# The Middle School Experience
## @ Fanny Jackson Coppin

# Principal Espinosa

Middle School Points of Pride:

- Continued academic growth, despite school closures.
- Electives that allow for choice and academic advancement.
- Consistently, 95% of students get into one of their 5 choices of high schools.
- Review of academic programs - new science curriculum, lab tables for each 6-8 classroom.

# Privileges & Responsibility

- Students travel more freely when in middle school.
- Staff work to build independence with students.
- Ability to participate in various clubs that are often reserved for middle schoolers.
- Electives

# Ms. Casanova
## School Counselor



- Guidance Class Grades 6-8
- Individual and Group Sessions based on need/ask
- Advocacy to self-refer
- Peer Mediation
- Lunch Bunch
- Referral for Counseling Resources
- High School Selection Process
- Attendance Designee

# Mr. Klemash
## Climate Liaison

- PBIS

- Discipline

- Analyzing Data

- Bullying Designee

# 2022-2023 Middle School Teachers

**6th Grade:**

Mr. Kuhn (Reading & Social Studies)

Mr. Matteo (Math & Science)

**7th Grade:**

Ms. Scardelletti (Reading & Social Studies)

Mr. Morris (Math & Science)

**8th Grade:**

Mr. O'Karma (Reading & Social Studies)

Mrs. DiSalvo (Math & Science)

**Specialists:**

Mrs. Franko-Uliano (Art)

Mr. Henry (Physical Education/Health)

Mr. Argerakis (Music)

Ms. Drayton (STEAM, Gifted)

Mr. Levinson (Computers, SBTL)

# Student Government

- Positions: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer & PBIS Representative
- Students in Grades 7 & 8 who meet the academic and behavioral criteria are eligible to run for Student Government Positions
- Students in Grades 6-8 vote in the Student Government Elections
- Biweekly Meetings with School Leaders
- Help to plan and make decisions regarding school-wide policies and events

# PBIS Events

- Four Quarterly PBIS Events throughout the year

- November - Friendsgiving

- Students do not need to redeem Coppin Coins

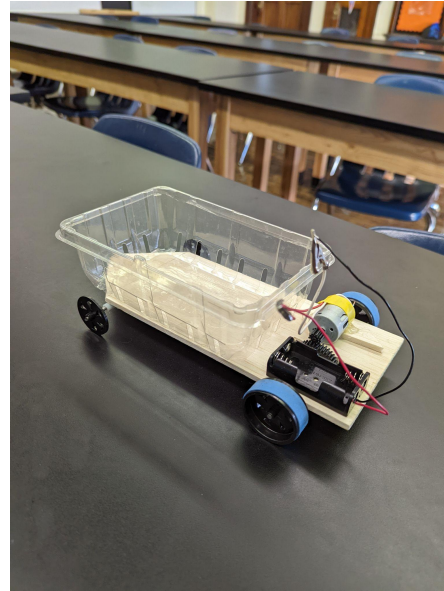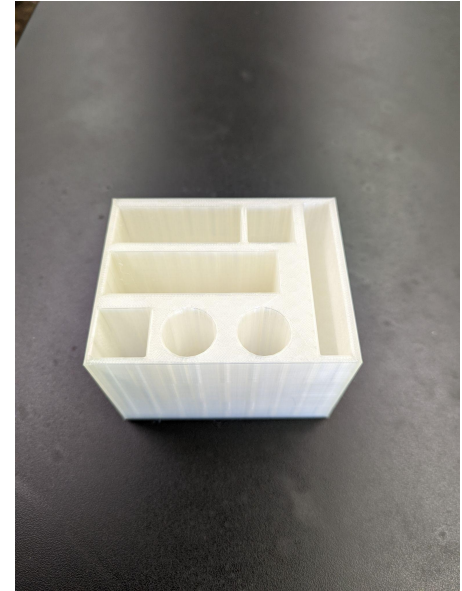- Additional events throughout the year

# Electives...

- Algebra
- Chess
- Community Building
- Digital Art & Design
- STEM/Engineering
- Music/Band
- Stock Market
- School Media
- Math Enrichment
- Reading Enrichment

# STEM/Engineering

- Phenomenon based learning.
- Design challenges
- 3D Printing
- Rubber Band Racers
- Marker Bots
- Egg Drop
- Solar Sprint (build a solar powered mini race car for competition)

Solar Sprint Car

3D Printed Supply Holder

# Music/Band

Elective Music Students use this time to work on their music from HOME and HOME Jr. band. Students also receive one on one instruction with any/all areas of their band music.

# School Media

- Students explore  multiple media sources to gain understanding of how to structure a newspaper and articles.
- Students write the school newspaper.
- Yearbook committee - responsible for putting together the yearbook for the school year.

# Stock Market

Mr. O'Karma

- Students participate in a state-wide stock market game competing against schools from across the state.
- Students are provided with $100,000 of 'funny money' to invest in the stock market in real time.
- Students are taught basic financial philosophies to numerous mathematical concepts in order to understand how their investment works.
- Students are also taught the power of information and the basic principles of capitalism.
- Previous accomplishments
  2018 Spring Champions
  2019 Year-long Champion and Runner-up
  2022 Year-long 3rd Place

# Digital Art & Design



Digital Art and Design elective is for students who are interested in creating art using digital tools. This is our first year for this elective!

We will mostly be using free tools like Google Drawing and Slides plus other interesting ways of making digital art like Pixel art and Stop Motion animation.

We are currently participating in a design contest through the organization Fresh Artists, a non-profit philanthropic organization that supports art education in schools in collaboration with #VoteThatJawn to design "I voted!" stickers for election day. Winners will have their designs printed on stickers and distributed locally!

# Chess Elective



· Participants Learn How to Play Chess

· Chess Improves Concentration and Memory

· Enhances Reading & Math Skills

· Fosters Logic, Critical Thinking and Creativity Skills

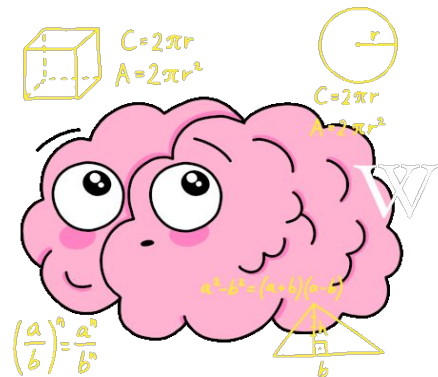· Enriches Children with the Many Other Benefits Chess Provides

# Community Building

- Bringing awareness to Community Building Themes (October's Theme is UNICEF)

- Assisting with Community Building Projects throughout the school

- Brainstorming different activities to use of PBIS

- Receiving Peer Mediation Training to assist with conflict in lower grades

# Algebra

- For 8th grade students ONLY

- Students will have the opportunity to get a jump start on their high school classes.

- This is a 9th grade math class taken in addition to the regular 8th grade math curriculum

- Students take the Algebra Keystone Exam in the Spring, which is a high school graduation requirement.
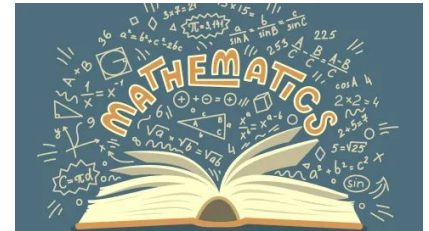
# Math & Reading

**Reading Practice:**

- Exposure to grade level vocabulary
- PSSA reading practice
- Oral Reading Fluency
- Context Clues Practice
- Basic Phonics Skills
- Writing practice using proper structure and formatting

**Math Enrichment:**

- Refinement of basic math skills to continue to develop the students' foundational skills.
- Small group direct instruction on curriculum based content.
- Access to extra time for in-class math assignments, assessments and homework with the opportunity for extra assistance from the teacher.
- PSSA Math practice.

# After-School Activities

- Homework Club
- Chess Club
- Robotics
- Home Band & Junior Band
- Sports

# Home Band & Junior Band

HOME is an after school music program that began in 2009.  The band consists of students performing on drums, keyboards, guitar, bass and vocals.

HOME rehearses on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 3-4:30PM.

HOME Jr. is for our younger musicians hopeful in becoming members of HOME in the future.  We start with 2-3 chord folk songs, and progress from there.  Students and alumni of HOME often participate as mentors for our HOME Jr. students.

# Robotics Club



- Jackson Coppin Robotics is a program that engages students in STEM activities and challenges
- The program that the school participates in is the FIRST LEGO League (FLL) Challenge. FLL Challenge is a friendly competition that involves engagement in research, problem-solving, coding and engineering and the building and programming of a LEGO robot that navigates the missions of a robot game.
- As part of FLL Challenge, teams also participate in a research project to identify and solve a relevant real-world problem.
- The mission challenges and theme change from year to year.
- Students in Grades 5 - 8
- Meets twice a week

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# Homework Club

- Homework Club is place for students to get organized about their independent work!
- All students will receive planner worksheets and guidance in organization
- Students will work on current and future assignments
- Teacher check-ins and extra help
- Club meets 3 days a week from 3:00 - 4:30 pm
- Students can sign up for one, two or three days per week
- For students in grades 4 - 8

# Chess Club

- Participants Learn How to Play Chess

- Chess Improves Concentration and Memory

- Enhances Reading & Math Skills

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- Enriches Children with the Many Other Benefits Chess Provides

# Middle School Sports

- Participating in the MGC

- Fall Sport - Golf

  a. October - November

  b. 8 Completed Physicals

  c. Two day a week committment

- Spring Sport - Track

  a. March - April

  b. 10 Completed Physicals

  c. 4 day a week commitment

# Soccer Club with Mr. Henry

Meets Tuesday & Thursday Oct. to May

Builds Teamwork & Leadership Skills

Enhances Physical & Academic Development

Promotes Social Awareness & Problem Solving Skills

# Preparing for High School

- 6th & 7th Grade:
  - Learn about the School Selection Process
  - Review expectations for SDP Criteria-Based High Schools
  - Research School Programs

- 8th Grade:
  - Classroom Guidance
  - One-on-one assistance with Counselor
  - Individual counseling on school choices
  - Support throughout the process