



ANCHOR BAY MIDDLE SCHOOL REALIGNMENT FAQ

*THIS DOCUMENT WILL BE UPDATED THROUGHOUT THE YEAR AS MORE INFORMATION BECOMES AVAILABLE

SCHEDULES/CLASSES

Q: When the fifth graders transition from class to class will they move with the same kids all day or intermix?

A: Although the final plan is still being determined, the ideal option is that they would travel with the same group of students and may have the same teacher for multiple subjects. i.e. Math, Science.

Q: Will there be any effort to schedule students coming from the same elementary school in classes together so they can ease into this transition and at least have some familiar faces in their classes? I know that it's important for the schools to merge and everyone to make new connections and friends, but I feel that some of the fifth graders will be overwhelmed at first and to have classes with very few friends might be difficult.

A. Students would be mixed as they would be going into middle school traditionally.

Q: The entire district in a grade level is a lot of students, especially when coming from an environment with about 75 students per grade. Will there be teams or pods to help the students find community and avoid "getting lost" in the crowd?

A: We are working towards having teams and common planning time so teachers can develop relationships with students as well as students having a teacher for multiple classes to create a gradual transition into middle school.

Q: How will we establish an environment for 5th and 6th grade students that fits their ages? (They are still young and may benefit from "traditional" elementary class settings)

A. We will incorporate as many traditional 5th grade experiences as possible to make it a more gradual transition.

Q: Will the 5th and 6th schedules look different?

A. Fifth grade will have fewer transitions. Their schedules will be similar to what we currently do at some of our elementary schools where they change classes for some core subjects. Our 6th grade will be very similar to what they currently have.

How will 5th graders be graded? Will they be taking exams like the 6th graders or will it be like it is currently for 5th grade?

A. 5th grade will be graded as they have been in the past and will not take exams. Currently 6th grade exams are only chapter/unit tests worth 5% of the overall grade.

Q. Will 5th grade be mixed in with 6th for lunch?

A. There will be three lunch periods for the building so students with both 5th and 6th grade students mixed.

Q. What will class sizes be like? Will 5th grade class sizes stay like they are now?

A. Class sizes will be in the mid-20's. Very similar to what they currently are in the elementary buildings.

Q. Will swim still be an elective for 7th and 8th grade?

A. No, it will be offered in 5th and 6th grade. It is not feasible to bus 7th and 8th grade students for a one-hour class.

Q. Will there be recess for 5th and 6th grade?

A. Yes, both 5th and 6th grade will have recess.

Q. What does indoor recess look like on cold/rainy days?

A. It would look like it does in the elementary buildings, with the students in a classroom for recess.

TRANSPORTATION/ BUSES / START AND END TIMES

Q. What is the plan for start/dismissal? Will times be different for elementary, MSN, MSS, and High School?

A. Times have not been set yet, but there will be staggered start/end time between the buildings.

Q. Will 5th and 8th grade students be on the same bus?

A. This has not been determined yet, but they may be together on the bus.

TRADITIONS AND ACTIVITIES

Q. Will there be a PTO?

A. Currently North does not have a PTO, but with this realignment a parent group will be formed to help plan events and activities.

Q. Will fifth grade still have things like holiday parties, birthday celebrations, book fairs, Santa Shop, field day, fun runs, etc.

A. We plan to continue many of the traditional 5th grade experiences next year. The parent group can assist us in ensuring that these traditions will take place.

Q. Will the school names and mascots stay the same?

A. That is the plan at this time.

Q. Will there be an orientation for 5th graders before they start school.

A. We will have an orientation, including a visit to the building in the spring.

Q. Will SACC be available before/after school?

A. The plan that is being discussed includes SACC at the 5/6 building.

Q. Will there be sports after school for 5th grade?

A. We plan of offering intermural sports for 5th grade boys and girls.