



September 8, 2024

This week, we will welcome our 5th and 6th grade parents/guardians to our annual Open House. The following week, on September 18, 7th and 8th grade parents/guardians are invited to attend. The evening will start in the gymnasium with some short remarks from Ms. Desmarais and Mrs. Dunn. The charts below outline the schedule of events by grade level. We will share the 7th and 8th grade schedules next week.

OPEN HOUSE INFORMATION FOR GRADES 5 & 6 - September 11, 2024

Grade 5 Schedules

Mrs. Muscarelle & Miss Suba

Time	Location	Description
6:00-6:15	Gymnasium	Welcome: JRMS Administrators
6:20-6:45	Gymnasium, STEM Lab (118), Art Studio (212), Math Lab (109), Band Room (105), and Health Room (137)	FPA Exploratory Block Art (212) and STEM 118) Math Lab (109) Physical Education and Project Adventure (Gym) Music, Band, Chorus (105) Health (137) and Intervention Labs (109)
6:50-7:15	Classrooms (176 & 177)	Classroom Information
7:20-7:50	Classrooms (176 & 177)	Classroom Information

Ms. Steeves, Mr. Donnelly & Mrs. Villanova

Time	Location	Description
6:00-6:15	Gymnasium	Administration's Presentation
6:20-6:45	Gymnasium, STEM Lab (118), Art Studio (212), Math Lab (109), Band Room (105), and Health Room (137)	FPA Exploratory Block Art (212) and STEM 118) Math Lab (109) Physical Education and Project Adventure (Gym) Music, Band, Chorus (105) Health (137) and Intervention Labs (109)
6:50-7:10	Classrooms (174, 172, 171)	Classroom Information
7:10-7:30	Classrooms (174, 172, 171)	Classroom Information
7:30-7:50	Classrooms (174, 172, 171)	Classroom Information

GRADE 6 Schedule

Time	Location	Description
6:00-6:15	Gymnasium	Welcome: JRMS Administrators
6:20-6:45	Community Room	6th Grade Team Presentation and World Language
6:50-7:15	Gymnasium, STEM Lab (118), Art Studio (212), Math Lab (109), Band Room (105), and Health Room (137)	FPA Exploratory Block Art (212) and STEM (118) Math Lab (109) Physical Education and Project Adventure (Gym) Music, Band, Chorus (105) Health (137) and Intervention Labs (109)
7:20-7:50	Classrooms	Classroom Information in Grade 6 Rooms Room 111 World Studies- Mrs. Asendorf Room 112- Spanish Senora Intemann Room 114- Science-Mrs. Pimentel Room 115 Mrs. Sam Room 116 Mr. Stevens- Math Room 117 Mrs. Gaydos- ILA

DATES TO REMEMBER

Wednesday/Thursday, September 11 & 12 - NWEA MAP Testing (Reading) [schedule](#).

Wednesday, September 11 - JRMS Grades 5 & 6 Open House (6:00-8:00 pm)

Wednesday, September 18 - JRMS Grades 7 & 8 Open House (6:00-8:00 pm)

Wednesday/Thursday, September 18 & 19 - NWEA MAP Testing (Math)

Thursday, October 3 - Rosh Hashanah - No School

Friday, October 11 - Professional Development Day - No school for students

Monday, October 14 - Columbus Day - No School

GUIDELINES FOR APPROPRIATE ATTIRE

As we transition into the new academic year, we want to remind our families about the student dress code. This is a sensitive matter; school personnel never want to embarrass students. We are asking for your help.

Students, faculty, and parents have recently questioned our school dress code policy. We pride ourselves on fostering an atmosphere of respect and inclusivity within our school community. It's important to note the value we place on creative expression and our consideration for bodily autonomy. We want our school to remain a place where everyone feels honored and respected; and while we want everyone to feel free to authentically express themselves, it's crucial to remember that our attire should be appropriate for a learning environment. Shirts must have fabric in the front, back, and on the sides that cover the entire torso of the wearer. Students must wear pants, dresses, or an equivalent, such as a skirt, sweatpants, leggings, or shorts that cover the entire buttocks. Undergarments should not be visible. Sunglasses may not be worn in the school building unless for a confirmed medical reason.

*From the Student Handbook, p 14:

GUIDELINES FOR APPROPRIATE ATTIRE

The Redding Schools encourage students to dress in a manner that demonstrates pride in themselves and in their school. The school district requires that attire be safe, appropriate to the activity, and not distracting or disruptive of the educational program.

The following guidelines apply to all regular school activities:

- Clothing and jewelry should be safe and free of writing, pictures, or any other insignia that are crude, vulgar, profane, or sexually suggestive or that advocate violence, racial, ethnic, or religious prejudice, or the use of drugs or alcohol.
- No clothing, article of clothing, or manner of wearing clothes that is inappropriately revealing is permitted. Underwear should not be visible.
- Clothing or jewelry that is distracting or disruptive to the educational program or that poses a threat to the physical well-being and safety of the student or others shall not be worn on campus or at school activities.
- Hats may be worn outside of the building.

School-directed changes to a student's attire or grooming should be the least restrictive and disruptive to the student's school day. Any school dress code enforcement actions should minimize the potential loss of educational time. Appropriate dress will not be restricted on the basis of ethnicity, religion, gender, gender identification, or personal style. Thanks for your attention and assistance.

BEFORE SCHOOL PROGRAM

We offer an early morning drop-off program beginning at **7:30 a.m. for a fee to help cover supervision costs. If interested in this service, please complete the [Morning Supervision Program Form 2024-2025](#). Parents may drop off students beginning at 8:00 a.m. free of charge.** Students must be dropped off at the cafeteria entrance on the south side of the building.

NWEA MAP ASSESSMENT

Starting September 11, 2023, 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students will take the NWEA (Northwest Evaluation Association) Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) Assessments in Mathematics and Reading. The NWEA MAP assessment is a vital tool that helps teachers understand where students are ready to learn. Please take a moment to read our full parent letter regarding [NWEA MAP Testing](#). Reach out to Mrs. Dunn if you have any questions.

This assessment is untimed, and students should not study for it. If a student does not finish or is absent, they can complete the assessment another time. Please encourage your child to try their best, but this should not cause undue stress. Students should get a good night's sleep, eat a healthy breakfast, and ***BRING THEIR CHARGED CHROMEBOOKS TO SCHOOL***. Students will also need HEADPHONES.

Assessment Dates

Wednesday/Thursday, September 11 & 12 - NWEA MAP Testing (Reading)

Wednesday/Thursday, September 18 & 19 - NWEA MAP Testing (Math)

JRMS CLUBS

Our Clubs and Special Activities will be starting soon. Please click the following link: [John Read Middle School - Clubs & Activities](#) (from the John Read Middle School website) to get detailed information. Remember, each student must have a Club & Extracurricular Activity Permission Slip filled out. The permission slip is at the bottom of the page.

CLIMATE COMMITTEE

The JRMS Climate Committee is a team of parents, school staff members, and students who work to implement parts of our School Improvement Plan goals. We meet monthly from 8:10 am to 8:55 am. If you are interested in joining the JRMS Climate Committee, please complete the following [form](#). We meet once a month on Friday at 8:10 a.m. These are our [agenda items](#) for the year.

INFORMATION ABOUT STUDENT IDs

On Friday, September 6, JRMS students had their school photos taken. This photo will be used to generate a student identification card. The Legacy Photo Company will deliver the IDs when they are ready. Students in grades 6-8 are required to have a suicide prevention message placed on the back of their IDs. The United Way sent the following information to all area schools.

Connecticut is experiencing a heartbreaking rise in teen suicides this summer. This serves as a reminder that Connecticut Public Act 22-47, Section 28, requires that the 988 National Suicide & Crisis Lifeline number be included on identification (ID) badges of students in Grades 6 through 12. Due to the timing of the implementation of 988, the requirement becomes effective for the 2024-25 school year. The 988 Contact Center services include rapid 24/7 access to trained staff who can help students (and adults) experiencing suicidal, substance use, and other mental health crises, provide referrals to resources, and perform warm transfers to Mobile Crisis or emergency services as needed/desired. Additional information, resources, and materials can be found at:

[CT Suicide Prevention | Connecticut Suicide Advisory Board \(preventsuicidect.org\)](#) and [988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline - Call. Text. Chat. \(988lifeline.org\)](#)

***** COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS *****

Check out the new great Fall Programs for all ages at **NEW POND FARM.** <https://newpondfarm.org/>



OPPORTUNITIES SPONSORED BY THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB - REDDING/EASTON

Gaming Foundations & Minecraft/Roblox
 SEPTEMBER 17TH TO OCTOBER 24TH
 GRADES 1-8
 \$225
 BUS TRANSPORTATION FROM RES & JRMS!
 ELEMENTARY: TUESDAYS 3:00-4:45PM
 MIDDLE SCHOOL: THURSDAYS 4:00-5:45PM

Basketball Fastbreak
 Triple Double
 Grades: 2-8
 4:15 PM - 5:15 PM
 WEDNESDAYS, SEPTEMBER 11 - OCTOBER 2
 \$50 Per Player
 Active BGCRC Membership Also Required.
 Register Now: BGCRC.NET

CARTOON & COMIC CLUB
 GRADES 3-8
 EXPLORE NEW IDEAS AND SKILLS, AND LEARN THE CREATIVE PROCESS OF COMIC BOOK-MAKING
 \$10 PER SESSION
 TO REGISTER, VISIT BGCRC.NET UNDER THE ARTS AND MUSIC TAB
 SEPTEMBER 11 TO OCTOBER 19
 TUESDAYS 4:00-5:00 PM

Torch Club
 "Torch club is a powerful vehicle through which young people develop and strengthen their 21st-century leadership skills, giving them a firm foundation of good character and integrity."
 Torch Club members elect officers and work together to implement projects in four focus areas:
 Service to Club/Community, Education, Health/Fitness, Social Recreation.

John Read Middle School
 Helen Keller Middle School
BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF REDDING-EASTON

Afterschool Programs for Grades 5-8

Tuesdays- Cartoon & Comic Book Club 4:15-5:30pm
Wednesdays- Fast Break Basketball 4:15-5:30pm
Thursdays- ESports/ Minecraft/Roblox 4:15-5:45pm
Fridays- Clubhouse Hangouts 4:15-6pm

Torch Club is open for Grades 6-8 and meets monthly!

BUS TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE FOR JRMS FOR ALL PROGRAMS
 Visit BGCRC.NET For More Information

After School Enrichment Program

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF REDDING-EASTON

Teen Center

The Boys & Girls Club now offers teen enrichment programs for our middle school students. With Youth Development Counselors, teens will be able to rebuild connections while learning about leadership roles. The clubhouse is a safe space for teens to come and unplug after school!

Direct Bus Transportation from JRMS!

BGCRC.NET/AFTERSCHOOL-ENRICHMENT-PROGRAM/