



Middle School Preview Parent Night Ellen Fletcher Middle School





PiE is the sole nonprofit that raises money for additional staff at all Palo Alto schools. Donations to PiE benefit every student.

In Middle School, PiE funds:

- **Counselors and Transitional Programs**
- **Sciences, Arts and Music Electives**
- **Supplemental Classroom Support**

Without PiE, funding these amazing options would not be available to our students

5th to 6th Grade Transition

- Middle School students, counselors and administrators presents information at the elementary schools in the Spring
- 5th Grade students visit Ellen Fletcher in the Spring
- Counselors meet with all feeder schools 5th grade teachers
- Fletcher staff attend 504 & IEP transition meetings
- 5th & 6th grade teachers have two (2) articulation meetings a year – Fall & Spring

What makes Ellen Fletcher a Great School?

- TEACHER TEAMS
 - Five core teams of two teachers
- COUNSELORS LOOP
- SOCIAL KINDNESS PROGRAM
- HOMEWORK HABITAT/MATH ADVANTAGE
- TEACHERS @ LUNCH AND AFTER SCHOOL by arrangement
- LUNCH CLUBS
- STUDENT COUNCIL
- STUDENT SPIRIT ACTIVITIES
- AFTER-SCHOOL SPORTS (City of Palo Alto)

What 6th Grade Students Enjoy About Middle School

- Students have more than one teacher
- Students switch classes throughout the day
- Larger school = more friends
- Elective Wheel
- Brunch instead of recess
- Student Clubs
- Lockers (Hall and PE)
- More independence & freedom

A Great Start!

Tiger Camp (6th Grade)

- Transition programs during first week of school
- All students participate
- Class gets to know one another, the teachers and staff
- Opportunity to learn about expectations at Fletcher
 - Schedules, Bike Safety, Lockers, Student ID Cards
 - Environmental Awareness
 - Campus Orientation
 - Introduction to Library Services

Academic Life

- **6th Grade Schedule**

- Rotates throughout the week
 - 5 periods with 2 core teachers
- Core subjects: Social Studies, English/Language Arts, Math, & Science
- 7th Period Flex - Extension, Enrichment, Special Programs
- Music & PE
- Wheel (Art; Drama; Language Transfer; Industrial Tech; Computers)

- **Home-School Connection**

- Fall Conferences
 - Student Responsibility & Self-Advocacy

6th Grade Mathematics & Science

All 6th grade students are enrolled in a Math 6 class

- Teachers differentiate their instruction to meet the needs of all students, providing intervention and challenges

Science is based on the NGSS Standards

- Focus is on Earth Science

Astronomy, Geology, Meteorology, Oceanography and human impact

6th Grade Language Arts/Social Studies

- Reading, Writing, Listening, and Speaking skills
- Core literature and non-fiction sources
- Grammar and mechanics embedded in curriculum
- Writing: argumentation, narrative, expository compositions, research reports, and responses to literature.
- Formal presentations, conversations, group discussions.
- Dawn of humankind and major ancient civilizations of Africa and Eurasia.
- Geographical, political, economic, religious, and social structures
- Early Human evolution, Mesopotamia, Egypt and Kush, Israelites, India, China, and Greece.
- Reading for information, Note-taking, Research, document-based questioning (DBQ), and presentation skills emphasized

Language arts skills are emphasized and applied across the curriculum.

WHEEL, P.E., AND MUSIC

- **Music** (Choir, Band, or Orchestra)
 - Year-long classes, meet 2x/week
- **Physical Education**
 - Year-long classes, meet 2x/week
- **Exploratory Wheel**
 - 7-8 weeks per subject, meet 4x/week
 - Art
 - Computer Applications
 - Drama
 - Industrial Technology
 - Language Transfer (basic Latin)

Band, Choir, Orchestra

6th Grade Music

Three classes available:

Band (winds and percussion)

Choir (singing)

Orchestra (strings)

Each class has the same expectations for practice and number of performances.

Rehearsals foster a sense of community and focus on concert music, music theory, and technique.

MUSIC MATTERS!



Transportation To and From Fletcher

- *Walk, Bike, Skateboard, Scooter, Carpool*
[Walk & Roll Safe Routes to School](#)
- We have two (2) LARGE bike cages that are locked during the day
- We have a bike repair station
- There is a bike registration prior to the start of the school year

Specialized & Support Services

CASSY – On-site counseling sessions with interns

ACCI – On-site counseling sessions with Asian Americans for Community Involvement psychologist (Mandarin Speaking)

ALD program – Must qualify through specialized assessments

7th & 8th Grade Programs

AVID– Advancement Via Individual Determination

Focus on Success (FOS) – teacher/counselor referral

Fletcher Parents

Parent Perspective

Greta Gize Olbrich,
Mike Nanevich,
& Heewon Park

Questions?

