



## **Welcome to Lindale Middle School...Home of the Lynx!**

(Answers to your FAQs posted by our rising 6th graders)

1. How do you remember all your classes and your locker combination, isn't that a lot of stress? You will receive a printed copy of your schedule before school starts and on the first day of school. We suggest that you tape this into your agenda. We also recommend you write your locker combination in your agenda for easy access. We try to make it as stress-free as possible. Before you know it, you will have memorized your schedule and your locker combination.

2. What is the food like at lunch? Is lunch longer because of no recess?

School lunch is the same lunch you had in elementary school. The only difference is you don't have to decide what you will eat at the beginning of the day. You make your selection when you arrive in the lunchroom for your meal. There is no recess, so lunch is 25 minutes. You will sit by class at a couple of assigned tables in the lunchroom, but can pick your own seat at those tables.

3. Are the lunchroom and PE room put together? Does each grade eat lunch by themselves? Is it really loud? Can you sit wherever you want?

The Cafeteria and Gym are on two separate hallways at Lindale Middle School. Each grade is currently scheduled to have two lunch times. Which lunch time a student attends is determined by a student's team of teachers. Splitting the lunch times helps assist with the number of students at each lunch, but it can still get a little noisy when people forget to use their inside voices. Tables in the Cafeteria are assigned by classes, so while you can choose where you sit at your table, you cannot choose which table you sit at.

4. How strict are the teachers on a scale from 1-100? (1- not strict at all, 100- if you don't follow the rules something bad is going to happen to you)

The teachers at Lindale are very fair. We expect our students will follow the rules, but should a student decide to break the rules, teachers and administration use the Student Code of Conduct to determine the appropriate consequence.

5. Do you transition to classes together or by yourself? Do teachers walk you to your classes?

Students transition to classes on their own. You will have 4 minutes, plenty of time, to get to your next class. Teachers do escort their classes to and from lunch. This is the exception. While transitioning to classes on your own may sound scary, practice makes perfect!

6. Do you have any extra-curricular activities offered? Like Football?

We offer a ton of extra-curricular activities and clubs. There are no organized sports, except for basketball for 8th grade students. BUT, we do have lots of clubs our incoming 6th grade students are able to join, like Drama, Dance, Robotics, Student Government, and so much more. You will learn all about them when you arrive at Lindale Middle School.

7. Do you have assigned seats in class?

Having assigned seats in class will depend on the teacher. A lot of teachers will allow you to pick your seat, but if there is a disruption, teachers may move your seat for your academic benefit.

8. Is Middle School like the movies – where ½ the kids get picked on?

Please do not watch movies about middle school and believe everything that you see. We have a great staff of teachers, counselors, and administrators that are here to ensure your safety. That is our #1 priority.

9. Do you get any free time?

There is not a lot of free time. Our school days are scheduled and structured, just as they were when you were in elementary school. You can talk to your friends while changing from class-to-class (4 minutes between each class) and during lunch.

10. Is there an art room, and if so, is it large?

We are very fortunate to have multiple art rooms at Lindale Middle School! Our art teachers are wonderful and have large spaces for our students to embrace their creativity and love for art.

11. Are the teachers mean?

We don't think so. They are fair and objective and LOVE teaching kids. The 6th grade teachers can't wait to meet their new students.

12. Are we allowed to use the bathroom more than twice?

Usually you may use the restroom as necessary, but not take advantage of that. We do ask that you wait until 10 minutes of class has started and not during the last 10 minutes of class, as to not miss important instructions. This is called the 10-10 Rule.

13. Who is the principal?

Our principal at Lindale Middle School is Mr. Nash. Mr. Nash is a firm, but fair, leader in our school. I know he is very excited to meet our upcoming 6th grade students!

14. How long are classes and how much time do you have to get from one class to another? Do the stairs take forever to walk up?

Depending on the day, classes are around 50-55 minutes long. You will have plenty of time, 4 minutes, to get from class to class. We try to keep a flow pattern on the stairs, therefore certain grades are assigned to different stairways. You should only be traveling with other 6th graders.

15. What is your favorite class?

See the answers from the Counseling Department!

Ms. Brooks- Gets the FACS (Family and Consumer Science)

Ms. Benjamin- True Colors (Art)

Ms. Cropp- Band

Ms. Endo- Language Arts

Ms. Cotton- Science

16. From 5th – 6th grade – does school get much harder or stay mostly the same?

The biggest difference between elementary and middle school is time management and organization. You will have to learn how to balance more teachers and more subjects. It is important to stay organized with an agenda and schedule. BUT don't worry, that is one of the things that the school counselors can help you with.

17. Can you eat in class?

This will depend on the teacher's classroom rules. Some will allow a snack and some will ask that you do not eat in class.

18. Do you ever get lost in the hallways? Do you get in trouble if you are late to class?

All of us have gotten lost in building at one time or another, especially when you are new. The teachers are very understanding during the first few days of school. You will get to know the building quicker than you think. Once this happens, you will be expected to arrive to class on time. Teachers are consistently on duty during hallway transitions and available to help.

19. Are you required to bring a cell phone in Middle School?

You are not required to bring a cell phone to school in middle school. Lindale Middle School has an "Away for the Day" cell phone policy, meaning students who choose to bring cell phones to school must have them stored in their locker for the day. Students who are caught using a cell phone during the school day will have their cell phone given to the assistant principal.

20. Are phones allowed out in class? Do they have a wifi password?

Cell phones are not permitted in class. If you have a cell phone, it must be off and put away in your locker. Because of this, we do not have a WiFi password.

21. Is middle school fun?

The Counseling Department thinks that middle school is lots of fun. You are able to engage in more classes, make new friends, and join in many activities. We just know you will love Lindale Middle School as much as we do.

22. Is anyone in STEM or AVID – Do you enjoy it?

Yes and yes! We have 110 students in the 6th grade STEM program and about 50 students in AVID for 6th grade. We receive very good feedback that the students do enjoy these classes.

23. What are the teachers like?

We love our teachers at Lindale Middle School. They can be kind and caring, and they want the best for their students. You can always talk to your teachers and ask them any questions that you want.

24. Do you have PAWS (classroom incentives)?

At Lindale Middle School, we have a very active PBIS program that provides monthly events, incentives and raffles. Lynx Notes are earned by students who demonstrate respect for self, others, learning, and/or property. Lynx Notes can be exchanged for prizes, raffles, attendance to some after-school events, or spent in the school store.

25. Do you like Middle school more than Elementary school?

We love middle school; that's why we work here. We know that you will enjoy middle school as well. There is more freedom, lots of extra-curricular activities, and tons of fun classes.

26. What expectations are there for Middle School?

Middle school students are expected to do their school work, learn new things, follow the rules, and most importantly have fun while doing all this.

27. How many students are in your classes?

Typically, there are about 25-30 students in most classes. PE and Health can be a little larger.

28. How many classes do you have each day?

You will have 6 classes in a day. On Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, you will have an extra class called Advisory.

29. What type of field trips do you have?

Some students will have the opportunity to visit museums, plays, or even colleges. It will depend on the classes you are taking. We also like to bring in guest speakers to talk to all the students at Lindale.

30. How do you deal with waking up so early?

You have to get yourself into a routine, by going to bed at a decent hour, so you can wake up for school on time. It is beneficial to have your bag packed and your clothes picked out the

night before to save yourself some time in the morning.

31. How much homework do you get (like do you get homework in every class)? What is the homework like? Do you get in trouble if you don't do your homework?

Homework is important, as it helps you understand and practice the material to gain and retain new knowledge. Most classes will assign homework, but no more than 20 minutes or so per subject. Teachers have their rules about missed homework that they will explain during the first few days of school.

32. Do kids have fist fights in the halls/bathrooms? Do you get detention when you have a fist fight?

It is very rare to have a fight in the bathroom, but if something of that nature were to take place, it would be handled with the proper consequences according to the Student Code of Conduct.

33. Do you have an "A" week and a "B" week?

At Lindale Middle School, we have "A" days and "B" days. We switch between A/B days every day. A/B days determine which Encore classes a student has that day.