“Where We Are Making Gettys Great!”

Mr. Cory, Principal

Mr. Lanford, 6th Grade Asst. Principal

Mrs. Ashleigh Drake, 6th Grade Guidance

WELCOME
Gettys Greatness

2012 and 2013 Palmetto Silver Award by SCDE for high levels of student achievement
2009-2012 Red Carpet Award Winning School For Family Friendly Service

2011 and 2012 National Promising Practices Character Award For: Gettys Gives Back, Breaking Into Business, and Pathways to Progress
Gettys's Greatness

2010 South Carolina's Top Writer for Champions of the Environment Essay
State Superintendent Writing Award Best in SDPC

2012 and 2013 School District of Pickens County Top Writer for Lt. Governor Essay Contest
Gettys Greatness

2009 South Carolina’s Top Youth Middle School Volunteer Prudential Spirit of Community Award

2008 South Carolina’s Geography Bee Winner among all public and private schools
Gettys Greatness

2009 and 2008 Two-Time Football Champions

2007 Men’s Health Magazine’s National Fit School of the Year
Did You Know?

Page 5 and 6:

- Results exceed 70% of middle schools
- Facility investment one of the best
- Choices of STEM Academy, daily fitness classes, and other electives
- Over 25% of students are Gifted&Talented
- Sports, Clubs, and Gettys University
- Alumni: Stanley Morgan, Cpt. K. Hampton
- 98% approval by parents on latest survey
The Path to Gettys Greatness

• Football, Volleyball, and Basketball Game Invitations
• Parent Tours of GMS and Staff Greetings
• Student Tours and Exploratory Course Selections Feb. 25
• Still to Come:
  • Our 8th grade students will visit each school for a student Q&A May 26
  • 6th grade Meet the Teacher Event August 12
  • Students needing academic support prior to next school year may be interested in our summer program through Gettys University
Welcome To Your School

• “One of the finest middle school facilities”
• A tradition in Easley and our history with 21\textsuperscript{st} Century upgrades
• Original 1939 hardwood floors upstairs in A Building
• Natural brick was retained
• Expanded Fine Arts Rooms in the gym area
• Covered walkways all the way to the bus/car loops
• School within a school concept-6\textsuperscript{th} grade has their own location, bell schedule, administrator, counselor. 6\textsuperscript{th} grade will be first floor of B Building along Pendleton Street as well as first floor of the new C Building that joins both buildings
• Over 200 security cameras inside and outside school
• Two-phase security entry to access building
• Wireless network system for technology and BYOD
Information Update:

Advanced Math SDPC Criteria: Page 11

*Any student that met criteria for 5th grade Advanced Math will be enrolled in 6th grade Advanced Math.

New qualifiers must meet 2 of 3 criteria:

- Exemplary score on PASS
- 90 or above in Math class
- 234 or higher on MAP Test
Did You Know?

Page 5 and 6:

• 6th grade academic classes are housed on their own floor and area

• 6th grade have their own bell schedule and only change classes with other 6th graders

• 6th grade have their own administrator, 6th grade Assistant Principal Adam Lanford

• 6th grade have their own guidance counselor, Mrs. Ashleigh Drake
6th Grade Academic Hallway
6th Grade will be together here in the first floor of the B building along Pendleton Street and in first floor of the new wing or C building.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30-8:05</td>
<td>Campus Open/Breakfast</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:05-8:14</td>
<td>Enter to Grade/Lockers</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:15-9:22</td>
<td>Academic Block 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:25-10:32</td>
<td>Academic Block 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:37-11:20</td>
<td>Exploratory Choice 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:24-12:07</td>
<td>Exploratory Choice 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:09-12:39</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:45-1:01</td>
<td>Silent Sustained Reading Daily</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:01-2:06</td>
<td>Academic Block 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:10-3:15</td>
<td>Academic Block 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Subject</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs. Childers</td>
<td>English</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Couch</td>
<td>English</td>
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<td>Mrs. Fowler</td>
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<td>Mrs. Wilson</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Mr. Beukema</td>
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<td>Mr. Lynch</td>
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<td>Ms. Plumley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs. Vaughn</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Class size is the same ratio as elementary:

- Both middle and elementary schools are staffed with a 21.5 ratio currently
- Traditionally, we staff 6th grade to produce a lower class size average than 7th or 8th grade
Advanced Math Criteria — pg. 11

Students must have met the SDPC Criteria for enrollment in 6th grade Advanced Math. We will be analyzing student transcripts and assessment data to identify students that have met the criteria.

Student must meet 2 of the 3 criteria each year:

4th grade PASS = Exemplary
5th grade Winter or Spring MAP=234 or higher
5th grade Math Quarter 3 or Final Average = 90% or higher
Students must have met the State Criteria for Gifted and Talented to be enrolled in 6th grade Gifted and Talented English classes. Middle schools GT students are served in English classes.

Special education students will be served according to their IEP. Often students are served in an academic assistance class as one of their exploratory classes.

Scheduling requests of individual teachers is not accepted. We are confident we will serve you well!
Transitions Evidence

Know it is the psychology:

• It is normal for parents or students to be anxious about leaving elementary school.

• Any transition from home to Kindergarten, 5th to 6th, 8th to high, and college are big.

• From National Assoc. of School Psychologists: One of the most difficult transition is from elementary to middle. Physical, emotional and cognitive changes occur at the same time as school change.
National Transition Concerns

Parents:
• Generally have concern over social aspects of relationship changes and exposure to problem behavior peers.

Students: (Study by Weldy, 1991; Schumacher, 1998):
• Getting in locker, finding my way around and not being late to class, walking in crowded hall, not being in class with friends, sitting alone at lunch, tougher classes, and finding right bus or car.
Transition Support Parents

Parent Recommendations:

• Attend all orientation activities as they are programmed to support
• Establish a sense of familiarity for you and your child
• Know the teachers care differently. Our mission is for students to develop self-management and necessary social skills.
• Supervise your student in a supportive way.
• Emphasize positive aspects of middle school.
• Email teacher or team for an update.
Transition Support Parents

Recommendations from Psychology Today:

• Understand that middle school is not elementary.
• Identify and support common entry fears.
• Expect early adolescent changes in your child.
• Supervise the completion of all homework.
• Declare your desire to be told of social aspects.
• Enroll your child in social circles outside of school and development of multiple self-esteem sources.
• Monitor and moderate the increased need for electronic communication (cell phone texting, computer messaging, and social networking.)
Transition Support Students

Student Recommendations:

• Attend all orientation activities as much as needed to become familiar with school.
• Get organized. Learn what is best with notebook and dividers. Check regularly.
• Buy a combination lock and use it now.
• Time management. More responsibility and longer projects requires good use of time.
• Set goals. Honor Roll? An “A” in a class? To accomplish more by yourself? Reward it too.
• Problem solve and “Can Do” attitude. Build resilience not manipulation.
Mr. Lanford
6th grade
Assistant Principal
6th Grade Preview

Roper Mountain Field Trip in Science
Invention Convention
Easley Public Library Field Trips
Arts in History Day
Awards, Celebrations, and Parent Nights
Accelerated Math Classes Offered
Gifted and Talented English Classes Offered
Literacy Emphasis
Inclusion Emphasized and Tutorial Classes
Support Programs
Extracurricular Clubs

- Robotics Club: Lego robotics competitions
- History Club: Inauguration Trip to DC
- Math Counts: Math academic competition
- Media Center: Top Readers and AR
- 6th grade BETA CLUB

- Gettys University after-school program offered 3:15-6:00. It is free for free or reduced lunch students through grant. Full pay students pay $8 per day for 3 hours of supervision, homework center, and activities daily.
- YMCA, ES Moon Martial Arts, Church Buses.
Robotics and Pre-Engineering Class
Media Center
Fine Arts and Exploratories

Award Winning Fine Arts Programs – pg. 12-13

Fine Arts Concert Performances:
Chorus, Band, and Strings (yearly)

Nationally Recognized PE(semester or daily)

Art Displays at Pickens County Museum

Gateway to Technology Lab and STEMS Initiatives like Robotics

High School Credit: Keyboarding in 7th or 8th

Release Time: Bible Study and Christian Education
Chorus
Strings
Visual Art
Personal Skills
Gateway to Technology...where the fun starts!!
STEM Project-Based Learning
STEM Activities, Gettys U, Robotics Club
Career and College Ready Focus
Physical Education and Gym
• Students will receive at their tour of Gettys on February 25. It will be due back to us March 6 just prior to Spring Break.

• Students and parents choose one of two tracks: fine arts track or exploratory arts track. Decision on fine arts impacts the number of exploratories taken.

• A difference from elementary is that the course will meet daily and will end depending on year, semester or quarter length of time.

• Over 60% of our students choose one of our fine art programs. They meet yearly and could be one of your two exploratory periods.

• Schedules provided to families in August.
PTO: We Need You!

Get Involved-Volunteer Opportunities:

Breaker Buddies Mentors, Fundraising, Merchandise, Teacher Appreciation, Special Projects, Field Trips, School Events and Sports, Media Center Helpers, Facebook Communication, School News, Etc.

School Map, Traffic Loop, Supply List are shown on pages 16-18.

Gettys University

Sign Up Now!

Meets Daily from 3:15 to 6:00 pm
Bus Transportation Available
Homework Center with Certified Staff
Activities with YMCA, clubs, technology, arts

Grant pays for students that are free/reduced lunch. Full pay lunch students $8 per day for nearly 3 hours of service. First 100 students reserve a spot in Gettys University!
Meet the Teacher and Tour

Date: August 12

Wednesday from 3:30 to 6:30 pm.

• Receive schedules, visit teachers, info tables with bus, car rider, lunch, nurse, etc.
• Must show proof of residency to receive schedules at that time.
• Tour the newly renovated school
• First Day of School is August 18
We Are Here For You!
Contacts Page 22:

Outstanding Classroom Teachers in 6th Grade

Mrs. Dilworth and Mrs. Gleason-Secretaries
Pickens County Support Staff of the Year

Guidance Counselor-Mrs. Drake
Assistant Principal-Mr. Lanford
Principal-Mr. Cory
Thank You

We appreciate your visit and look forward to a great school year!

Tour your middle school and greet our staff.

We look forward to your child’s tour of our school on February 25.

Get ready to make Gettys Great!