



## Hope Middle School

2995 Mills Road

Greenville, NC 27858

Ph: 252-355-7071 Fax: 252-355-6055



Mrs. Jennifer Johnson

*Principal*

Mrs. Daniale Stancil

*Assistant Principal*

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Greetings Rising 6th Graders and Parents,

Welcome to the world of middle school! We are so excited for you to join our Mustang family this fall. Because of school closures due to Covid-19, students were unable to visit Hope Middle School this spring for a tour and presentation. We are currently working on a virtual tour which we hope will ease some worries, give you a glimpse inside our building and get you excited about being a 6th grader. Until then, I've answered some frequently asked questions below:

1. **Do I have to register my rising 6th grader at Hope Middle School?** No, the teachers and staff at the elementary schools will work with the staff at Hope to ensure students are enrolled in the appropriate courses, including AIG. Students only need to register for band, chorus or orchestra if they choose to participate in those programs. Fifth grade teachers sent out a link to register for these programs. To help us with scheduling, please sign-up by May 29th. All other encore classes are selected at random, but don't worry -- they're all fabulous!
2. **How will my student know their schedule?** Traditionally, student schedules are mailed to students prior to Open House. We are awaiting guidance from our district leadership regarding open house, but currently, our plan is to still mail schedules to students prior to school starting.
3. **Will there be a 6th grade orientation or open house for students?** As restrictions related to Covid-19 are lifted, the opportunity for an orientation or open house becomes a greater possibility. It is our intention to plan for both. In the meantime, we are preparing a virtual tour and welcome video to share on our website and through social media. As soon as an orientation or open house is scheduled, we will use our website and social media outlets to broadcast the information. Follow us on Facebook to stay connected.
4. **Can my 6th grader try-out for sports?** Yes, 6th graders are able to try-out for sports. A current sports physical must be on file at the time of try-outs. Information about sports, try-outs and clinics will be forthcoming as decisions are made at the state and local levels. We will announce this information on our website and social media outlets.
5. **What is the dress code?** Hope Middle School follows the Pitt County Schools' Dress Code and Appearance Policy. Many of our students choose to wear spiritwear on most days. Typically spiritwear will go on sale through our online partner's website during the summer months and close just prior to open house. Pre-purchased spiritwear will be available for pick-up at open house and the online sales window will reopen for a delivery date in September. This information will be shared on our website and social media outlets as soon as it is available.
6. **What if there is an issue with my student's schedule?** At open house, students and parents will be able to submit their issue or concern with a student schedule. All issues will be reviewed, but changes cannot be guaranteed.
7. **When will we get bus route schedules?** Typically, bus schedules are printed in The Daily Reflector the week before school starts with updated times and routes. We will also share on our website and social media outlets information about bus schedules and routes. Please know that bus routes are updated frequently in the first two weeks of school to accommodate ridership.

There is no doubt that this school year will look different than in years past, but trust that it is our goal to make your student's transition to middle school as smooth as possible. We have some of the most wonderful teachers and staff who no doubt will support your student to be the best middle schooler they can be. We wish you the best as you close out your elementary years!

Educationally yours,

*Mrs. Jennifer Johnson*

Principal