

**BACK TO
SCHOOL
NIGHT**

MIDDLE SCHOOL

6-8



2025-2026 Middle School Teachers

General Education

Grades Six, Seven & Eight

STEVIE ADER

- SOCIAL STUDIES &
SCIENCE
- SADER@BBURYES.ORG

KIM GASPAROVIC

- MATH
- KGASPAROVIC@BBURYES.ORG

EMILY SLACK

- ELA & WRITERS WORKSHOP
- ESLACK@BBURYES.ORG

2025-2026 Middle School Teachers Special Education and Paras Grades Six, Seven & Eight

ALLISON THURBER

- 6TH GRADE
- ATHURBER@BBURYES.ORG

GABBY HYNES

- 7TH GRADE
- GHYNES@BBURYES.ORG

KAREN BOLMARCICH

- 8TH GRADE MATH
- KBOLMARCICH@BBURYES.ORG

TRINIDY SMITH

- 8TH GRADE SCIENCE AND ELA
- TSMITH@BBURYES.ORG

Middle School Grading Policy

- ALL GRADES WILL BE SCORED USING A WEIGHT-BASED SYSTEM.
 - ASSESSMENTS
 - CLASSWORK
 - PROJECTS/ALEKS FOR MATH & IXL FOR ELA/LABS FOR SCIENCE
- GRADES WILL BE ENTERED INTO ONCOURSE AND CAN BE SEEN USING ONCOURSE CONNECT.
- PAPER ASSESSMENTS WILL BE KEPT IN SCHOOL
 - MAY GO HOME AT PARENTAL REQUEST, BUT MUST BE RETURNED TO BE FILED.
- PLAGIARISM/CHEATING/AI WILL NOT BE TOLERATED AND WILL RESULT IN A ZERO SCORE.

Middle School Late Work Policy

- PROJECTS, LABS, AND OTHER LARGER ASSIGNMENTS
 - POINTS WILL BE DEDUCTED EACH DAY FOR LATE WORK
 - STUDENTS HAVE 7 DAYS TO TURN IN LATE WORK
 - NO WORK = ZERO POINTS
- A ZERO WILL BE USED AS A PLACEHOLDER IN THE GRADEBOOK FOR ASSIGNMENTS THAT ARE MISSING/INCOMPLETE.

Middle School Absentee Policy

My child was absent . . . Now what?

- CLASSWORK, HOMEWORK, AND PROJECTS
 - NUMBER OF DAYS ABSENT = NUMBER OF DAYS TO COMPLETE MISSED WORK
 - LATE POLICY APPLIES THEREAFTER
 - IT IS THE STUDENTS RESPONSIBILITY TO ASK FOR THEIR MISSED WORK
- ASSESSMENTS
 - ABSENT ON A TEST DAY? TESTS WILL BE RESCHEDULED BY THE STUDENT FOR A MAKE-UP TIME.
- DUE-DATE ABSENCES
 - ONLINE WORK SHOULD BE SUBMITTED.
 - ALL OTHER ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE FIRST DAY BACK.
 - LONG-TERM ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE ON THEIR DAY . . . PLAN AHEAD, USE CLASS TIME WISELY, AND DON'T WAIT UNTIL THE LAST SECOND TO WORK!

Academic Sessions vs. Homework Hub

ACADEMIC SESSIONS

- INVITATION ONLY FOR STUDENTS IN GRADES 6-8
- SMALL GROUP ACADEMIC SUPPORT, FOCUSING ON CURRENT TOPICS/SKILLS FROM CLASS
- REQUIRED MONDAY - THURSDAY FROM 3:05 - 4:05 PM
- MIDDLE SCHOOL CORE-CONTENT TEACHERS RUNNING ACADEMIC SESSIONS
- MAY ATTEND CLUBS

HOMEWORK HUB

- STUDENTS IN GRADES 4-8 MAY VOLUNTARILY SIGN UP
- MONDAY - THURSDAY FROM 3:05 - 4:05 PM
 - MAY SELECT SPECIFIC DAYS OF THE WEEK
 - MUST ATTEND TWO OR MORE DAYS PER WEEK
- SAFE SPACE TO GET HOMEWORK FINISHED AND STUDY FOR UPCOMING ASSESSMENTS
- FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED - CAPPED AT 15 STUDENTS
- HELD IN THE ALL-PURPOSE ROOM
- MAY ATTEND CLUBS

Conferences

- TEACHER CONFERENCES
 - PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES ARE SCHEDULED FOR NOV 3 & NOV. 4 AND CAN BE SIGNED UP FOR ON BES WEBSITE THROUGH PTCFast.com.
 - PARENTS CAN ALSO SCHEDULE FURTHER MEETINGS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR BY CONTACTING THE MIDDLE SCHOOL TEAM. PLEASE INCLUDE ALL TEACHERS ON THE EMAIL.

Google Classroom

- GOOGLE CLASSROOM WILL BE USED DAILY AS A HUB FOR ASSIGNMENTS, ACTIVITIES, AND DOCUMENTS.
- DUE DATES, RUBRICS, AND SPACES TO TURN IN WORK WILL ALL BE ACCESSIBLE THROUGH GOOGLE CLASSROOM.
- GRADES AND ASSIGNMENT DUE DATES WILL STILL BE POSTED THROUGH ONCOURSE, BUT SPECIFICS FOR PROJECTS AND ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE IN GOOGLE CLASSROOM.

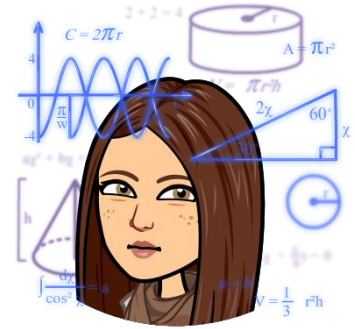
Middle School: Bloom

Bank

- MIDDLE SCHOOL BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
- TIED INTO FINANCIAL LITERACY CURRICULUM
- STUDENTS RECEIVE BI-MONTHLY "PAYCHECKS" AND PAY "BILLS & TAXES" ONCE A MONTH
- FINES ISSUED FOR BEING UNPREPARED, UNORGANIZED, OFF-TASK (MINOR INFRACTIONS) INCOMPLETE WORK, DISRESPECT, INAPPROPRIATE USE OF TECHNOLOGY (MAJOR INFRACTIONS)
- STUDENTS CAN EARN "BONUSES" FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE & ACTS OF KINDNESS
- NEED TO BUDGET THEIR MONEY TO BE ABLE TO PURCHASE "REWARDS"



Middle School Math



- BIG IDEAS MATH PROGRAM FOR GRADES 6-8
 - TEXTBOOK & ONLINE ACCESS
- ALEKS SUPPLEMENTAL ADAPTIVE TECHNOLOGY THAT INTEGRATES THE BIG IDEAS MATH PROGRAM
 - CORRESPONDING ALEKS TOPICS ARE DUE AT THE END OF EACH CHAPTER
 - STUDENTS WILL HAVE TO WORK ON ALEKS INDEPENDENTLY, TOO
- GUIDED MATH FORMAT WITH DIFFERENTIATED GROUPS AND INSTRUCTION
- CLASSWORK ASSIGNED DAILY; INCOMPLETE CLASSWORK BECOMES HOMEWORK
 - CLASSWORK MAY BE TURNED IN UP UNTIL THE CHAPTER TEST
 - CLASSWORK MAY BE CORRECTED TO EARN BACK POINTS UP UNTIL THE CHAPTER TEST
- CLASSWORK, ALEKS, AND ASSESSMENTS COMPOSE FINAL MATH GRADE
- WEEKLY SPIRAL REVIEW DUE ON FRIDAYS (OR LAST DAY OF THE WEEK) TO BE GRADED FOR ACCURACY

Artificial Intelligence

- AI IS THE WAY OF THE FUTURE; ADAPTING AND ADJUSTING TO ACCEPT THE PRESENCE OF AI
 - FOCUSING ON TEACHING STUDENTS HOW TO USE AI EFFECTIVELY AND PRODUCTIVELY
- PARENTS
 - USE AI TOOLS TO HELP YOUR CHILD WITH HOMEWORK
 - MONITOR CHILD'S USE OF AI TO ENSURE THEY ARE USING IT EFFECTIVELY
- STUDENTS
 - TOOL TO CHECK THEIR ANSWERS
 - IF STUCK ON A PROBLEM, USE AI TO HELP WALK YOU THROUGH THE PROBLEM
 - CANNOT COPY! IT WON'T HELP FOR ASSESSMENTS AND IT WILL CLEARLY SHOW INAPPROPRIATE USE OF AI IF TEST/QUIZ GRADES DON'T ALIGN WITH CLASSWORK GRADES
 - COPYING AI IN ELA IS PLAGIARISM. IT WILL RESULT IN A ZERO ON THE ASSIGNMENT.
 - WRITING ASSIGNMENTS ARE KEPT IN THE CLASSROOM FOR THIS REASON.

Financial Literacy

- APPLICATION-BASED CLASSES
 - GRADES WILL BE GIVEN BASED ON COMPLETION OF TASKS / PROJECTS
- FINANCIAL LITERACY WILL BE ONCE A WEEK
 - 8TH: THURSDAYS; 6TH & 7TH: FRIDAYS
 - INTRODUCTION TO FINANCIAL DECISION MAKING
 - EARNING, SAVING & INVESTING, SPENDING, AND BORROWING
 - PARENT INTERVIEWS EACH CHAPTER - FINANCIAL LITERACY CONVERSATIONS AT HOME ARE ENCOURAGED!



Middle School English

MIDDLE SCHOOL ENGLISH WILL EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF CLOSE READING, SYNTHESIZING IDEAS WITHIN AND ACROSS TEXTS, DETERMINING THE MEANING OF WORDS AND PHRASES IN CONTEXT, AND WRITING EFFECTIVELY WHEN USING AND/OR ANALYZING SOURCES.

HMH - COMMONLIT - CLASS NOVELS (ON NEXT SLIDE) - IXL

GOOGLE CLASSROOM WILL BE USED AS A DAILY HUB FOR ASSIGNMENTS, ACTIVITIES, AND DOCUMENTS. DUE DATES, REMINDERS, RUBRICS, AND SPACES TO TURN IN WORK WILL ALL BE ACCESSIBLE THROUGH GOOGLE CLASSROOM.

GRADES AND OFFICIAL NOTES/COMMUNICATION WILL BE POSTED THROUGH ONCOURSE, AS WELL.

Class Novels (subject to change)

6TH

I AM MALALA (MALALA YOUSAFZAI) - MEMOIR
WONDER (R.J. PALACIO) - YOUNG ADULT FICTION
GROUND ZERO (ALAN GRATZ) - HISTORICAL FICTION

7TH

REFUGEE (ALAN GRATZ) - HISTORICAL FICTION
A WRINKLE IN TIME (MADELEINE L'ENGLE) - YOUNG ADULT FICTION
NIGHT (ELIE WIESEL) - MEMOIR

8TH

THE OUTSIDERS (HINTON) - REALISTIC YOUNG ADULT FICTION
A CHRISTMAS CAROL (CHARLES DICKENS) - CLASSIC LITERATURE
A MONSTER CALLS (PATRICK NESS) - YOUNG ADULT FANTASY

Writing

FOUR MAJOR CATEGORIES (BASED ON NJ STATE STANDARDS):

LITERARY ANALYSIS - OUR MAIN WRITING FOCUS: FORMALLY CONSTRUCTING CLAIM-BASED WRITING, SUPPORTING ARGUMENTS WITH EVIDENCE, AND SYNTHESIZING INFORMATION TO CONNECT WITH THE OUTSIDE WORLD.

NARRATIVE - DEVELOPING PROSE, BOTH FICTION AND NON-FICTION ACROSS SUBJECT AREAS/CURRICULUM: WORKSHOPPED, DIFFERENTIATED WRITING TIME TO PRODUCE A VARIETY OF STORIES.

INFORMATIONAL (EXPOSITORY) - WRITING AND SPEAKING TO INFORM AND SHOW RELATIONSHIPS. EXPOSITORY WRITING IS THESIS DRIVEN AND COVERS SUBJECT MATTER FROM ACROSS THE CURRICULUM.

ARGUMENTATIVE - FORMAL RHETORIC PROMOTING AND SUPPORTING A POSITION: THIS IS AN EXTENSION OF ELA AND LITERARY ANALYSIS, AS STUDENTS WILL FORMALLY SUPPORT POSITIONS BASED ON TOPICS DERIVED FROM SUBJECT-AREA CLASSES.

Middle School Science



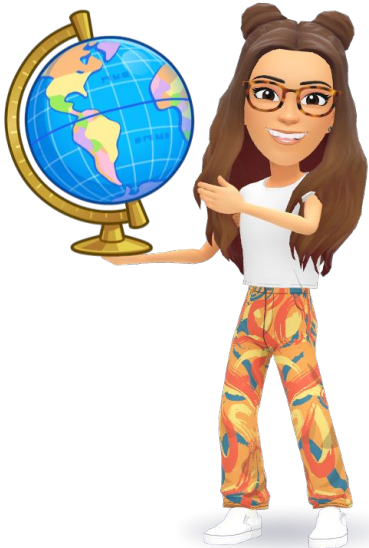
- TEACHERS' CURRICULUM INSTITUTE (TCI) PROGRAM
 - TEXTBOOK & ONLINE MATERIALS
 - CLASS WILL INCLUDE HANDS - ON LABS, PROJECTS, AND RESEARCH
- LAB SAFETY CONTRACT IS REQUIRED TO BE SIGNED BY BOTH PARENTS AND STUDENTS TO BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN LABS.
- HOMEWORK WILL BE ASSIGNED AS LEFT OVER CLASSWORK, AS WELL AS IXL ASSIGNMENTS PER WEEK.
 - ALL STUDENTS WILL HAVE THE TIME TO COMPLETE ASSIGNMENTS IN CLASS IF WORKING EFFICIENTLY.
- STUDY GUIDES WILL BE GIVEN AT LEAST TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO A TEST. IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE STUDENTS WILL FILL IT OUT AND GET CHECKED DURING THIS TIME. STUDY GUIDES WILL NOT BE CHECKED STARTING THE DAY BEFORE THE TEST.

Middle School Social Studies



- TEACHERS' CURRICULUM INSTITUTE (TCI) PROGRAM
 - 6TH GRADE - ANCIENT WORLD
 - 7TH GRADE - MEDIEVAL TIMES
 - 8TH GRADE - CIVICS (MP 1 AND 2) AND US HISTORY (MP 3 AND 4)
- GEOGRAPHY FRIDAYS: NEW THIS YEAR
 - STUDENTS WILL BE GIVEN AN ASSIGNMENT ON FRIDAY. IF NOT COMPLETED IN CLASS, IT WILL BE DUE BY THE NEXT FRIDAY. AFTER THAT, IT WILL BE A ZERO.
- HOMEWORK IS THE SAME AS SCIENCE, IT SHOULD BE ABLE TO BE COMPLETED IN CLASS. IF NOT, IT WILL BECOME HOMEWORK!

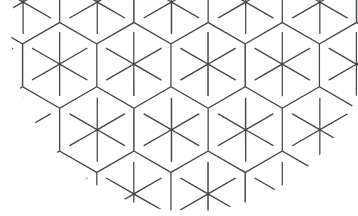
Questions???





P3 Campus

What is P3Tips?



Anonymous tip reporting solution designed specifically for the educational community.



Allows the response team to coordinate and maximize investigations



Provides around the clock monitoring.



Is provided free from Hunterdon County Safe Schools program, coordinated by the Prosecutor's Office



How it Works



Step 1

Students or parents access the app, select BES and make a report.



Step 2

Reports are routed to Dr. Marycz and Trooper Lombardi. If after hours, tips are also routed to a command center.



Step 3

Dr. Marycz, the response team and law enforcement investigate reports and collaborate to plan interventions using P3.

How P3 is Accessed



Link on our website – will
replace the Virtual
Backpack



www.p3campus.com



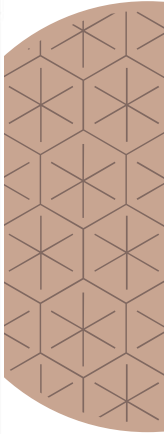
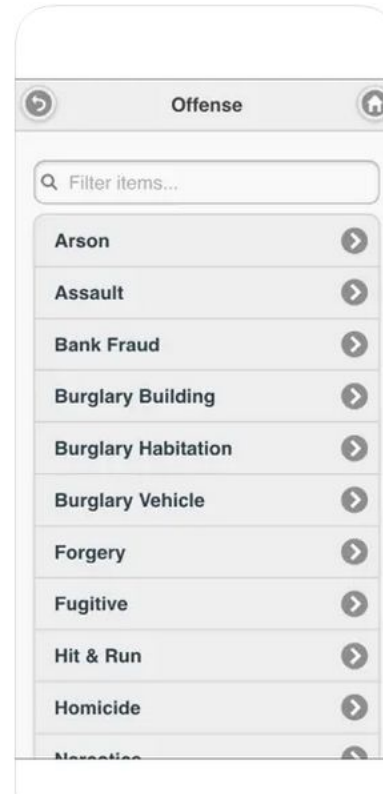
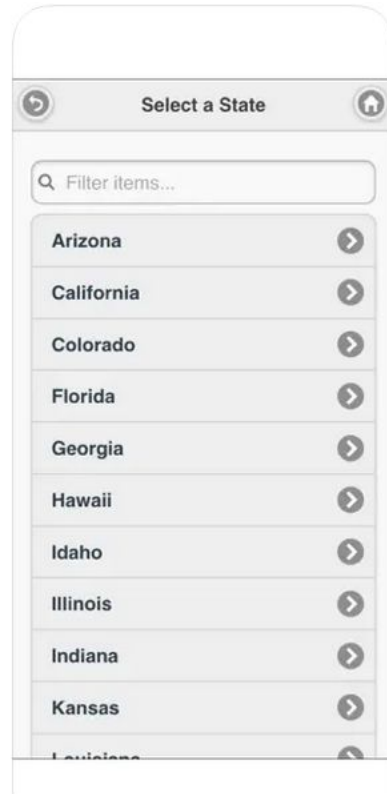
P3Tips for Android



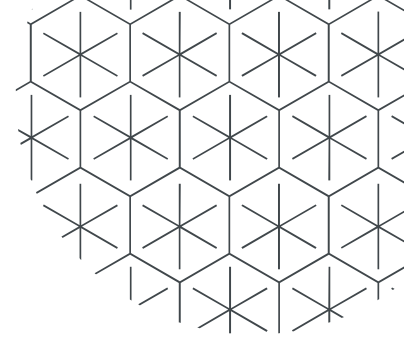
P3Tips for iPhone



How it Looks on iPhone and Android



What's Next



- Parents can download the app on their personal devices.
- Students participate in a discussion in school about P3 Tips lead by Trooper Lombardi
- Students in 4th through 8th grade will have the app installed on their school Chromebooks.
- Parents are encouraged to speak with their children about P3 Tips and assist them in installing it on their personal mobile devices.

