



## **Clement Middle School**

### **Incoming 6th Grade Student FAQ**

**This page was created to answer most commonly asked questions. For answers to any other questions please contact Ms. Helvey, the sixth grade counselor at [diane\\_helvey@redlands.k12.ca.us](mailto:diane_helvey@redlands.k12.ca.us)**

#### **What are the school hours?**

The campus is open for breakfast at 8:00am and the first class begins at 8:45am. Sixth graders will have four classes and then lunch. The final bell for dismissal rings at 3:15pm. Clement is a closed campus. Once your student is dropped off in the morning they should stay on campus until the final bell at 3:15pm.

#### **How many classes will my student have each day?**

There are six 55 minute class periods every day. There is a five minute passing period in between each period.

#### **How many teachers will my student have?**

Your student will typically have four teachers in sixth grade. We find this model helpful as your student transitions from one teacher in fifth to six teachers in seventh and eighth. One teacher will teach English and Social Studies, another Math and Science, one exploratory and one PE teacher.

#### **How will my student sign up for electives?**

Your student will have room in their schedule for ONE elective class. The the options available for sixth grade are:

- Band, Choir or AVID - year long classes. You may contact Ms. Helvey to indicate interest in any of these classes.
- The exploratory wheel - This is a series of four classes, one per quarter, taught by a sixth grade teacher in a subject they have a passion for. All students should have computer coding for at least one quarter but the other classes have included classes like sketch, aviation, weather, recycling, or current events in the past. Your student will be enrolled in these classes in no particular order, scheduled randomly, one per quarter.

**What if I am interested in Honors classes for my student?**

If your student was GATE identified in Redlands they will automatically be enrolled in the Honors classes for sixth grade. If you do not want them in Honors, please contact our 6th grade counselor Ms. Helvey ([diane\\_helvey@redlands.k12.ca.us](mailto:diane_helvey@redlands.k12.ca.us)) as soon as possible. Sixth graders that are enrolled in the Honors program take all their core classes at a more rigorous level - Math, English, Social Studies and Science.

**If your student has not previously been identified as GATE, but is hard working, self motivated and interested in Honors courses that are a bit more rigorous, please contact Ms. Helvey so that your student may be added to our wait list.**

**What about PE and PE clothes?**

All students participate in PE everyday at the middle school level. Because the weather is often inclement at the beginning of the year, the teachers begin the year with a six week health unit. Changing into PE clothes will not be required until mid September. The PE teachers will be selling those uniforms toward the end of August. Many incoming sixth graders are concerned about changing in the locker rooms so be assured the PE teacher and the counselors will help them with this transition. Students are almost always comfortable with this procedure by the end of the first week of dressing out.

**Will my student be safe?**

The campus at Clement is designed so that sixth graders have their core classes in one area. The sixth graders have their own lunch time and grade level bathrooms. There are 2 full time Campus Safety Officers, 3 campus monitors, 4 counselors and 2 administrators that actively supervise students during passing periods and during lunch periods. Our faculty has a great reputation and are genuinely concerned about the safety and security of your student. Should an issue arise, please direct your student to speak directly with a counselor, safety officer, or administrator.

**Are parents allowed to attend/ visit classrooms during the school day?**

Parents who wish to visit a classroom should give 24 hours notice and bring a valid form of identification. Every adult who comes on campus who is not employed by the Redlands Unified School District is screened by our RAPTOR background system.

**What about cell phones?**

We understand most students will be carrying cell phones. Our policy, which will be detailed in the Clement Student Agenda they will receive the first week of school states that phones must be turned off and put away from the time a student enters campus in the morning until they leave their last class at 3:15pm. A student who violates this policy will have their cell phone confiscated for the remainder of the day.

**How can I communicate with my student during the day?**

There is a student phone in the Student Center that your child can call you from during passing period or lunch. If you need to get a message to your student, our secretaries in the Student Center will get your message to them or ask the student to call you.

### **What about breakfast and lunch?**

The campus opens at 8 am for breakfast. Sixth graders will all come to lunch at the same time. Their pin numbers from elementary school will move on to Clement with them. They will be served lunch and have an opportunity to eat and then 15-20 minutes to 'hang out' or participate in activities on the field. At some point early in the school year our teachers will organize intramural teams that compete with one another at lunch.

### **Will my student need to walk all over campus to find their classroom?**

Sixth grade classrooms are all located at the East End of our campus and are right next to each other for the most part. They will walk out one door where they have Math and Science classes and English and Social Studies will be right next door (one exception) PE is very close and band, choir or AVID, a short corridor walk away.

### **Can my student visit campus or take a tour before classes start?**

A 6th grade orientation day has been tentatively planned, but details will be worked out depending upon the governor's current stay at home order and COVID pandemic.

### **How will I get my student's schedule?**

Student schedules will be shared via Aeries Parent Portal shortly before the start of the school year. If you do not currently have an Aeries Parent Portal account, please email our registrar Mrs. Lopez ([wanda\\_lopez@redlands.k12.ca.us](mailto:wanda_lopez@redlands.k12.ca.us)) so your email address can be added and an account created.

### **How can I know how my student is doing academically?**

Once an Aeries Parent Portal account has been activated, parents will have access to up to date grades, attendance and contact information.

### **What kind of clubs, before school, and after school activities does Clement offer?**

Clement teachers lead and support a variety of activities that range before school, during lunch and after school. More information will be available and posted on our [Clement Homepage](#) at the start of the school year.

### **Are team sports available for my student to participate in?**

Students may voluntarily participate in lunch time intramural sports that vary throughout the year. In addition, students can try out for 4 competitive sports that allow Clement students to play the 3 other middle schools. The sports offered through the *Redlands Student Connections League* are Volleyball, Softball, Soccer and Basketball. There are separate teams for boys and girls and all students interested in trying out for the teams must complete an athletics physical packet prior to trying out.

### **Is there tutoring or other academic help available for my student?**

Students are encouraged to get assistance from his/her content teachers during class, before school, after school or during lunch. Teacher availability times vary, so please contact your student's teachers directly via email when academic needs arise.

**Is bussing available for my student?**

School bussing is available for Clement students whose home address is greater than 2 miles distance from the school. For more information, visit the [RUSD Transportation website](#).

**Welcome to Clement! Go Vikings!**

