

## The Transition to Middle School

The expectations when entering middle school can be overwhelming for a young person; parental support during seventh grade is critical to developing the initial student success skills needed to move forward with confidence into the eighth grade. Granite Oaks' teachers and staff are committed to working together with families to facilitate their growth into mature students.

### Tools and Resources

- GOMS Website: [goms.rocklinusd.org](http://goms.rocklinusd.org)
- Grade Checks
- Schoology
- Clubs
- Counselor Information
- Library
- Parent Falcon Club
- School App
- Weekly Eblasts
- Math Lab

### Granite Oaks Middle School MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission at Granite Oaks Middle School, a leader in collaborative and dynamic learning, is to inspire all students to develop their unique abilities with a well-balanced, quality educational experience through high academic standards and diverse extra curricular opportunities strengthened by engagement with our families and community.

**Rocklin Unified School District**  
2615 Sierra Meadows Drive  
Rocklin, CA 95677  
(916) 624-2428

**Roger Stock, Superintendent**

Board of Trustees  
Rachelle Price  
Derek Counter Rick Miller  
Julie Hupp Tiffany Saathoff



**Granite Oaks Middle School**  
2600 Wyckford Boulevard  
Rocklin, CA 95765  
(916) 315-9009

Jay Holmes, Principal  
Karen Honegger, Assistant Principal  
Linda Marcarian, Counselor  
Tressa Lindsey-Anderson, Counselor

## The Transition to Middle School

### *Parent Information*



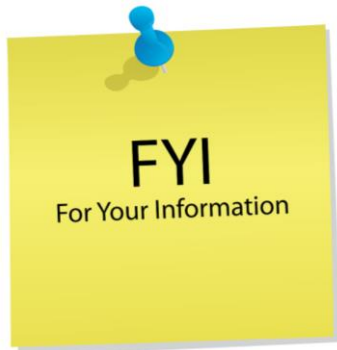
### **Granite Oaks Middle School**

*“A California Distinguished School”*  
*“A National Blue Ribbon School”*  
*“PBIS Silver State Certified School”*

**Rocklin Unified School District**

## What is middle school?

Middle school is a time between childhood and young adulthood. Middle school is a two year period when students do things that alternately amaze, shock, and concern parents and adults. For students, this can be a confusing, exciting, and incredible time of physical, intellectual, social, and emotional growth. Middle school is also a time for experimentation, testing limits, exploring new identities and navigating the dangerous waters of ever changing friendships.



Middle School is a big picture moment – learning how to be organized, managing time in and out of school, understanding how and when to focus and the value of doing your best work, are not only student success skills but life success skills. The importance of middle school is not only about completing homework assignments but about developing self-discipline, establishing personal and

educational goals and beginning to conceptualize what your future may look like as a high school or college student.



## How can I support the transition to middle school?

- ✓ **Encourage communication.** Ask your student about his/her day and daily homework. Show an interest in his or her world.
- ✓ **Encourage organization.** Check to see that his or her binder and backpack are organized. Set up a weekly backpack cleaning day to clear out clutter.
- ✓ **Check on progress.** Check with your student to make sure that he or she is completing one and one-half hours of daily homework. Support his or her planning for long-term assignments. Check grades and assignments online on a regular basis.
- ✓ **Encourage responsibility.** If your student misses an assignment or doesn't understand a concept, encourage him or her to talk with his or her teachers about it.

- ✓ **Promote involvement.** Encourage your student to get involved with a club, a sport or an extracurricular activity to foster his/her sense of belonging.
- ✓ **Communicate early with your student's teachers.** Teachers want to hear from you. If there are issues, e-mail your student's teacher and talk with him or her about your concerns.
- ✓ **Communicate with your student's counselor.** Ask for an appointment to address your concerns. Counselors are available by telephone or email. We're here to help!
- ✓ **Allow your student to learn from his/her mistakes.** Many students stumble before they succeed in middle school. Be prepared for an occasional Behavior Slip or low grade. Remember no one in later life ever asks to see a middle school transcript or behavior record!