

Passing on Middle School Wisdom: Advice for incoming 6th graders (August 2023)

(Given by the Hauppauge teens that have “been there, done that”- Compiled by the Hauppauge Public Library)

Something you should ALWAYS do in middle school is...

- Get great grades
- Be yourself
- Join clubs
- Be on time for class and be respectful to other students/teachers.
- Have fun! Be yourself and never change for others.
- In Middle School, you should keep your school supplies organized! You don't want to be the kid in class who cannot find their pencil or notebook. It will definitely pay off if you stay organized.
- You should always follow the rules.

Something you should NEVER do in middle school is...

- Get involved in the wrong crowd
- Have a bad relationship with your teacher
- Get detention
- Skip class and be rude to others students and faculty.
- Don't overthink anything!
- There are many things you should not do in Middle School, and outside of it. You should never not do homework, never bully, never skip class, and especially never disobey rules, like chewing gum, for example.
- You should not disrespect teachers and staff members.

The best part of 6th grade for me was...

- School trips/ Not too much of work/ New atmosphere
- Our fun field trips
- How we have more half days than elementary school.
- Spending time with friends and making new ones from other elementary schools.
- Making new friends!
- For me, the best part of 6th Grade was definitely meeting new people! I made a bunch of new friends and had (and still have) a great time with them!
- Meeting new people.

Something you can look forward to...

- Nice teachers/ New friends
- Different types of teachers
- Days feel faster than elementary school even though they are longer.
- Being in a different school setting where you have multiple classes instead of just one class.
- New teachers, new friendships, making more memorable memories.

- You can look forward to so many things! You can look forward to meeting new people, having more independence, and trying new activities and subjects out!
- You should look forward to changing classes and lockers.

Something you should be prepared for...

- Different classrooms for different classes Learning your schedule
- Change of difficulty in classes
- Some people that you were friends with might not be your friend anymore.
- The more work and time you have to put in to get good grades.
- The transition from elementary school to middle school is a big one and over the summer many people can change, so you should be prepared if people around you start to change.
- Something you should be prepared for is that you're not going to find your classes perfectly on the first day. It will take a few days to know the path to your next classroom. All the teachers will be understanding if you show up a bit late the first week or two. Don't stress!
- Being more independent.

Something I wish I had known on my first day of 6th grade...

- To not be afraid
- Not to be too nervous for the change in atmosphere. Be prepared
- It's okay if you're late for the first few days.
- That everyone is nervous on the first day and just to be yourself.
- I wish I knew that we were having finals earlier so I could prepare for them better.
- In Middle School, something I had wish I had known was my locker combination. Knowing your locker combination is extremely important as you need it every day, so it would be great to remember that!
- A lot of staff and teachers help you around the building if you get lost.

Something I would change about my first year of middle school...

- To study more
- Not to worry about missing assignments too much you can always make them up
- Friend choices
- Know where my classes are so I am not late.
- My perspective on things. I wish I had kept a more open mind and was more open to change.
- If I could change my first year of Middle School, I wouldn't! I had a great schedule, great teachers, and an overall great year!
- I would not overpack my things.



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