

## TRANSITION TO HMS

Welcome to Hastings Middle School! Your entry into the Middle School will be carried out in the following steps.

### Step 1: Spring Orientation:

May 9 at 6:30-7:30 pm, HMS Auditorium

### Step 2: Classroom Visits:

In May, HMS Counselors visit fourth grade classrooms.

### Step 3: Raider Prep Academy

Tuesday and Wednesday, August 20 and 21

Tuesday, August 20: 11 AM Parent Presentation

At Raider Prep, you will be able to:

- pick-up your schedule which includes your locker information
- find your classrooms
- find your locker and try the combination

\*\*One change from previous years: school pictures will be during the school year, NOT at Raider Prep. \*\*

Our Principals and Counselors will be available to answer any questions you may have during Raider Prep.

### Step 4: First Day of School:

Tuesday, September 3rd.

## THE 5TH GRADE SCHEDULE

The Schedule—HMS operates on a six period day, with some courses that meet every other day. Each period lasts approximately 55 minutes. School starts at 7:55 AM and goes until 2:35 PM.

Advisory—25 minutes during 4th hour designed as a homeroom with Raider Way lessons, team building activities, assignment book checks, reading time, and buddy class activities.

Core Classes—All students have Language Arts, Math, Social Studies, Science and Phy Ed.

Rotating Courses—Additional classes that rotate every three weeks include Tech Literacy, Art, and Health. These classes meet every other day.

WIN (What I Need) Classes—These classes meet every other day for the full year. Some students need a little extra time with math or reading skills and will be assigned to Reading and/or Math Lab. Students may also elect to take a music class (Band, Choir, or Orchestra). Students who don't have any of those classes will have a general WIN class in the pod.

**FREE** OASIS— A free after school program is available for students, Monday through Thursday. The first hour is homework, kids can bring a healthy snack, then additional time for homework or fun activities.

# HASTINGS MIDDLE SCHOOL



## WELCOME TO 5TH GRADE



Main Office 651-480-7060  
Counseling Office 651-480-7084  
Online at: [ms.hastings.k12.mn.us](http://ms.hastings.k12.mn.us)

## 5TH GRADE: MOVIN' ON UP!

### Congratulations!

You never thought the moment would arrive, but here it is...you're finally graduating from elementary school and that's right, you're about to take on middle school.

The transition to middle school is different for everyone. It may seem scary but remember, all new experiences are frightening at first. If you have the right attitude and know what to expect, you'll be a middle school pro in no time!

### Students at HMS

When you move to the middle school you're going from being one of the oldest kids at school to one of the youngest. You might be seeing seventh or eighth graders who seem a million times bigger! Remember, these "older kids" were once new kids just like you and they are friendly and willing to help.

### U Crew

U Crew is a middle school transition program that welcomes 5th graders and helps them feel comfortable throughout the first year of their middle school experience.

### The Raider Way

We talk a lot about what it means to live the Raider Way. We teach character traits and focus on recognizing students and staff for doing the right thing. We have individual and school-wide rewards that make HMS a great place to be!

## WHAT'S DIFFERENT?

### More Work

In 5th grade, depending on how you use your class time, you will have about an hour of homework each night. So make good choices and set aside enough time to finish at home.

### Lockers

Instead of lugging your stuff around in a bag, or stashing it in a classroom desk, you have a locker to store everything safely. You will have a locker combination to memorize. Make sure to keep your combination private and clean out your locker frequently.

### On Schedule

There are six hours (periods) during each school day and some classes meet every other day. Your class schedule may seem confusing at first, but you'll have it down in no time. If you have trouble, remember, teachers and other school staff are here to help!

### Passing Time

You will change classes in your pod about every 55 minutes. You will have four minutes between classes to go to your locker and get to your next class.

### Use Your Assignment Book!

You will be given an assignment book on the first day of school. It must be with you at all times. Make notes in it so you can remember what you need to do when you get home. Your planner is also where your passes are located. Passes are for use throughout the trimester. Use them wisely.

## JUST FOR PARENTS

### Infinite Campus—Parent Portal

Infinite Campus offers online access to information which includes your child's grades, attendance, discipline, test history and emergency information. Parents will be expected to sign up for this valuable tool in the Fall. More information to come!

### Communicating with your Student's Teachers



In addition to attending school conferences, emailing your child's teachers' is one of the quickest and easiest ways to communicate. You can email the teachers through the school website.

### Check the School Website

[ms.hastings.k12.mn.us](http://ms.hastings.k12.mn.us)

This is an excellent way for parents to keep up with school news and events. Announcements are posted daily.

### Contact the Counseling Office

If your child is having issues involving friends, family, academics or if you need any resources, please contact the counseling office at 651-480-7084.

Our job is to help you!

