



WELCOME TO SMS!

Incoming 6th Grade Info Session
2023-2024

TONIGHT'S AGENDA

01

**UNDERSTANDING THE
MIDDLE SCHOOL BRAIN**

02

OUR PHILOSOPHY

03

**6TH GRADE STUDENT
SCHEDULE**

04

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

05

FAMILY INVOLVEMENT

06

**QUESTIONS AND
ANSWERS**



ABOUT US

SMS PRINCIPALS



VINCE IWASAKI
Principal

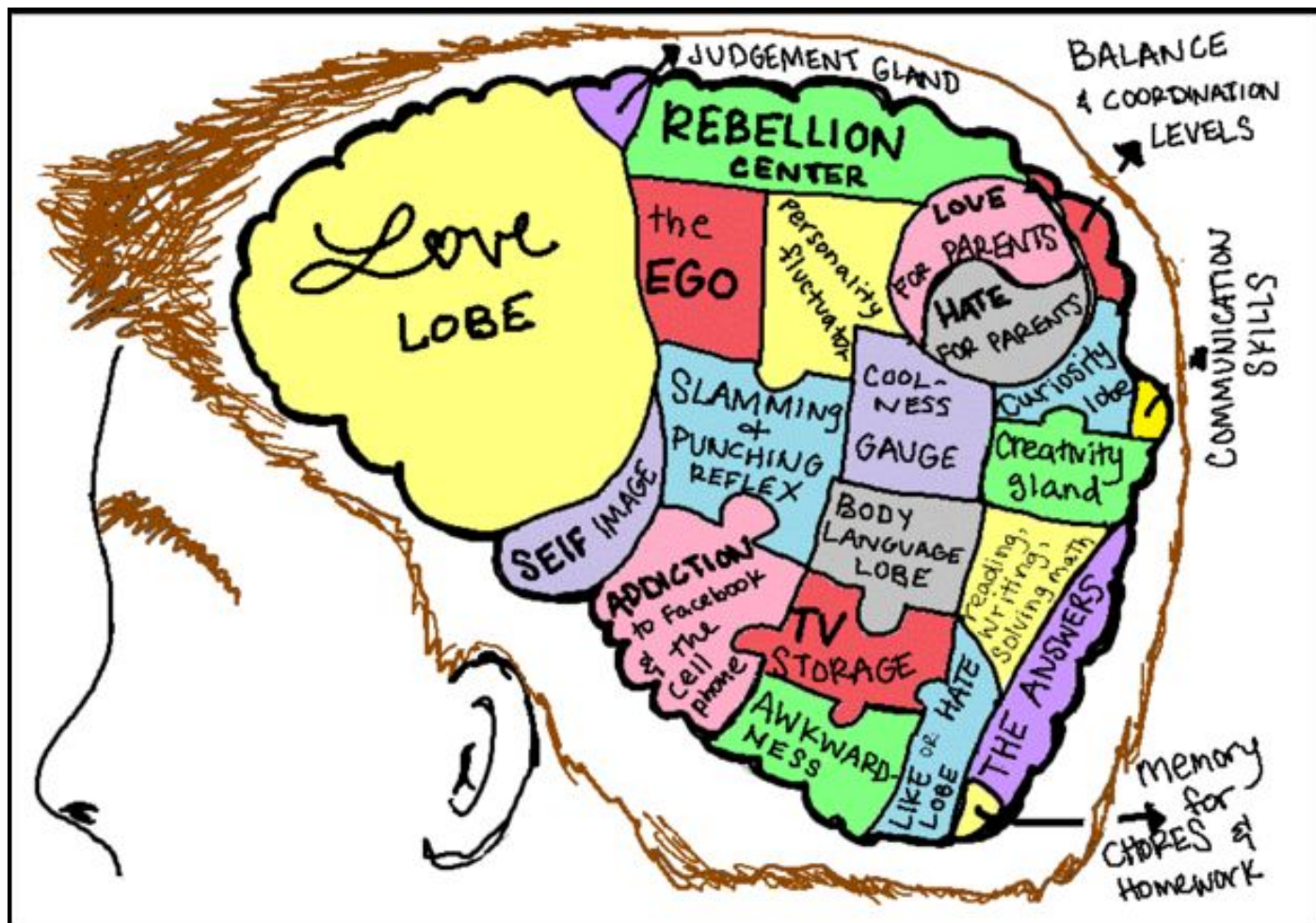
STEPHANIE MALCOLM
Assistant Principal



GIOVANNI BUI
Assistant Principal



THE MIDDLE SCHOOL BRAIN





OUR PHILOSOPHY

SMS MISSION STATEMENT

SMS is a school community that embraces students' unique gifts and affirms their cultures. We pursue excellence in academic, social, emotional, and cultural competencies preparing them for high school and beyond.

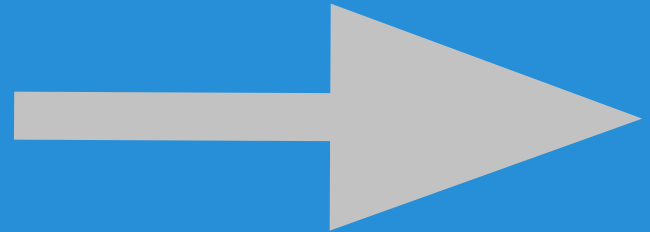
WHAT WE BELIEVE IN...

- Diversity, equity, and inclusion drive our decisions/instruction and strengthen our educational community
- Creating a learning environment where all students have a voice, demonstrate responsibility, and participate in their learning to meet high academic standards
- Being a community of lifelong learners who strive to continually grow and gain a better understanding of ourselves, the world around us, and serve as a force for good
- Developing connections with students, families, and colleagues to build empathy as a critical element of student success





Restorative
Practices



Progressive Discipline



SCHEDULES

SMS BELL SCHEDULE

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday

Start Time - 8:25am

End Time - 3:10pm

Wednesday

Late Start- 9:36am*

End Time - 3:10pm

***Brunch starts at 9:22am**



YOUR STUDENT'S CLASS SCHEDULE

ACADEMIC CORE CLASSES - DAILY:

SCIENCE

MATH

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

SOCIAL STUDIES

ACADEMIC SUPPORT TIME - DAILY

ELECTIVE -A/B DAY

PHYSICAL EDUCATION- A/B DAY



SAMPLE A/B DAY SCHEDULES

A Day

1 - Science

2 - Math

3 - Math

4 - ELA

AST

5 - Social Studies

6 - PE



B Day

1 - Science

2 - Math

3 - ELA

4 - ELA

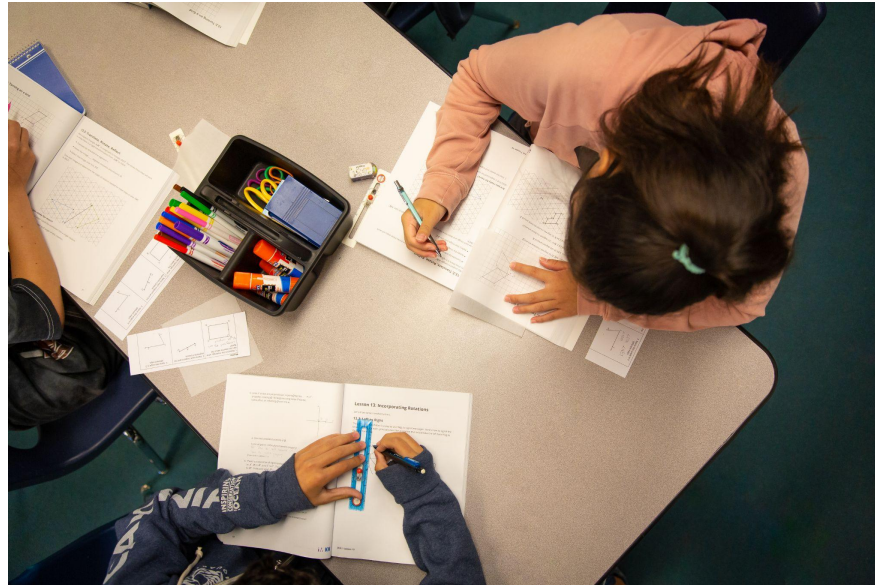
AST

5 - Social Studies

6 - Elective

MATH PATHWAYS

<https://www.sesd.org/Page/5235>



ELECTIVES

Each student will have one year-long elective class in 6th grade - they will request their first choice class along with two back-up classes that they would also be interested in taking if their first choice is unavailable.

ART 6

BAND 6

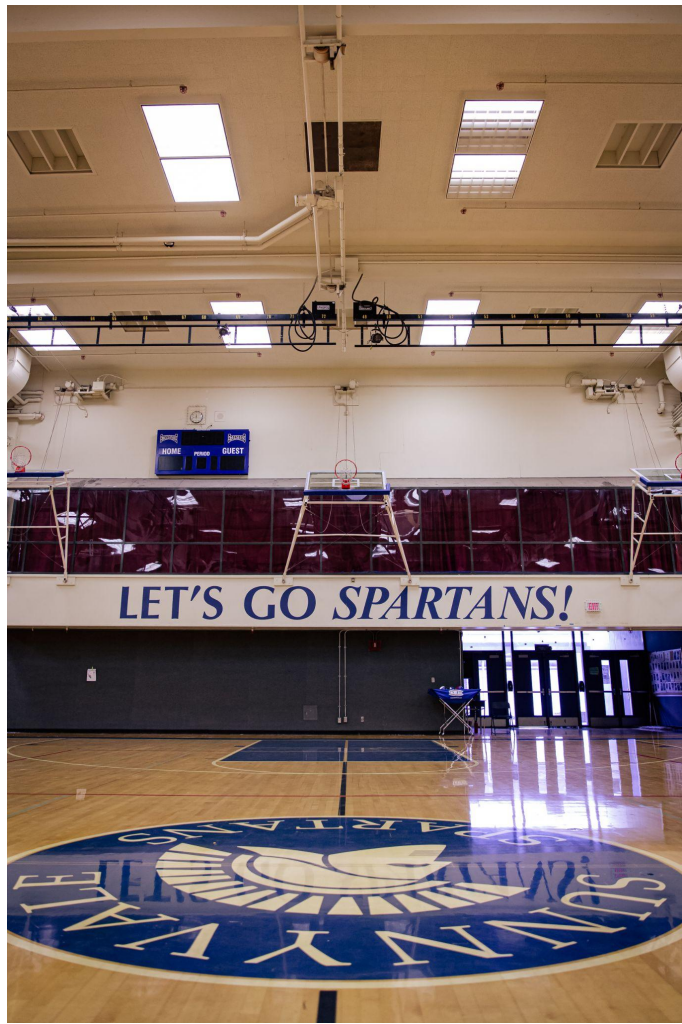
CHOIR

CODING 6

ORCHESTRA

SPANISH 6





ACTIVITIES

STUDENT CLUBS

Anime Club

Art Club

Climate Club

Dungeons & Dragons Club

Future Business Leaders of America

Gaming Club

Garden Club

Gay/Straight Alliance

K-Pop Club

Lunchtime Movie Club

Latino Student Union

Math & Science Club

Model United Nations

Musical Club

Photography Club

Robotics Club

Star Wars Club

Zero Waste Club

Clubs can change from year-to-year based on student interests.

Any student can start a club!

Clubs meet either during lunch or after school, typically once per week.

AFTER-SCHOOL ATHLETICS

NO-CUT SPORTS

Cross Country

Wrestling

Cheer

Tennis

Track & Field

TRY-OUT SPORTS

Basketball

Soccer

Softball

Volleyball



HOMEWORK CENTER

- Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 3:10-4:30pm
- High school volunteers are on-site to help students with their assignments as needed
- This is a drop-in opportunity, students can come as frequently as they'd like
- Students can leave early if signed out by an adult caregiver



WEB (WHERE EVERYBODY BELONGS) ORIENTATION

FRIDAY - AUGUST 11, 2023!



- Opportunity for 6th graders to spend time on campus at SMS before the first day of school
- Connects 6th graders with 8th grade student-leaders
- Allows 6th graders meet their classmates before the first day
- 6th graders pick up their class schedule at the end of the orientation event



FAMILY INVOLVEMENT

JOIN THE SMS PTSA!



Support Academic Needs:

- Teacher and department grants
- Field-trips/educational opportunities
- Support for extra-curriculars
- Staff appreciation events

Advocate for Important Issues:

- Enhance communication between school and families
- Advocacy on state and national levels on school policies
- Advocate for needs and concerns of families

Community Engagement:

- Parent education
- Building connections within the SMS community
- Resource for all students and families

LATINO PARENT GROUP

- The Latino Parent Group at SMS meets monthly to share information and resources that will benefit our students and families
- This meeting is conducted in Spanish - right now meetings alternate between being held on Zoom and in person
- LPG meetings are facilitated by our parent outreach coordinator, Carmen Bliss (carmen.bliss@sesd.org)

HOW TO HELP AT SUNNYVALE MIDDLE SCHOOL



- Join the PTSA
- Join the Latino Parent Group
- Run for School Site Council
- Volunteer with Project Cornerstone
- returning in 2023-2024!
- Chaperone and/or drive on field trips
- Volunteer to help supervise during lunch
- Substitute teach

QUESTIONS

