



LOS ALAMITOS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

MIDDLE SCHOOL PARENT INFORMATION PRESENTATION

Superintendent
Dr. Andrew Pulver

Board of Education:
Chris Forehan, Meg Cutuli, Diana Hill, Scott Fayette, Marlys Davidson



PURPOSE OF PRESENTATION

- Welcome families to their secondary school journey in Los Alamitos Unified
- Share District highlights and philosophy
- Overview of middle school program
- Middle school registration process
- Busing/Before and After-school care options
- Answer questions



Mrs. Ondrea Reed
DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT
EDUCATION SERVICES



Welcome *Class of 2030* to
the beginning of your
secondary school journey!



LOS ALAMITOS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



Los Alamitos High School
Home of the Griffins



Oak Middle School
Home of the Lions

McAuliffe Middle School
Home of the Eagles



Hopkinson Elementary

Los Alamitos Elementary

Lee Elementary

Rossmoor Elementary

Weaver Elementary

McGaugh Elementary



**One High School
Two Middle Schools
Six Elementary Schools**



Los Alamitos Unified At a Glance

- All Schools are California Distinguished Schools
- State testing results among highest in California:
 - #1 in Orange County in ELA and #2 in Mathematics
- 92% Post-Secondary Enrollment Rate
- 86% Graduates Complete AP, CTE or Dual Enrollment Course in High School
- One of Only Four Districts in the U.S. Named to College Board Honor Roll Seven Years in a Row
- Thriving Athletics, Activities and Arts programs





AWARD WINNING MIDDLE SCHOOLS

*National Blue Ribbon, California
Distinguished and Gold Ribbon Schools*

Offer the same rigorous instructional program
and robust elective options for all students.



McAuliffe Middle School



Oak Middle School

MCAULIFFE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Home of the Eagles

4112 West Cerritos, Los Alamitos 90720



Dr. Weiss-Wright
PRINCIPAL



Morgan Martin
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL



Anne-Marie Bergeron
PSYCHOLOGIST



Shelby Olmstead
GUIDANCE COUNSELOR



Dr. Jensen
WELLNESS COUNSELOR





OAK MIDDLE SCHOOL

Home of the Lions

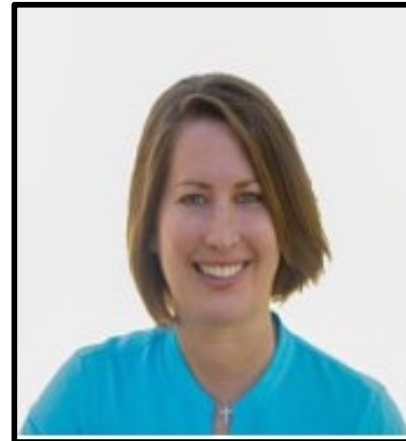
10821 Oak Street, Los Alamitos 90720



Evelyn Garcia
PRINCIPAL



Allen Mendrin
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL



Jerilyn Kuhar
PSYCHOLOGIST



Adrienne Reynolds
GUIDANCE COUNSELOR



Dr. Jensen
WELLNESS COUNSELOR



WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT MIDDLE SCHOOLERS

- Scientists have long known that the human brain develops more rapidly between birth and the age of 3 than at any other time in life. But recent advances in brain imaging have revealed that a **second spurt occurs during early adolescence**, a phase generally defined as spanning ages 11 to 14.
- Though the brain's physical structures are fully developed by age 6, the connections among them take longer to form. Early adolescence is when much of this wiring takes place. The middle school years are also what scientists call a “sensitive period” for social and emotional learning, when the **brain is primed to learn from social cues**.
- The plasticity of the brain during these years makes it resilient, capable of overcoming adversity. This makes early adolescence “a window of opportunity,” a chance to **set students on a solid path for the remainder of their education**, said Ronald Dahl, director of the Institute of Human Development at the University of California, Berkeley.



- Adolescents **crave connections to their peers and independence from their parents**. But they also care deeply about what adults think. They want to be taken seriously and feel their opinions count. And though they're often seen as selfish, middle schoolers are driven to contribute to the common good, psychologists say.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN AT MIDDLE SCHOOL ?

- Capitalize on kids' interest in their peers
- Creating opportunities for positive peer influence
- Promote a culture of “voice and choice”
- The home to school partnership is an integral part of student success



What Do Parents Want for Their Student's Middle School Years?





Los AI Middle School Program

- Continue to foster a love of school & learning
- Promote behaviors of learner
- Guide social emotional health
- Focus on academics
- Find a passion
- Build confidence
- Foster new friendships
- Partner with parents

Capable, Confident, Cared About



CHALLENGE SUCCESS PARTNERSHIP

Transform the Student Experience

Less Pressure
More Balance
Deeper Learning

THE SOLUTION

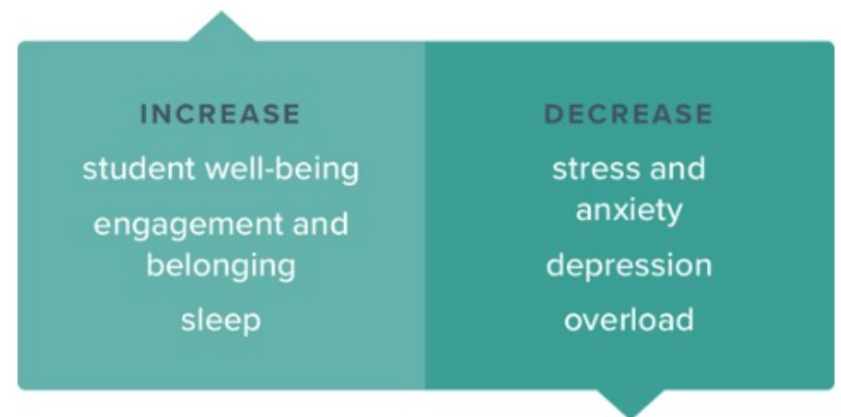
It's time to embrace a broader definition of success and transform the student experience

"Success is measured over the course of a lifetime, not at the end of a semester."

Challenge Success is partnership with Stanford University's Graduate School of Education. They provide Los Al secondary schools and families with proven strategies that promote well-being and engagement with learning in order to transform the student experience into one where all kids can create their own paths to success.

THE PROBLEM

A narrow definition of success is hurting our kids



HOMEWORK AT MIDDLE SCHOOL

Middle School Homework Minutes

- Grade 6 = 0-60 minutes per night average M-Th
- Grade 7 = 0-70 minutes per night average M-Th
- Grade 8 = 0-80 minutes per night average M-Th

**Undistracted
Time**

- Homework should consist of reading, practice and application of key skills and concepts across subject areas, application of writing skills, preparation for future classes and beginning research.
- Homework should continue to build independent study habits.



HOMEWORK AT MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Long-term assignments should be limited in number and duration. These assignments should include clear checkpoints to monitor progress towards completion.
- No assignments should be given during a school break, and any long-term assignments should not be due during the first week back from a school break.
- Homework shall not be assigned during standardized testing for grades 3-8

Communicate with Teachers...

Guidance Counselor is a HUGE middle-school resource...



Middle School Student Day

8:40AM – 3:10PM: 7 Periods of Instruction (*Sample Schedule)

8:50am – 9:35am	Period 1
9:39am – 10:38am	Period 2
10:28am – 10:35am	Nutrition
10:40am – 11:24am	Period 3
11:29am – 12:13pm	Period 4
12:13pm – 12:43pm	LUNCH
12:48pm – 1:32pm	Period 5
1:37pm – 2:21pm	Period 6
2:26pm – 3:10pm	Period 7

- 5-MINUTE PASSING PERIODS
 - NUTRITION
- 6th Gr. Only: 30 MINUTE LUNCH
 - ACCESS TO CAFETERIA
- WEDNESDAY EARLY RELEASE

*Middle school times are specific to each school. This is an example.

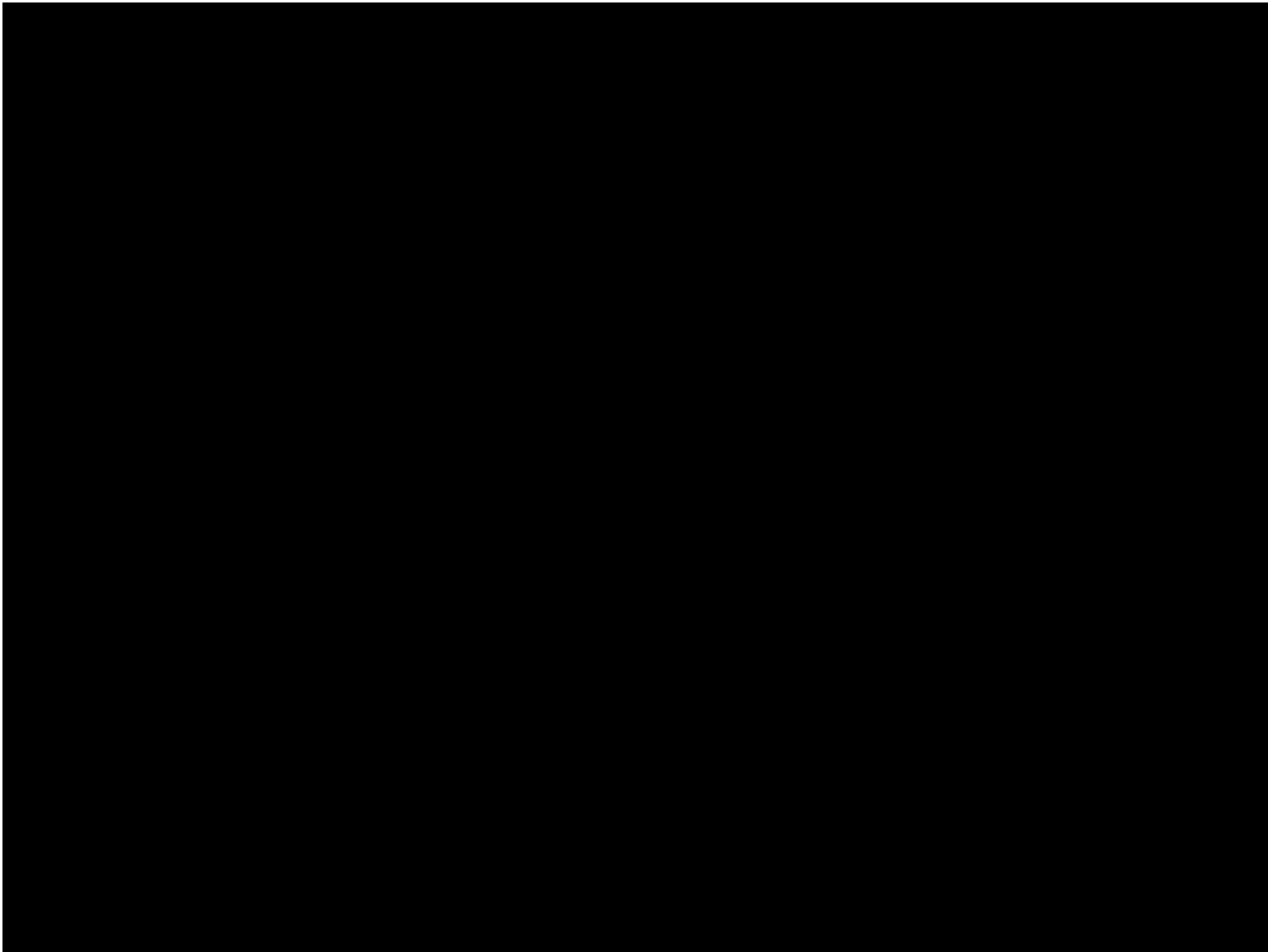
*(2022-2023) Piloting TUTORIALS at both middle schools.

Middle School Campus Life

In Middle School Your Student Will:

- Meet new friends and learn how to solve problems independently
- Have multiple teachers and learn to organize themselves to meet the demands of a 7-period school day
- Have access to a school locker to organize and store their belongings
- Read novels and be exposed to high-level thinking and discussion
- Begin on the pathway to high-level mathematics
- Get to experience different electives
- Continue to develop their study and organizational skills
- Participate in on-campus clubs and activities
- Be challenged at their ability level







Middle School Instruction

Continued Focus on District Signature Practices

- Depth & Complexity
- Great Books: Shared Inquiry
- Socratic Seminar
- Novel Analysis
- Advanced Mathematics
- Inquiry-Based Science/NGSS
- Digital Collaboration



*All teachers are trained in the
District's Signature Practices
and receive ongoing professional development.*

Sample 6th Grade Schedule

7-Period Day

McAuliffe Middle School: (8:45AM – 3:10PM) & Wednesday (8:45AM – 2:05PM)

Oak Middle School: (8:50AM – 3:10PM) & Wednesday (8:50AM – 2:10PM)

ZERO PERIOD 8:00AM-8:45AM or 7:45AM-8:30AM

Period 1: Reading (College Prep/Honors)

Period 2: Language Arts (College Prep/Honors)

Period 3: Social Science (College Prep/Honors)

Period 4: Math (Math 6; Math 6/7)

Period 5: Elective

Period 6: Science

Period 7: Physical Education

2-Period Core

Academic Intervention & Support

STUDENTS FIRST

Multiple opportunities for all students to be successful and make academic progress.

- ❑ Zero Period Interventions
- ❑ Reading Plus
- ❑ Before, after-school and lunch-time support for students
- ❑ Learning Lab/Homework Club/Principal's Academy
- ❑ Guidance counselors partner with parents to meet individual needs



Course Placement

READING & LANGUAGE ARTS

OFFER TWO PATHWAYS FOR ENGLISH INSTRUCTION

COLLEGE PREP

HONORS

Placement rubric completed for every fifth-grade student, which takes into consideration: (Placement Rubric Used)

- Semester grades in Reading & Writing
- Standardized testing scores (CAASPP)
- Current independent reading level
- Ability to write a clear, cohesive paragraph
- Ability to analyze text
- Student work habits
- Student organizational skills



Course Placement

MATHEMATICS “a-g” Pathways

OFFER TWO PATHWAYS FOR MATHEMATICS INSTRUCTION

COLLEGE PREP: MATH 6

ACCELERATED: MATH 6/7

Both courses use the same Grade 6 Mathematics textbook.

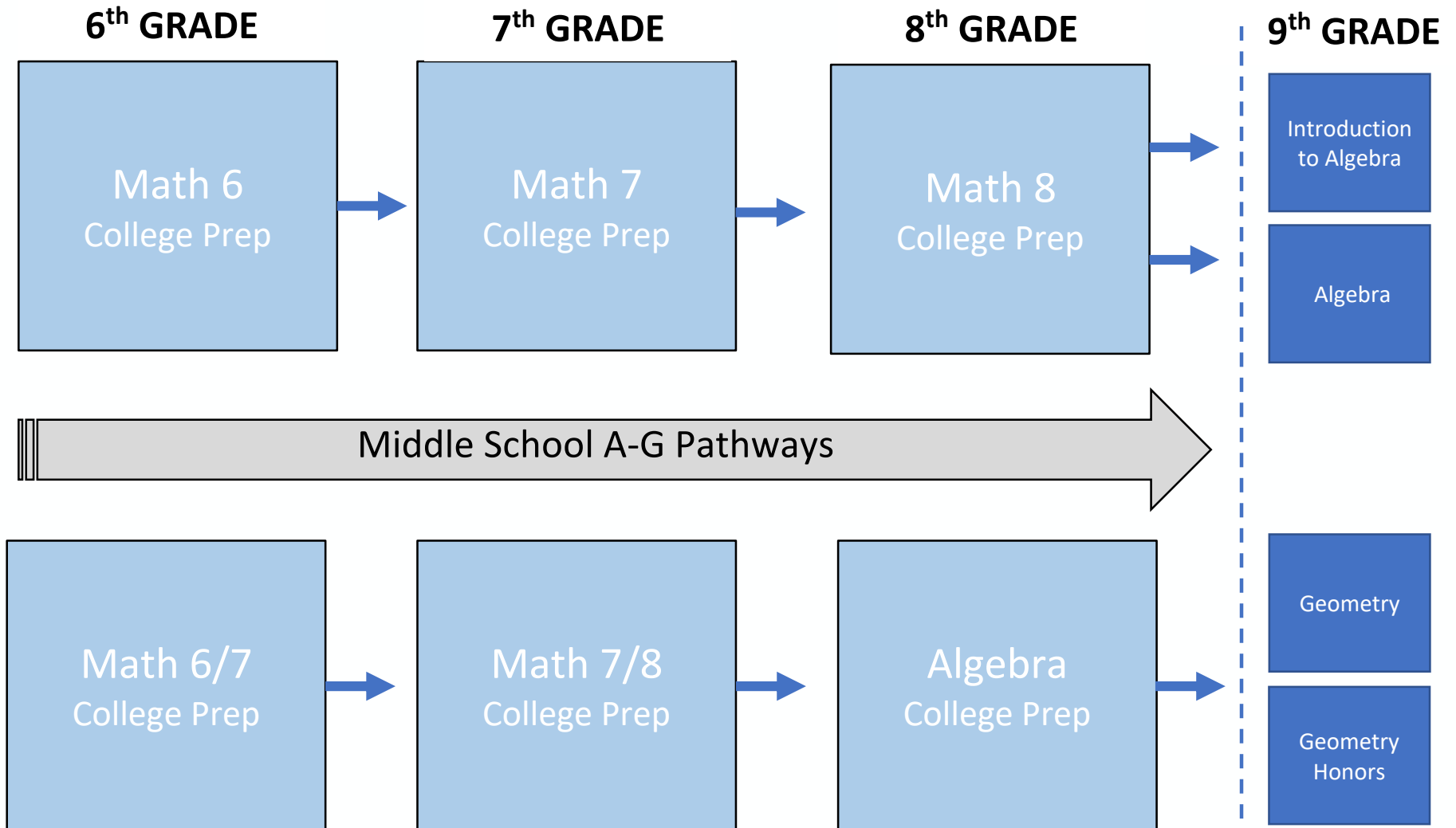
Math 6 – Covers 10 chapters of instruction

Math 6A – Covers 15 chapters of instruction

Placement based on: (Placement Rubric Used)

- Semester grades
- Standardized testing scores (CAASPP)
- Middle School Entry Mathematics Assessment (MEMA) and/or District Benchmark Score(s)

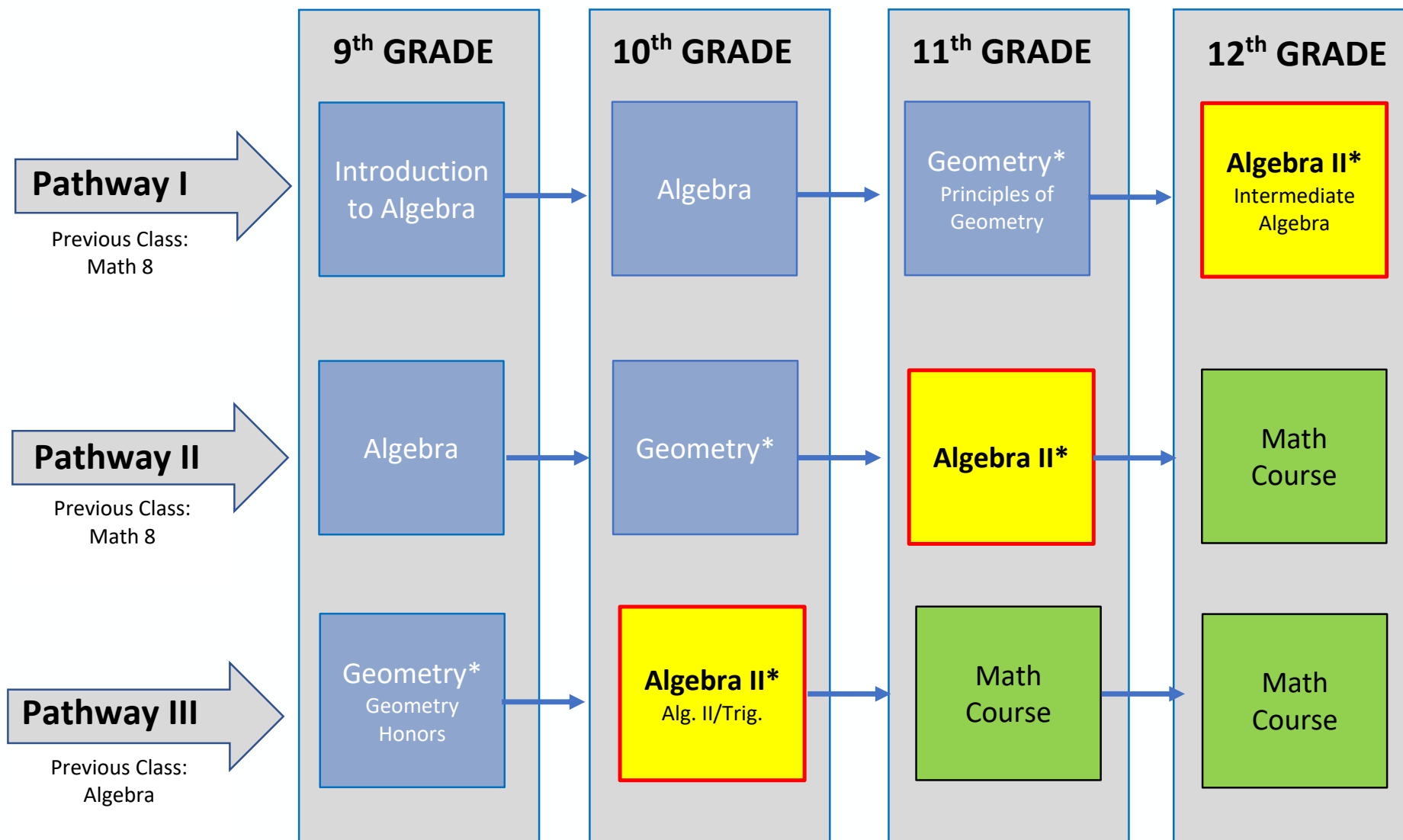
Middle School Mathematics College Bound Pathways





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High School Mathematics A-G Pathways



Algebra II

= Meets A-G
College Entrance

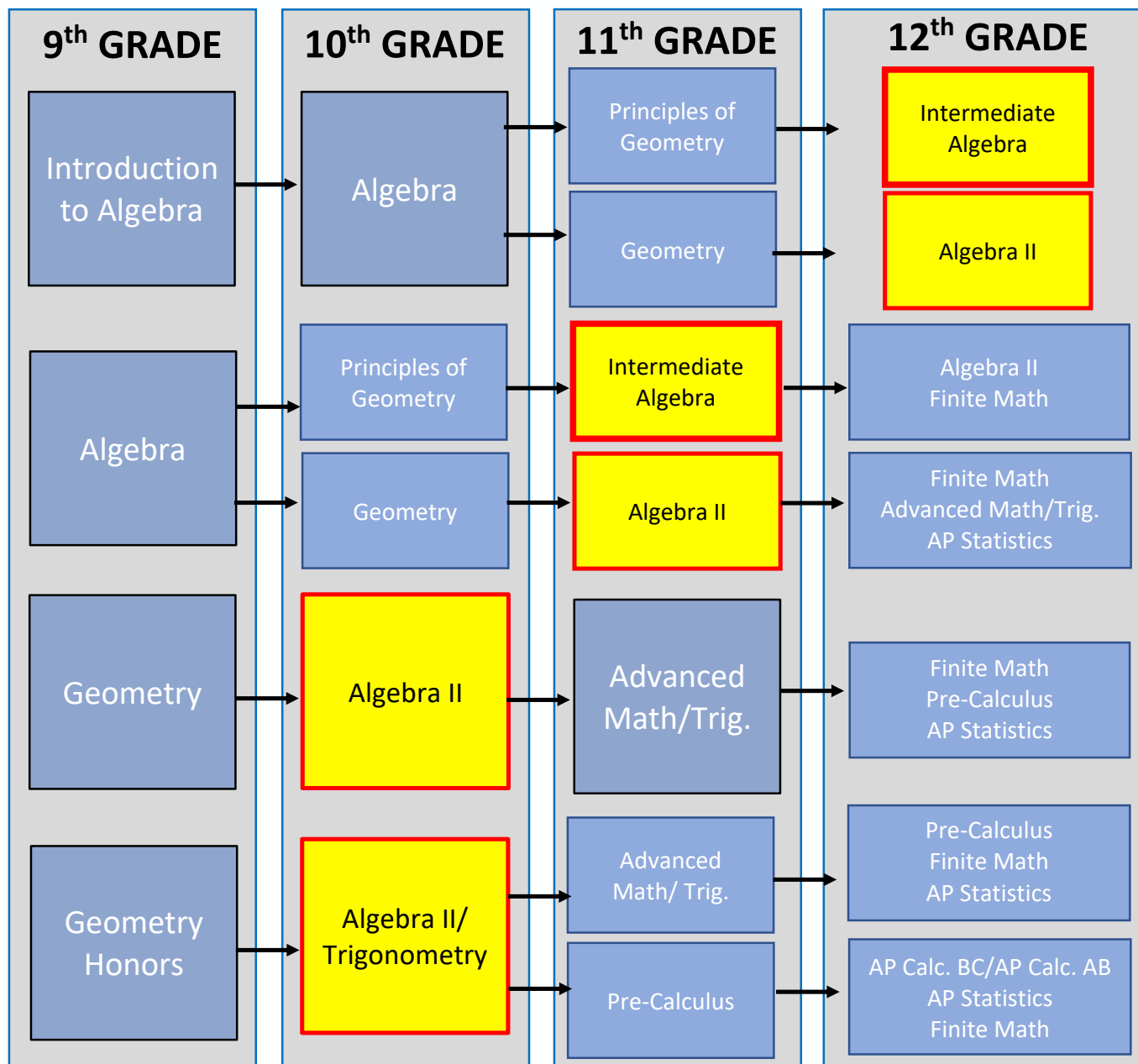
* Equivalent Courses

Math Course

= See Back for Math
Progression Option

LOS ALAMITOS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

High School Mathematics Course Progressions



Algebra II

To meet UC/CSU Entrance Requirements students must complete Algebra II or an equivalent course.

CSU, UC and private university entrance requirements for math course completion vary. Please partner with LAHS guidance counselor to determine required course progression.

Math course options and progression is based on semester grades.

COURSE EQUIVALENCIES

GEOMETRY

Principles of Geometry
Geometry Honors

ALGEBRA II

Intermediate Algebra
Algebra II/Trigonometry



Physical Education

- 6th/7th Grade Students in Same Period
- Focus on the CA State Standards for Physical Education
- *Students are required to “dress out” for class each day*
 - *PE uniforms can be purchased on Registration Day*
- *Students receive a separate PE Locker*
 - *Lockers & Locks are given out to students during the first week of school*



6th Grade Electives

- **Exploratory Wheel**: Visual Art, Drama, Music, STEM, etc. (*Exact rotations change year-to-year. Gives students exposure to multiple courses*)
- **Choir**: (Year-Long Elective) Beginning choir for both boys and girls.
- **Instrumental Music**: (Year-Long Elective) Band or Orchestra; Jazz Band and advanced sections of band and orchestra hold auditions in Spring
- **STEM I**: (Year-Long Elective) Engineering & Design Process; Robotics

COURSE SELECTION

Middle School Welcome Presentations

WELCOME PRESENTATIONS

MARCH/APRIL – Middle school counselors visit elementary school campuses to facilitate welcome presentations with fifth grade students. Students will come home with a registration card to indicate preference in their elective choice for sixth grade.

TEACHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Fifth grade teachers make a recommendation for all academic content courses to the middle school counselor using District placement rubrics. Counselors meet individually with each fifth-grade teacher to discuss and review each student.



Students/Parents provide input for **elective course selection.**



Teachers provide input for **academic course selection.**



ENROLLING IN MIDDLE SCHOOL



All District residents are automatically enrolled in their home middle school. All residents should have received an email welcoming them to their home middle school in December.

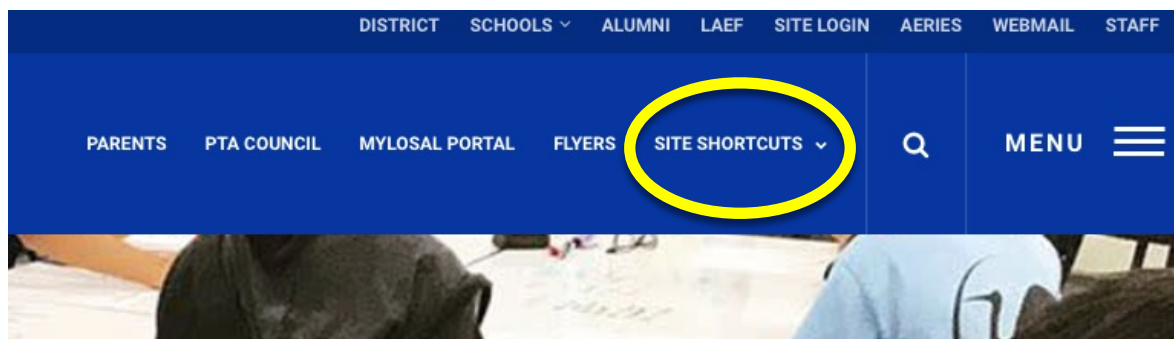
School of Residence

Home address determines school placement

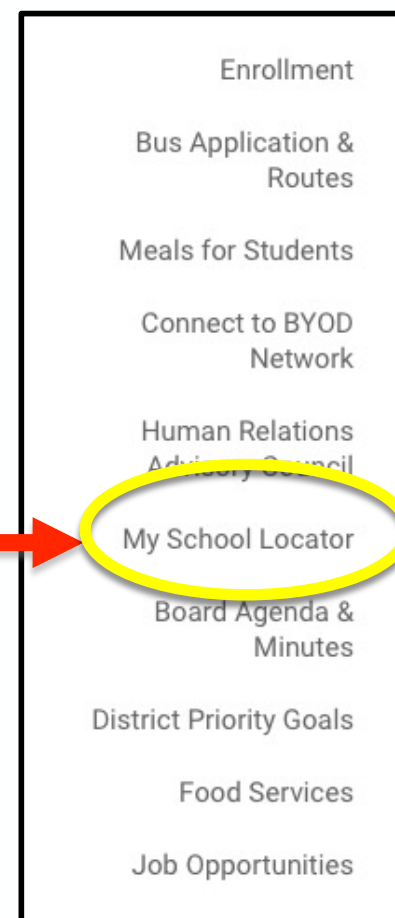
Families interested in attending a middle school other than their home school need to electronically submit an Intradistrict Transfer Request by **February 10, 2023**.

SCHOOL LOCATOR

Home address determines school placement.



Click here to locate
your school of
residence.



www.losal.org

Enter your home address.

Los Alamitos Unified School District

Enter Your Address Here

Select Language ▼

To Get Started:

- Enter your address above.
- Or Use the button ↕ to click on the map to tell us where you are.
- Or click 📍 on the map to use your current location.

Explore the map:

- Click and drag to pan around.
- Double Click to zoom in.
- Click on a school view phone number, webpage, and directions.

Top Left side Controls:

- Change background using Map menu (Satellite, terrain, street, etc.).
- Zoom controls in (+) and out (-). (Alternatively: use scroll wheel)
- Use 📍 to Use Your Current Location
- Measure distance
- Select a language preference

Top Right side Controls:

- Open the Map in Full Screen
- Select a Layer

Legend:

🏠 Elementary 🏡 Middle 🏢 High

Map

Signal Hill

Long Beach Airport

LOS ALTOS

BEACH


BELMONT SHORE

NAPLES


Surfside

Browse assigned Schools:


Click on a school below to popup info on the map



Hopkinson ES (K - 5)
12582 Kensington Rd
Los Alamitos, CA 90720



McAuliffe MS (6 - 8)
4112 Cerritos Ave
Los Alamitos, CA 90720



Los Alamitos HS (9 - 12)
3591 Cerritos Ave
Los Alamitos, CA 90720



SELECTING A PREFERRED SCHOOL

A School Other Than Your Home School

Step One: Complete the home school enrollment process that was just reviewed

Step Two: Return to losal.org

- **Site Shortcuts**
 - **Enrollment**
 - **Intradistrict Transfers**
 - **Elementary Intradistrict Request Form**
- Complete all questions and submit before **February 10, 2023**
 - Transfers are accepted based on space availability
 - Parents will be contacted by the end of February regarding status of transfer request

FLYERS **SITE SHORTCUTS** ▾

Enrollment

Enrollment Requirements/Enroll New Student

Intradistrict Transfers

Interdistrict Transfers

Preschool Enrollment

Intradistrict transfer requests that are received are considered until late July when enrollment is on a space availability basis. We cannot guarantee open enrollment requests.

[Elementary Intradistrict Request Form](#)

[Middle School Intradistrict Request Form](#)

Enrollment Timeline

DECEMBER/JANUARY

District residents receive "Welcome Letter"
from their home middle school.

FEBRUARY

Intradistrict transfer request forms
due February 10th.

LATE MARCH

Continuing students on an Interdistrict
permit will receive a placement letter in
Late March - Early April



How do I start the enrollment process for my upcoming middle schooler?

ENROLLMENT vs. REGISTRATION



FEBRUARY – MARCH

STEP 1: ENROLLING IN MIDDLE SCHOOL

Formal confirmation of which middle school a student will be attending next school year.

APRIL – MAY

STEP 2: REGISTERING AT YOUR MIDDLE SCHOOL

Placement and selection of courses and verification in AERIES of all parent/guardian information.

Registration Timeline

APRIL

Students come home with a registration card to indicate preference in their elective choice for sixth grade.

JUNE/JULY

Families receive an email from their middle school providing them with information to log into AERIES and complete the registration process.



STUDENT CONNECTIONS

Middle School Socials
WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 2023
3:30PM – 4:30PM

Middle School WEB Days
AUGUST (DATES TBD)

*More information and details about events will be
shared as dates get closer.*



Special Education

Continuum of Services

**Individualized
Education Plan
(IEP)**

**Occupational
Therapy**

Special Day Class

**Vision/Audiology
Services**



**Speech &
Language Services**

**Specialized
Academic
Instruction**

**Adaptive Physical
Education**

**Counseling
Services**

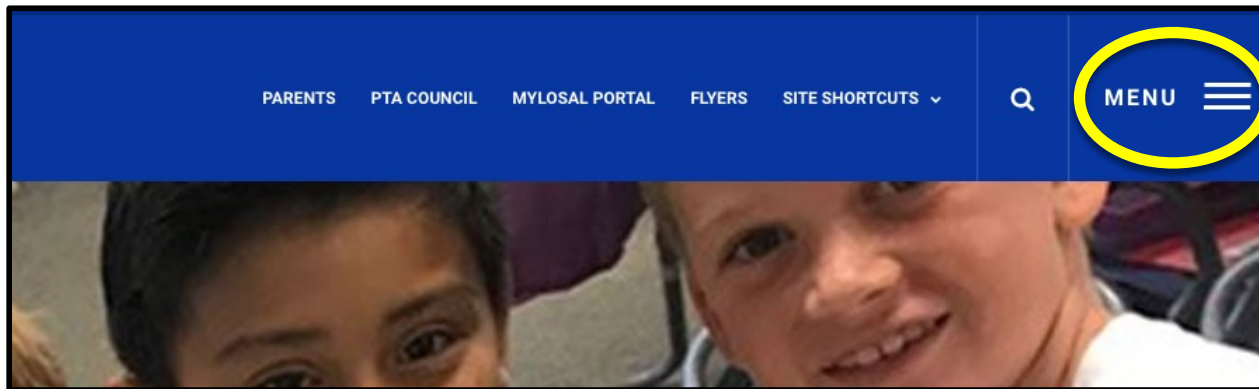
**Prior to this presentation there was a
Special Education Program Overview presented by Grace Delk.**

LAUSD Before & After School Care

Yolanda Mortensen, Program Supervisor

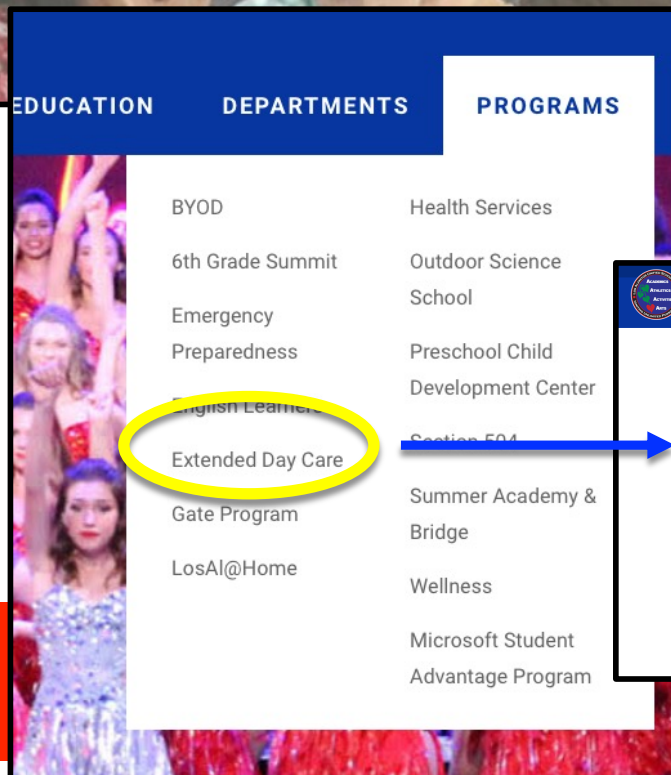
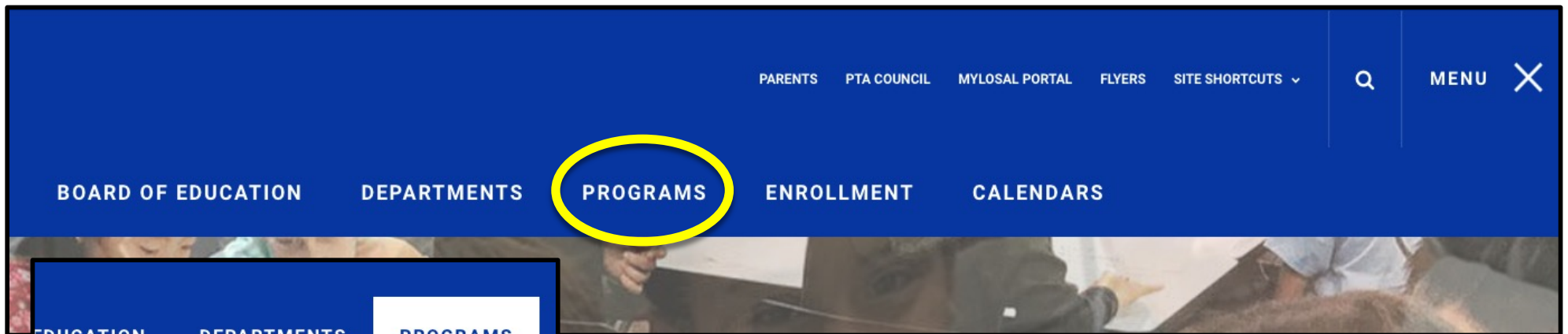


Outpost Available At Both Los Al Middle Schools.



FOR EXTENDED DAY CARE
Information & Registration

www.losal.org





**LOS ALAMITOS
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

District API 922 - Igniting Unlimited Possibilities for Students!

Our District | Board of Education | Departments | School Calendars | Programs | Shape T

Los AI has a long-standing legacy of excellence in Academics, Athletics, Activities, and the Arts. All District schools have been honored as California Distinguished Schools and Gold Ribbon Schools. With a District API of 922, highly-talented teachers and staff ensure that students achieve unlimited possibilities following high standards. We are honored to be part of the District Community.

SITE SHORTCUTS

- > Superintendent Search
- > My School Locator
- > Board Agendas & Minutes
- > District Priority Goals
- > Food Services
- > Los Alamitos Education Foundation (LAEF) - Donate Today!
- > Job Opportunities
- > School News Publications
- > **NEW - Bus Application and Routes**
- > District Attendance Boundaries



Consider Taking
the bus to
Middle School...



ELECTRONIC BICYCLES

Mandatory E-Bike Safety Course



To park an electronic bicycle (e-bike) on the school campus, the e-bike must have a Los Alamitos Police Department registration sticker and the rider must have taken the E-Bike Safety course. The course is offered on the middle school campuses and taught by Los Alamitos Police Department officers.

Both middle schools will offer the course prior to the school year starting and then monthly.



California law requires the rider of a Class-III E-bike to be 16 years of age. Therefore, no Class-III bikes can be ridden to, nor parked on a middle school campus.



Bring Your Own Device & Cell Phones at Middle School



District Home **Select a School...** Sign In

McAULIFFE
MIDDLE SCHOOL

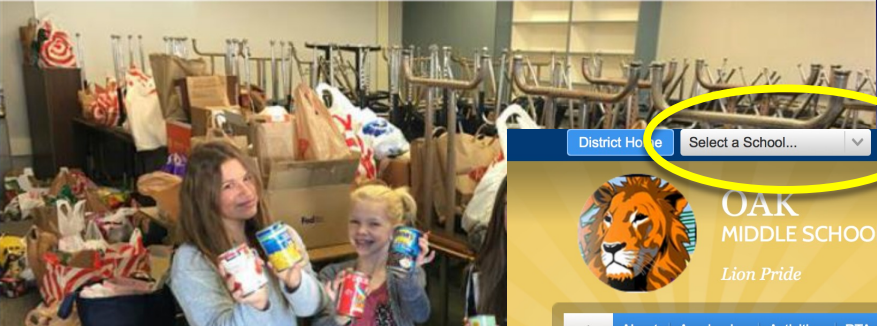
Calendar Aeries Portal Classroom Portal Webmail

Parents Staff Alumni LAEF

Our School News Parents Programs PTA Students Teachers

McAuliffe staff and parents believe in providing a rigorous, nurturing, and active learning environment for all children that ensures personal success, a life-long desire to learn, and civic responsibility.

"Igniting unlimited possibilities for students!"



Canned food drive is a success!



District Home **Select a School...** Sign In

OAK
MIDDLE SCHOOL

Calendar Aeries Portal Classroom Portal Webmail

Parents Staff Alumni LAEF

About Academics Activities PTA News Resources Staff

Oak Middle School
10821 Oak St.
Los Alamitos, CA 90720
Tel: 562-799-4740
Fax: 562-799-4773

24 Hour Attendance Line:
562-799-4740 Ext. 76001

Igniting Unlimited Possibilities for All Students!



HEAR US ROAR! ANNOUNCEMENTS

Oak Middle School -- Hear Us Roar!

SHAPE THE FUTURE
CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE

NEWS

BYOD
The Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program is coming to Los Alamitos Unified next year! The district has partnered with Brick by Brick to provide discounted prices.



www.losal.org



QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Tonight's presentation will be available for viewing and download on the District website at www.losal.org. Click on the **SITE SHORTCUTS** tab, then **ENROLLMENT** and then select *Middle School Enrollment*.