 - 4	Full Day Live Periods 5 - 7, HR	Wednesday Schedule	Full Day Live Periods 1 - 4	Full Day Live Periods 5 - 7, HR
October 19-23	Full Day Live Periods 1 - 4	Full Day Live Periods 5 - 7, HR	Wednesday Schedule	Full Day Live Periods 1 - 4	Full Day Live Periods 5 - 7, HR
October 26-30	Full Day Live Periods 1 - 4	Full Day Live Periods 5 - 7, HR	Wednesday Schedule	Full Day Live Periods 1 - 4	Full Day Live Periods 5 - 7, HR

Staying Organized for Virtual Learning

What's with the bag? (for everyone)

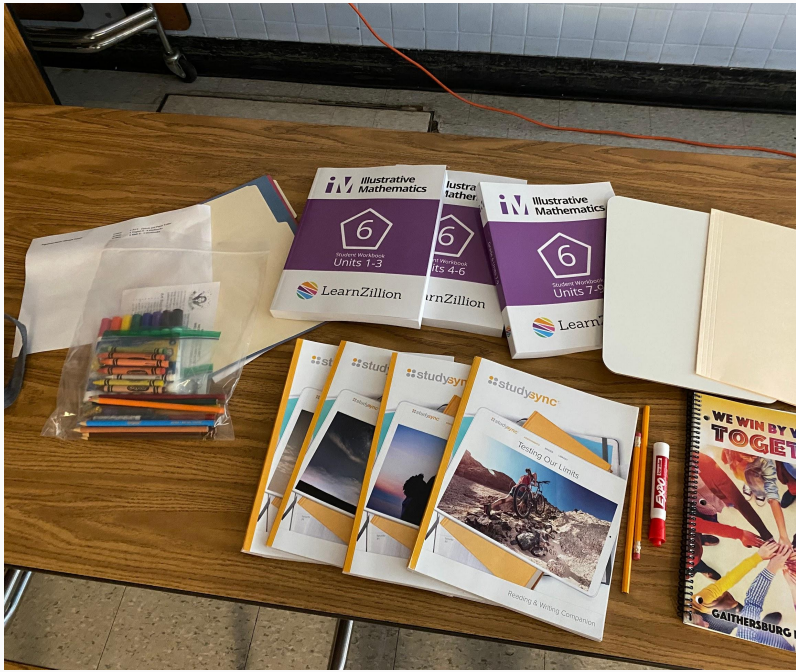
Your agenda book

- Organize assignments
- Follow your schedule
- Write down upcoming events



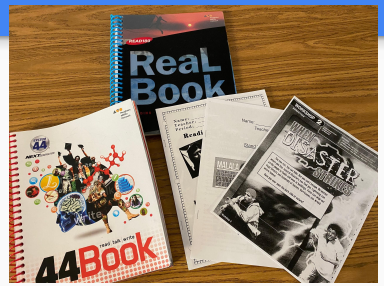
What's in the bag? (In general)

- Workbooks for English (Studysync)
- Workbooks for Math (Illustrated Mathematics)
- Whiteboard and marker (math)
- 2 Pencils
- Folder with scrap paper



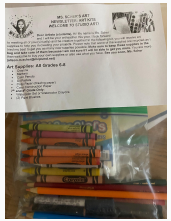
What's in the bag (electives)

- Reading books (depending on your course)



- Math 180

- Art materials (for art elective)



Participating in a Zoom Class

Your participation is so important! We learn from each other and respect each other's opinions and perspectives.

What does it look like?

You CAN participate!

- Turning on your video, if possible, so your teacher and fellow classmates can see you
- Muting your speaker unless you are called to speak
- Bringing necessary materials to class (completed assignments, paper and pencil to write notes, etc…)
- Raising your hand
- Responding to questions by voice or chat

Participating in a Zoom Class Continued...

What does it look like?

- Using school appropriate language
- Following along with activity/discussion
- Limiting the number of tabs open. Only open tabs that are appropriate to use for class. *(Games should not be open unless permitted by your teacher)*
- Checking email, MyMCPS classroom pages, and Synergy studentVUE daily!

Attendance

- Students are expected to attend all classes in which they are enrolled.
- A student will be marked present in one of three ways:
  - Student attends a live virtual class via Zoom
  - Student completes an Attendance Check-in on myMCPS Classroom during a live or recorded class
  - Student engages in an online discussion thread on myMCPS Classroom during a live or recorded class
- Parents must Contact the attendance secretary, Elsa Banegas, at Elsa_M_Banegas@mcpsmd.org if your student is going to be absent.
- If an absence is not documented, it will be unexcused.
- If the student is chronically absent the school will proceed with the truancy process.

Grading

A, B, C, D, E = you will be graded on each assignment

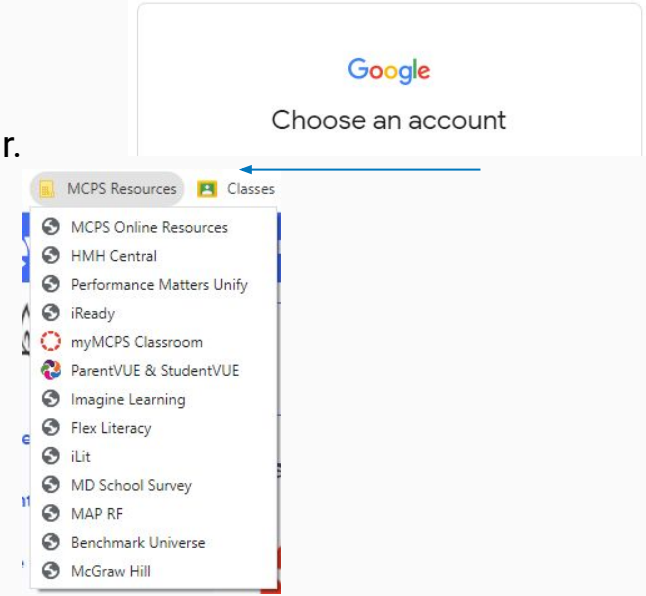
- **Blank** = your assignment is ungraded
- **0Z** = your assignment is missing
- **e** = you have been excused from an assignment

**If you get a grade you are not happy with, make sure you reach out to your teacher to see if you can re-do the assignment! Working together with your teacher to improve your grades is really important!*

Synergy ParentVue

ParentVUE is the portal through which you access your student and classroom information, such as: class schedule, grades, attendance, and many other features.

1. Log into Google with your ID and Password from last year.
2. Go to MCPS Resources.

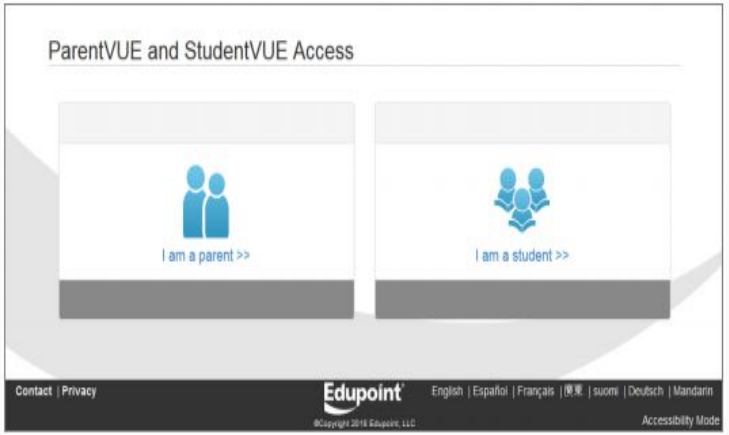


3. Click on ParentVUE & Student VUE

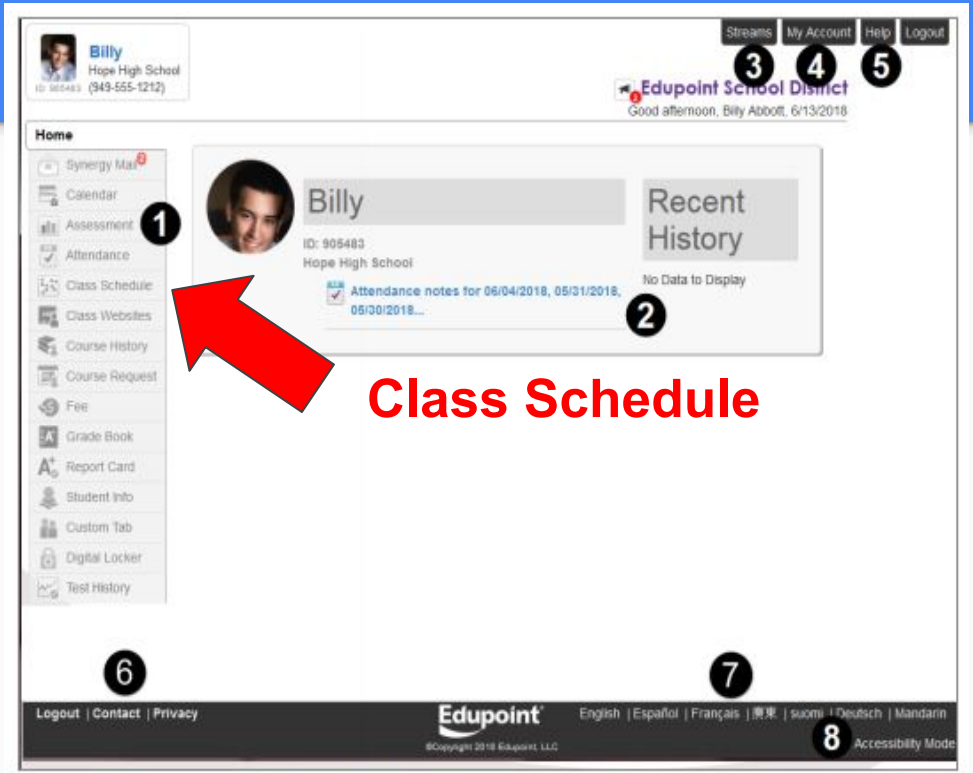
Logging in to Synergy ParentVUE

4. Select your preferred language at the bottom of the screen. The default is English.

5. Select/Click: I am a parent>> The ParentVUE Account Access screen opens

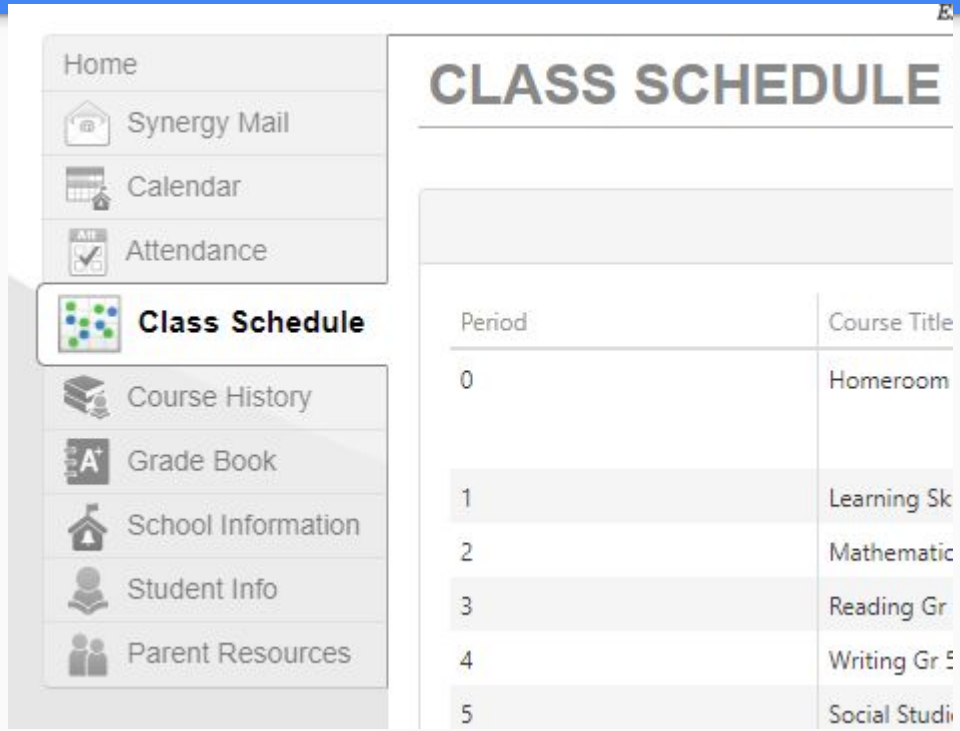


ParentVUE Home Page



1. **The Navigation Bar displays your records, including: Class Schedule**
2. Recent Events
3. Streams (allows communication with teachers)
4. Student account information
5. Help screen to provide guidance
6. Logout, Contact and Privacy
7. Language Accessibility feature
8. Accessibility Mode

Schedule in ParentVUE

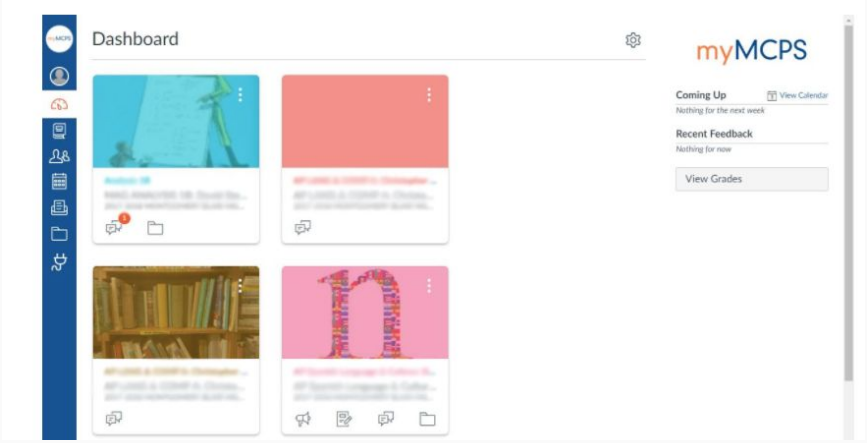


myMCPS Classroom

MyMCPS Classroom is a new platform replacing Google Classroom.

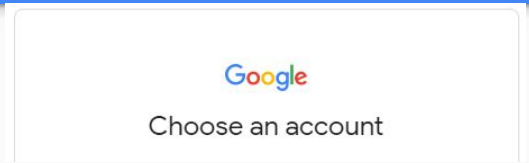
Here you will:

- Be assigned work
- Complete assignments
- Submit assigned work
- Review feedback from teachers
- Check emails
- Track assignments and due dates
- Review grades



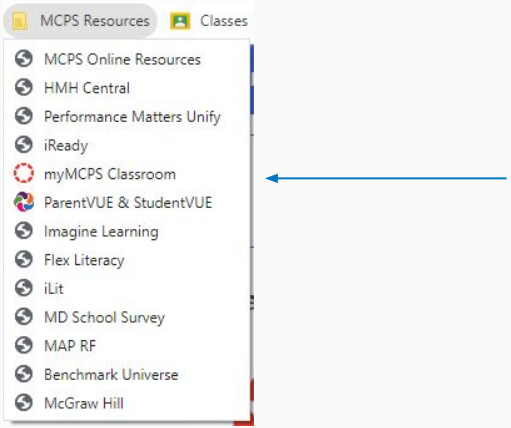
Logging into myMCPS Classroom

1. Log into Google with your ID and Password from last year.



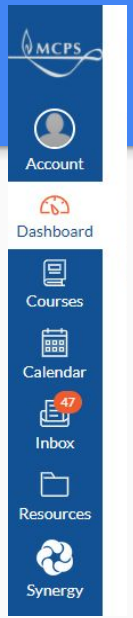
2. Go to MCPS Resources.

3. Click on myMCPS Classroom

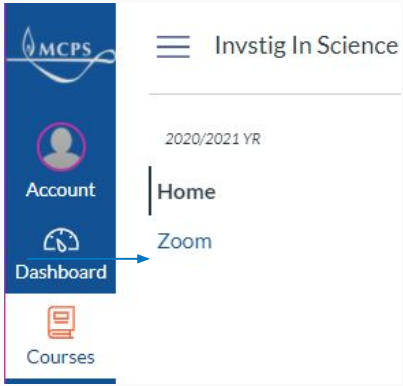


Logging into myMCPS Classroom

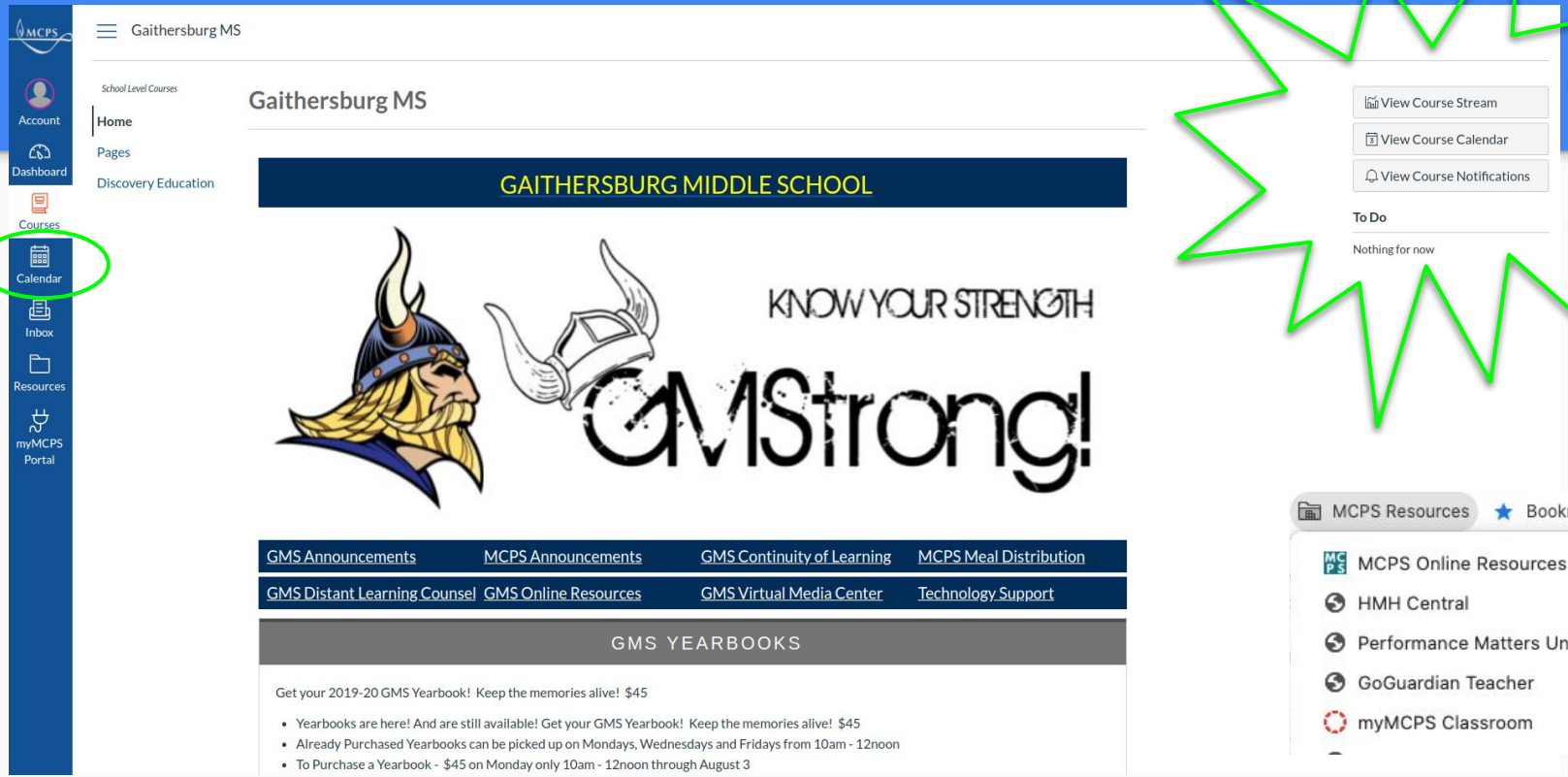
4. You will open into your Dashboard



5. Go to Courses. Look at each course one at a time.
(We have shown Science in our example)

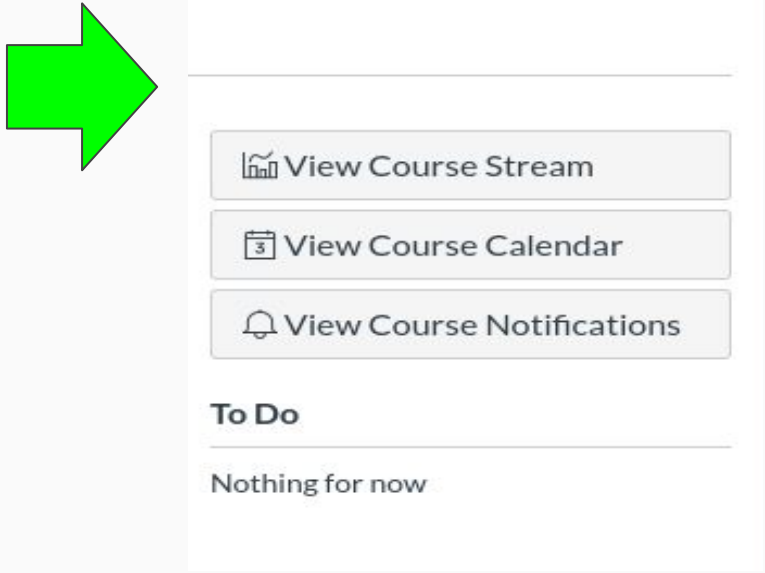


MyMCPS Classroom (Canvas)



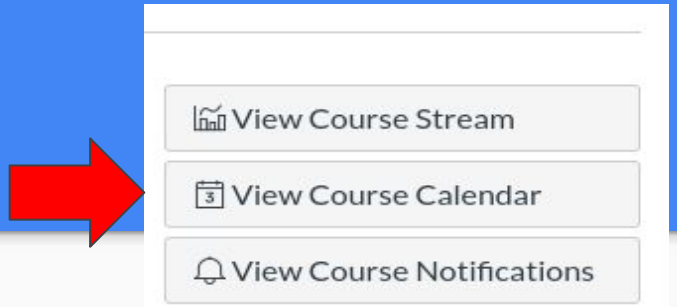
Accessing the Course Stream

The **Course Activity Stream** shows you important recent activities from a single course, including *announcements, discussion posts, homework assignments & quizzes, and conversations*. These and other activities will cause notifications to appear in the course stream.

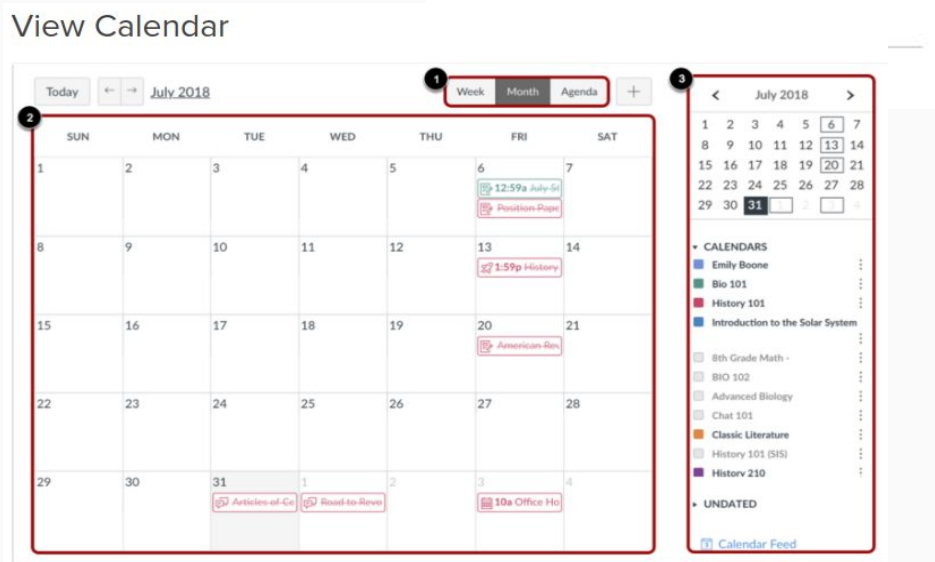


Accessing the Course Calendar

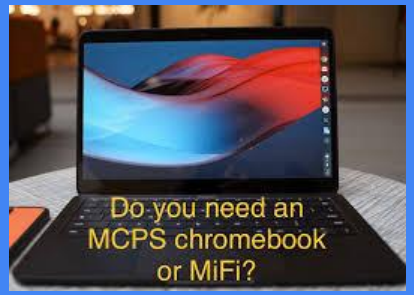
The **Course Calendar** is a great way to view everything you have to do for all your courses in one place. You can view calendar events by day, week, month or agenda list.



By default, the calendar opens in Month view.



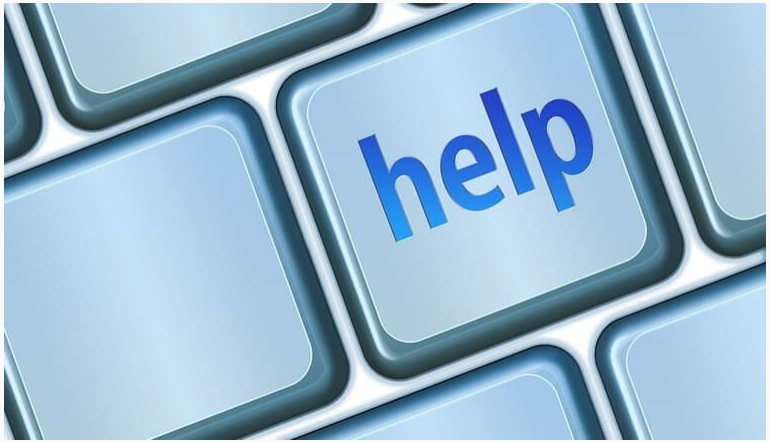
Overall Technology problems



- If you are struggling with technology, let your teacher know
- If your chromebook breaks, tell one of your teachers
- If your sound goes off in class, tell your teacher in chat
- If you can't join a Zoom, try by phone
- If you miss a Zoom class because of technology problems, let your teacher know
- Students can watch the recorded video of the class for 72 hours after the class. Then parents can complete a virtual attendance form to have the student marked as present

Technology Needs with Software

Contact MCPS Community Tech Support Help for all technical needs you have during remote learning by calling **240-740-7022**



Technology Repairs

- Students and their families are now financially responsible for any intentional or accidental damage of any Chromebook loaned out to the student.
- There are costs associated with each type of repair or replacement
- 45 West Gude is the only available repair site at this time, additional sites will be identified and added.

Communication

Communication is a KEY component to success in middle school.

At GMS we have a variety of ways we communicate with our families:

- Weekly “Connect Ed.” calls from Principal Dolan
- Twitter Updates
- GMS Webpage
- Email with teachers and counselors
- School Hours: 8:30-3:00 to pick up materials etc.
- Phones: 8:30-3:00 Call: 240-740-4950

GMS PTA-Francesa Kalend-President

- PTA Treasurer: Eddie Rivera
- PTA Secretary: Carolina Harp
- Vice- President : Sam Coleman
- Vice- President : Stacy Rogers
- Vice- President : Lane Mills Hornfeck

GMS PTA-Roles in Virtual World

PTA is an integral component that affects the climate of our schools:

- Provide Parent Advocacy.
- Teacher and Student supports.
- Planning to offer programs and events that celebrate diversity, inclusion and family engagement.
- After school activities both online and onsite when possible .

GMS PTA-How can you help?

- Join the PTA and make your donation online
- Amazon Smile - You can easily support the PTSA while buying the items you would purchase anyway!
- Show Your Pride for the GMS Vikings by purchasing Spirit Wear through the PTA webpage
- Volunteer your time, expertise and talents in one of the following committees:
    - •Volunteer Chairperson
    - •Membership Chairperson
    - •Fundraising Chairperson
    - •Online Coordinator
    - •Hispanic Leader
    - •Restaurant Night Coordinator

GMS PTA-What to expect this year?

- Virtual PTA Meetings
- Virtual activities

Questions/ Answers

Remember:

We are GMStrong! WE ALL COUNT!

We can do this!!