



Welcome to Legacy of Learners

Dear Families,

We would like to welcome you to the Legacy of Learners community for the 2026-27 school year. We are tremendously excited to see our existing students return as 8th-grade leaders and to welcome our new 7th-grade students to the community.

A Montessori education strives to help students become confident, independent thinkers and lifelong learners. We empower students to develop their passions, to be open to new experiences, and to collaborate with one another to make a difference. We look forward to getting to know you, and thank you in advance for your commitment to working together in support of your students.

Meet Your Teachers		
Cody Waddell History and English waddelc@cpsboe.k12.oh.us	Dex Mays Math and Science maysdex@cpsboe.k12.oh.us 	John Pacey Intervention Specialist paceyjo@cpsboe.k12.oh.us 
Hello LoL Families, I am Mr. Cody Waddell, the ELA and Social Studies teacher for LoL. I am excited for this new year, working with a new class of 7th-grade students and continuing to build what we began last year with our 8th graders.	Welcome LoL Families, My name is Mr. Mays, and I am excited to be your Math and Science teacher this year on Team LoL. Whether you're joining us as a new 7th grader or returning as an 8th grader, I can't wait to get to know you and help make this	Hi LoL families, My name is Mr. Pacey, and I am excited to be part of your students' community this year. I'm a husband, dad, Army veteran, and lifelong tinkerer who enjoys helping students figure things out, build confidence, and find

Middle school can be a challenging time full of change and transitions. My goal is to make those transitions as painless and positive as possible. LoL is your school family - a place to learn, grow, make connections, and do the important work of growing into the adults you will be.	year great! Middle school is a time of growth, new experiences, and sometimes a few challenges along the way. My goal is to create a classroom where students feel comfortable asking questions, taking risks, and learning from mistakes. In both Math and Sciences, we'll focus on building confidence, problem-solving skills, and curiosity about the world around us. I know that Math and Science can sometimes feel intimidating, but you do not have to have all the answers on day one. What matters most is showing up, trying your best, and being willing to learn. My classroom is a place where everyone is supported, encouraged, and given the opportunity to succeed. I am looking forward to an exciting year filled with learning, discovery, and plenty of opportunities to grow together. Welcome to Team LoL. I can't wait to meet you!	the strategies that work for them. Middle school can be messy, funny, challenging, and full of growth — sometimes all before lunch. My goal is to help students feel supported, known, and capable while building the organization and independence they need for a strong year. You can find more about me at my personal website, agentbrosef.com
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Learning in a Junior High Montessori Classroom

Learning Cycle

Classes last for 90-120 minutes to promote a deeper understanding of content through an ongoing cycle of teacher-led mini-lessons and time for student-led practice and application. This extended time fosters students' independence, strengthens their ability to focus, enables them to find joy in working with hands-on materials, and ultimately leads to satisfaction with their work. Students take additional ownership of their learning by setting goals during student-led conferences with their teachers and parents.

Mastery of Content

Teachers will gauge students' mastery of the content not only through traditional means like quizzes and tests but also through projects, presentations, and labs. We aim to tap into students' creative energy and intrinsic motivation by giving them many ways to show what they know and can do.

Social/Emotional Learning

Montessori education focuses not solely on academic skills, but also on the development of students as people. In addition to core and elective classes, our schedule includes daily student-led Morning Meetings as well as opportunities for Solo Time, Group Initiatives, Socratic Seminars, and Community Meetings. Activities will take many forms, but the core concept is to give students time to build connections with one another and to develop their own interests.

Field Experiences

Junior High students at Gamble have frequent opportunities to connect what they learn in the classroom to new contexts outside the classroom. Highlights include two nature-based overnight trips - one in the fall and one in the spring - that build students' sense of personal agency as well as their connections with their peers. By choosing to come to Gamble Montessori, students and families are committing to participating in these experiences that make our school unique.

Communication is key to a successful school year

ONGOING COMMUNICATION TOOLS

Make sure the school has up-to-date contact information for your family

- Contact the Gamble Montessori office at **363-2600** to verify that the information on file for your child is accurate. ***We need your phone number and email address to share information throughout the year.***

Reach out if you need something

- We know that each family is juggling a unique situation and want to help problem-solve any hurdles that may hinder your child from participating fully in the programs at Gamble. Please do not hesitate to contact any of us. If we don't have an answer, we'll work together to find someone who does.

<u>Cody Waddel</u> (Language Arts & Social Studies)	<u>Dex Mays</u> (Math & Science)	<u>John Pacey</u> (Intervention Specialist)
waddelc@cpsboe.k12.oh.us	maysdex@cpsboe.k12.oh.us	paceyjo@cpsboe.k12.oh.us