

# Welcome to the Joyce Middle School

## FAQ's

1. What time does school begin?
  - School officially begins at 8:05. All students must be **in their homeroom** by 8:05 or they are considered late to school.
2. What time should my child arrive to school?
  - Students should arrive at the school between 7:45 and 8:00. The students are allowed to enter the building at 8:00.
3. Where does my child wait to enter the building?
  - 6th grade students wait to the right of the main entrance (if you're facing the building) by the ramp. The 7th grade students wait to the left of the entrance, and the 8th grade students wait by the gym entrance.
4. What if it is cold or rainy?
  - If it is rainy/snowy or the weather is below 32 degrees students are allowed to wait in the gymnasium after 7:45.
5. Where do I drop off and pick up my child?
  - You may drop off and pick up your child on Locust St. in front of the stairs, on Willow St., or in the Hockey Rink parking lot. Cars are not allowed in the parking lot between 7:30 & 8:15 and 2:00 & 2:30.
6. Can my child take a bus to school?
  - If you live in establish bus route areas your child is eligible to take the bus. The bus route schedule comes out in mid-August and is published in the newspaper and on our website.
7. Can my child take a different bus or travel to a friend's house?
  - Students may only take a different bus home or to a friend's house if they bring in a note from a parent/guardian and there must also be space available on the bus they wish to ride.
8. How does my child know what team he is on?
  - Homeroom and team assignments are posted outside the main doors around July 1st.
9. What supplies will my child need?
  - Recommended supply lists are posted on our website.
10. What if my child needs a particular item during the year?
  - We have a school store that is available to students before school and during activity period. We sell everything a student would need and usually cheaper than Staples. An item list is available on our school website.
11. What will my child's schedule look like?
  - Our schedule contains 8 periods each 41 minutes long. Each day your child will have Math, English, Science, Social Studies, Reading, and Foreign language. The other two periods will be filled with Physical Education, Music, Art, Geography, Health, Cooking, Computers, Technology/Woodshop.

12. Will 6<sup>th</sup> graders have classes with 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade students?
  - For the most part no. The only time they could be mixed in with older students would be certain activities like Chorus, Band, Best Buddies, Builders Club and a few others.
13. What is Activity period?
  - Activity period meets twice a week and students get to choose their activity. However, some activities are reserved for certain grades while others have capacity limits so a lot of sixth grade students do not get into their desired activity period.
14. What does my child do for lunch?
  - Students have 20 minute lunch blocks. They may bring their own lunch or buy a lunch. Each child will also receive a pin number they use when they buy lunch or snacks. Parents may deposit money into their accounts to eliminate the need for lunch money every day. You can also monitor their food purchases by setting up an account. More information is available on our website.
15. Is there a PTO at the Joyce?
  - Yes, they meet monthly. More information may be found on the Joyce PTO website: <http://www.joycepto.org> and on twitter [@JoycePTO](https://twitter.com/JoycePTO)
16. Does the school have dances?
  - Generally no, we do have a Halloween party (open to all students) after school at the end of October and an 8<sup>th</sup> grade celebration at the end of the year. However, the Boys and Girls Club and Pop Warner ask us to announce and advertise their dances in school. Please be aware that these dances are sponsored by and chaperoned by the organizations running them.
17. Why do I often see a Police Cruiser in front of the school?
  - We have a School Resource Officer (SRO) that spends half the week at the Joyce and the other half of the week at the Kennedy Middle School.
18. What are the behavior expectations of the school?
  - The code of conduct as well as school policies are located in the student handbook, which is located in the student planners that your child will receive on the first day of school. Our handbook is also posted on our website.
19. If my child is absent from school can I request their missed work?
  - Only when your child misses three or more days will their teachers put together a missed work packet. Your child will have plenty of time to make up missed work. A copy of this policy is in our student handbook.
20. Is extra help available after school?
  - Teachers will stay after school to provide extra help a minimum of one day a week. However, most of our teachers will stay after more than one day a week. Each teacher will let your child know their scheduled extra help day.
21. My child is having difficulty in school; do I have to wait until Parent-Teacher conferences to discuss the problems?
  - No, please contact the guidance department and they can arrange for a team meeting.
22. When will my child receive progress reports and report cards?
  - Progress reports are posted on Edline, exact dates can be found on our website calendar page.
  - Report cards are sent home on the Friday following each terms end date, which can be found on our website calendar page.