



Transitioning to Gemini Middle School

What to expect for your child with an IEP or 504



East Maine School District 63

Empowering all students to succeed in a changing world.

This We Believe

Keys to Educating Young Adolescents



Association for Middle Level Education
formerly National Middle School Association

Association for Middle Level Education

Successful Schools for Young Adolescents

Essential Attributes

An education for young adolescents must be

Developmentally Responsive

using the nature of young adolescents as the foundation on which all decisions are made.

Challenging

recognizing that every student can learn and everyone is held to high expectations.

Empowering

providing all students with the knowledge and skills they need to take control of their lives.

Equitable

advocating for every student's right to learn and providing challenging and relevant learning opportunities.

16 Characteristics

Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

Educators value young adolescents and are prepared to teach them. *Value Young Adolescents*

Students and teachers are engaged in active, purposeful learning. *Active Learning*

Curriculum is challenging, exploratory, integrative, and relevant. *Challenging Curriculum*

Educators use multiple learning and teaching approaches. *Multiple Learning Approaches*

Varied and ongoing assessments advance learning as well as measure it. *Varied Assessments*

Leadership and Organization

A shared vision developed by all stakeholders guides every decision. *Shared Vision*

Leaders are committed to and knowledgeable about this age group, educational research, and best practices. *Committed Leaders*

Leaders demonstrate courage and collaboration. *Courageous & Collaborative Leaders*

Ongoing professional development reflects best educational practices. *Professional Development*

Organizational structures foster purposeful learning and meaningful relationships. *Organizational Structures*

Culture and Community

The school environment is inviting, safe, inclusive, and supportive of all. *School Environment*

Every student's academic and personal development is guided by an adult advocate. *Adult Advocate*

Comprehensive guidance and support services meet the needs of young adolescents. *Guidance Services*

Health and wellness are supported in curricula, school-wide programs, and related policies. *Health & Wellness*

The school actively involves families in the education of their children. *Family Involvement*

The school includes community and business partners. *Community & Business*

This chart is based on This We Believe: Keys to Educating Young Adolescents (AMLE 2010). For more information visit us at, www.amle.org



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Middle School Philosophy

- Developmentally responsive: using the distinctive nature of young adolescents as the foundation upon which all decisions about school organization, policies, curriculum, instruction, and assessment are made.
- Challenging: ensuring that every student learns and every member of the learning community is held to high expectations.



Middle School Philosophy

- Empowering: providing all students with the knowledge and skills they need to take responsibility for their lives, to address life's challenges, to function successfully at all levels of society, and to be creators of knowledge.

- Equitable: advocating for and ensuring every student's right to learn and providing appropriately challenging and relevant learning opportunities for every student.



What is a continuum of service?



Supports Available at Gemini

Resource

Self contained

Related Services

Social Emotional

Co-Taught



IEP/504 Process: What To Expect



Student Opportunities

Sports

- Fall, Winter, Spring
- Cut vs. Non-Cut
- 6th grade will not have basketball until 2020-2021 school year
- Sports Physical- ASAP

Clubs

- Varies by year based on student interest and teacher availability
- Examples include: Broadcasting, Stock Market, Dance, Harry Potter, and Bowling to name a few



Transitioning to Gemini: Summer Planning

- Electives: - Look for information coming Mid-May
 - Chromebook/Schedule Pickup: Mid-Late August depending on construction
 - WEB Mentor program:
- Practice waking up earlier the week or two prior to the start of the year
 - Visit the school and walk the schedule
 - Practice using a combo lock
 - Discuss the after school routine and write a schedule



Questions

