

MERRIMACK MIDDLE SCHOOL

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ADAM B. CARAGHER
Principal

SHAWNA D'AMOUR
Assistant Principal

May 1, 2020

Dear Sixth Grade Parents/Guardians:

Due to the change in our learning environment, we have decided to change our processes related to math placement, World Language, Band, and Chorus. Please read the following carefully, as it is modified from past years.

All students will begin the year in 7th grade math. After a period of review, students will be assessed to determine math placement for the remainder of the year. We will provide further information in the fall related to moving forward with this assessment process.

All students can participate in either a World Language Program or Hatchet Time. We wanted to share some details with you to help you make an informed decision that is in your student's best interest.

We recommend that students enroll in a language of their choice at MMS to support the continued development of a strong foundation related to world language studies. This two-year program is a continuation of the language studies that students have participated in at JMUES. Students who are successful during their 7th and 8th grade experience may be eligible for placement in a Spanish 2 or French 2 course for their freshman year. Permission to withdraw from world language may be granted in situations in which students are experiencing significant challenges in their core content classes or have demonstrated a need for supports.

Hatchet Time provides students with opportunities for small group reteaching, extra academic assistance, and/or additional reinforcement of specific executive functioning abilities such as study skills, organization techniques and time management tools. It is also a time for supports such as Title 1 Math and/or Title 1 ELA. Unless your student has specific challenges in reading, writing or math, we recommend participation in the World Language Program to assist with the creation of solid academic foundation. Please note that students who do not participate in the World Language Program at MMS will have the opportunity at Merrimack High School.

Also included on this form is information related to band and chorus. These programs are a great opportunity for students who are interested in developing their skills, both vocal and instrumental. These groups have multiple performances throughout the year that provide students the opportunity to demonstrate their hard work for parents, students, and the faculty.

Please complete the online form by **Friday, May 15th, 2020**. The form can be found at <https://www.sau26.org/mms> (the MMS Website), click on "Incoming 7th Graders" under the News column. If you have any questions, please contact Guidance Counselor Leslie Warhola (leslie.warhola@sau26.org or (603)913-3433) or reach out to me directly.

Thank You,



Adam Caragher
Principal