Welcome Class of 2030 to Avalon Middle School

Home of the Huskies!

Home of the Huskies!

Meet Your Administrators

Mrs. Algarin
Assistant Principal

Ms. Furno
Principal

Mrs. Anderson
Assistant Principal

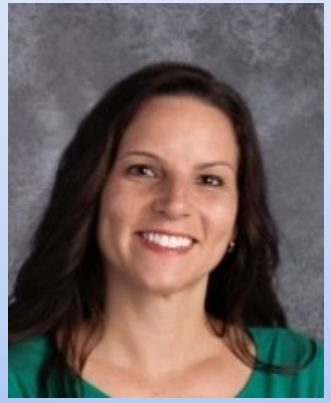
Mr. Santos
Dean

Mrs. King
Dean

Avalon Middle School Counselors

Mrs. Fontaine
6th & 7th grade
Guidance

Mrs. Davila
7th& 8th grade
Guidance



Mrs. Pearson
ESE Staffing Specialist

Meet Your Counselor

I am Mrs. Fontaine and I am the sixth grade counselor. I am looking forward to meeting and working with each of you. If you have any questions you may contact me at :

Melinda.Fontaine@ocps.net

Get Involved

Next Meeting: February 27, 2023
SAC at 5 p.m. - PTSO at 6 p.m.
AMS Media Center

Transitioning to Middle School

- 7 different teachers / many class changes
- Larger school
- More independence
- More responsibility, especially with projects and deadlines
- Extra curricular opportunities
  - Sports
  - Clubs
  - YMCA

What classes will my child have?

Students will have seven classes including:

- Academic Classes (Math, SS, Science, LA and Reading*)
- Fitness
- Elective Classes – We strongly encourage students to take a music class.

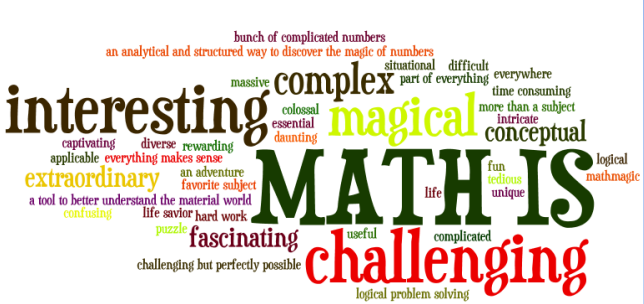
*Placement in reading class is determined by previous academic progress and standardized test scores.

What about advanced academic classes?

Advanced class placement is based on:

- ✓ Standardized test scores
- ✓ Previous academic performance
- ✓ Teacher recommendation

These classes are designed to prepare your child for Advanced Placement courses at the high school.

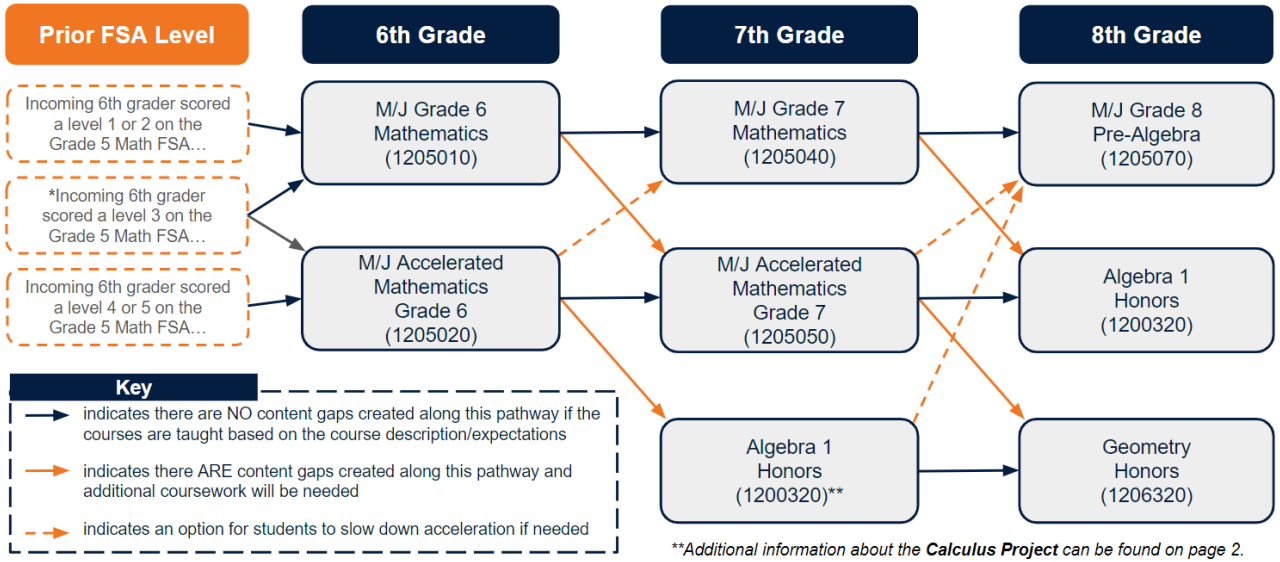


Math Progression

Updates to courses and standards

22-23 Middle School Mathematics Course Progression

There are three main pathways students can take in mathematics in the middle grades (6-8). Although students are placed on these pathways as incoming 6th Grade students, they may be advised to move from one pathway to another based on academic performance.



***Additional information about the **Calculus Project** can be found on page 2.*

Additional Notes

***Note:** Incoming 6th graders scoring a level 3 on the prior year FSA Mathematics should be considered for placement in Accelerated Math, but additional data points should be taken into consideration such as: student interest in acceleration and prior course grades.*

Intervention: Students scoring a Level 1 (low level 2) on the prior year FSA Mathematics should be enrolled in M/J Foundational Skills in Mathematics 6-8 (1204000) in addition to their core class to fill prior grade content gaps while also supporting grade-level instruction. This course can be blocked with core, but does not need to be. Note that this course does not count for a mathematics credit, but will count as an elective credit for students.

Acceleration: In two of the three pathways, students will learn content at an accelerated pace that includes the completion of one or more high school mathematics courses by the end of 8th grade. Final grades in high school courses taken in middle school will be credited to students' high school GPA. (Parent Flyer)

For more information click on the 22-23 Middle School Mathematics - Additional Guidance.

What if students are interested in taking Geometry Honors by the end of middle school?

6th Grade	Summer	7th Grade	8th Grade
M/J Accelerated Mathematics Grade 6 (1205020)	OCVS Accelerated Mathematics Grade 7	Algebra 1 Honors (1200320)	Geometry Honors (1206320)

22-23 Middle School Mathematics - Additional Guidance

There are three main pathways students can take in mathematics in the middle grades (6-8). Although students are placed on these pathways as incoming 6th Grade students, they may be advised to move from one pathway to another based on academic performance.

Option A:

6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade
M/J Grade 6 Mathematics (1205010)	M/J Grade 7 Mathematics (1205040)	M/J Grade 8 Pre-Algebra (1205070)

- This is the traditional pathway for middle school mathematics.
- Students scoring a Level 1 (or low level 2) on the prior year FSA Mathematics should be enrolled in M/J Foundational Skills in Mathematics 6-8 (1204000) in addition to their core class.
- Students demonstrating high levels of success on this pathway that wish to take Algebra 1 Honors by the end of middle school may be able to move to option B with parental consent and commitment of support.

Option B:

6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade
M/J Accelerated Mathematics Grade 6 (1205020)	M/J Accelerated Mathematics Grade 7 (1205050)	Algebra 1 Honors (1200320)

- This is an accelerated pathway where students will take Algebra 1 as an 8th Grader.
- Students and their families that elect to pursue this pathway should be informed that their Algebra 1 grade will also be part of the student's High School GPA.
- Students demonstrating high levels of success on this pathway that wish to take Geometry Honors by the end of middle school may be able to move to option C with parental consent and commitment of support.

Option C:

6th Grade	Summer	7th Grade	8th Grade
M/J Accelerated Mathematics Grade 6 (1205020)	OCVS Accelerated Mathematics Grade 7	Algebra 1 Honors (1200320)	Geometry Honors (1206320)

- This extends beyond the accelerated pathway where students will take Geometry as an 8th Grader.
- Students enrolled in Algebra 1 as a 7th Grader, skip about 1.5 years of content including concepts that are foundational to success in Algebra 1,Geometry, and beyond.
  - It is highly recommended that these students take Accelerated Mathematics Grade 7 through OCVS to mitigate content gaps.
- Students and their families that elect to pursue this pathway should be informed of the dedication these courses demand. They should also be informed that their Algebra 1 and Geometry grade will also be part of the student's High School GPA.

Elective Choices

- Students will be given a class selection form to fill out with your assistance on Friday.
- Forms are due to their fifth grade teacher by February 10th, 2023
- All students at AMS take fitness.
- Students are asked to rank their elective choices.
- Elective classes are full-year classes.
- We highly encourage music classes at AMS.
- Electives classes are subject to change based on student interest and enrollment.

Electives

- **MUSIC (Orchestra, Chorus, Band)**

We encourage all students to take a music class!

The Avalon Middle School Music Department

Mr. Saidat
Band Director

Mr. Powers
Chorus Director

Mr. Anderson
Orchestra Director

How do I get my schedule?

- Schedules will be available electronically approximately two weeks before the start of school. (Date TBA)

- Students and parents will have the opportunity to walk around the school to locate classes, purchase school fitness clothing and get bus schedule information before the first day of school (Date TBA).

What are middle school hours?

<u>9:25 a.m.-3:57 p.m.</u>

- Estimated bus pick-up times are between 8:45 a.m.-9:00 a.m.
- Adult supervision starts at 9:00 a.m.
- The first bell will ring at 9:25 a.m.
- The tardy bell will ring at 9:30 a.m.
- School is dismissed at 3:57 p.m. (Wed. @ 2:55 p.m.)

Transportation to and from school

Walkers, Bike Riders, and Car Riders:

- Car riders should be picked up and dropped off at the car loop in the designated area. Please stay in the loop and follow the flow of traffic. We will not allow students to walk across the parking lot or the street to meet you.
- Please maintain a safe speed while driving through the parking lot.
- Please refrain from cell phone use while in the car loop.
- All bikes and scooters must be locked in our bike rack.
- A helmet must be worn at all times while riding a bike, scooter or skateboard (state law).

Transportation to and from School

Bus Transportation:

- Students who live more than two miles from the school are provided bus transportation.
- Students may ONLY ride the bus to which they are assigned, no exceptions.
- To locate your bus number, stop location, and pick up/drop off times, please visit the OCPS website and click on the Transportation Quick Link and then the "Find a Bus" link.
- Riding an OCPS bus is a privilege and students are expected to follow all rules and procedures/OCPS Code of Conduct to maintain this privilege.

OCPS Student Dress Code

The following dress expectation applies to all students in OCPS. Such as:

- Wearing pants at the waist
- Shorts and skirts must not be too short
- No bare midriffs
- No visible undergarments
- Clothing that is too tight or revealing is unacceptable. (Ex. - leggings and jeggings)

The following items are not allowed at AMS:

- Hats/caps
- Clothes with obscene or offensive messages and/or pictures
- Any item that the administration deems a disruption to the learning environment

The OCPS/ AMS dress code can be found on the AMS website, in the OCPS Code of Conduct.

Clubs

AMS offers the following service and interest clubs:

- Art Club
- Builders Club
- Chess
- Creative Writing Club
- CRU (Student Venture)
- Junior Thespian Club
- FFA (Agriculture)
- National Junior Honor Society
- Robotics/ Sea Perch Club
- Sunshine State Book Club
- YMCA after school clubs

Clubs meet before and after school. Club meeting day/times are listed on our AMS website. Clubs are subject to change based on students interest and teacher sponsors.

We encourage all students to join one or more clubs on campus. It is a great way to meet friends with similar interests.

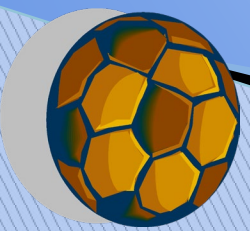
Sports

The following team sports are offered at AMS:

- Soccer – 1st Nine Weeks
- Volleyball – 2nd Nine Weeks
- Basketball – 3rd Nine Weeks
- Track – 4th Nine Weeks

Sports

- Tryouts are held for each sport.
- Students must complete an OCPS athletic physical form in order to tryout and play for an AMS sports team.
- Physical forms can be found in the front office or can be downloaded from the AMS website.
- To be eligible to participate in sports, students must maintain a 2.0 G.P.A. as well as follow school rules and be positive role models.



YMCA Before and After School Program

The YMCA provides students with a safe place to grow, laugh, and learn before/after school!

The Before School program begins at 7:00 a.m. and costs $20 per week to participate (subject to change).

The After School program begins immediately following the school day and is completely FREE! Students must be picked up no later than 6:00 p.m.

YMCA information will be sent home with your student on the first day of school. Information and applications can also be found in the front office.

Puppy Camp!

YMCA sponsored and no cost to attend.

Monday -Friday
9:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m.
(Extended Day offered until 5:00 p.m.)

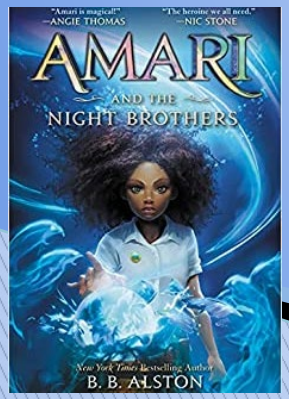
Choose a week:
June 5th-9th, 2023 OR June 12th-16th, 2023

Online registration forms can be found under the "Clubs" tab on our school website at avalonms.ocps.net. You can also contact Coach Bass at Billy.bass@ocps.net or Vincent Chan at VChan@cfymca.org for more information.

Summer Reading

Research has shown that reading during the summer months is critical in developing and maintaining reading skills; therefore, it is highly encouraged that AMS students participate in our challenge of reading a minimum of 5 books over the summer.

A list of books along with detailed information about our Summer Reading Challenge will be available on our school website beginning May 26th. We will celebrate our Summer Reading Challenge winners in the Fall.



Electronic Devices

- A student may possess a cell phone on school property, at after school activities, and at school-related functions. Cell phones should remain off and concealed unless otherwise directed by a faculty or staff member.
- Students can use phones in grade level offices during the school day if they need to call their parents.
- Airpods/Earbuds/headphones are not permitted during school hours in common areas. Students will be directed to put them away.

Getting the Most out of Middle School

Strategies for helping your child successfully navigate the middle school years

Helpful Tips

- Listen to your teens
- Don't sweat the small stuff
- Refrain from "fixing it"
- Coach them; don't save them
- Deal with problems head on
- Stay involved
- Enforce rules and teach that there are consequences to actions
- Set goals
- Teach them to give back
- Ask for help

Online Safety TIPS

Get to know your child's friends, teachers and administrators

Help develop your child's decision making skills

Strengthen the parent/child bond

Set a good example

Promote your child's self esteem

Talk to your child

APPS PARENTS SHOULD KNOW ABOUT

LIVE.ME

askfm

WHISPER

SKOUT

Calculator%

ROBLOX

BUMBLE

SNAPCHAT

HOLLA

WhatsApp

BADOO

HOT OR NOT

DISCORD

kik

GRINDR

OMEGLE

TikTok

wink

meet me

https://tinyurl.com/amsapps

Know what to do

SOCIAL WEB SAFETY TIPS:

- Put the computer in a high-traffic place in your home.
- Children under 13 must have parent permission for most social media sites.
- Talk to your child about social media sites you allow them to join.
- Set expectations such as encouraging your child to “friend” you.

Cyber Savvy Parents

- Learn about parental controls and the ability to block for specific users
- Learn how to protect yourself from spyware, malware, phishing scams and other concerns
- For more help visit (links are on our website)
  - www.getnetwise.org
  - www.commonsensemedia.org
  - http://www.dhs.gov/stopthinkconnect

Home – School Communication

This presentation will be available on our website.
avalonms.ocps.net

Sign up for the Husky parent newsbrief at avalonms.ocps.net by going to the "weekly newsbrief" box at the bottom of the page and entering your full name and email address.

View our Curriculum Guide on the website:
avalonms.ocps.net (Guidance Tab).

Like us on Facebook by searching Avalon Middle School-OCPS.

View your child's *Skyward* account on a regular basis.

We are a Partnership

Let's work together to help each child learn and grow.

Thank you for coming!

- Questions
- Self-Guided Tour