

***Grissom Middle School***  
***17000 S. 80<sup>TH</sup> Avenue***  
***Tinley Park, IL 60477***

**HANDBOOK RECEIPT**

Students and parents are responsible for the contents of this handbook. Please fill out the information below and return this page to your child's teacher by Friday, August 30, 2019. Students should return this to their 1<sup>st</sup> period teacher.

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Grade Level:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Team Leader:** \_\_\_\_\_

We have read and understand both the 2019-2020 Parent Student Handbook, **AND** the Kirby School District School Calendar and Parent/Student Handbook and agree to abide by the rules, procedures, and requirements established by the School District 140 Board of Education and Grissom Middle School Administration.

**Parent or Guardian's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

## PURPOSE

This information book has been prepared to give our students and their parents information about the procedures, rules, activities, and organization of Grissom Middle School. Our goal is to provide quality education in a safe and efficient school atmosphere. Our teachers are committed to excellence in instruction, and we want our students and families to share in the educational process by being committed to learning. That is why it is very important that parents review this information book with their children. If everyone understands the contents of this information book, the likelihood of policy violation due to ignorance is reduced.

Grissom Middle School follows a middle-school philosophy, which focuses upon the needs of each student more intently than a conventional junior high school-type scheduled day. Grissom Middle School is making great efforts in encouraging a peaceable school environment. We have adopted a Positive Behavior Interventions System as a guideline for appropriate behavior; we hope to instill in our students a positive attitude and a sense of Patriot Pride. We ask all students to be responsible, be ready and be a Patriot.

Our information book answers questions, which often concern students so that their school experience will be more comfortable. If your understanding of some concepts in this information book is unclear, please ask a school official for further explanation. Cooperation and communication between the home and school are needed to assure the best education for each child. We are proud of Grissom Middle School and we hope that our students and their parents will take pride in their association with our school!

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## BUILDING SCHEDULE

(Students may enter the building at 8:35 am)

REGULAR SCHEDULE		START DAY SCHEDULE (early dismissal)	
8:45-9:30	1 <sup>st</sup> Period	8:45-9:16	1 <sup>st</sup> Period
9:33-10:18	2 <sup>nd</sup> Period	9:19 -9:50	2 <sup>nd</sup> Period
10:21-11:06	3 <sup>rd</sup> Period	9:53-10:24	3 <sup>rd</sup> Period
11:09 -11:54	4 <sup>th</sup> Period	10:27-10:58	4 <sup>th</sup> Period
11:57-12:42	5 <sup>th</sup> Period	11:01- 11:32	5 <sup>th</sup> Period
12:45-1:30	6 <sup>th</sup> Period	11:35-12:06	6 <sup>th</sup> Period
1:33-2:18	7 <sup>th</sup> Period	12:09-12:40	7 <sup>th</sup> Period
2:21-3:06	8 <sup>th</sup> Period	12:43-1:16	8 <sup>th</sup> Period
3: 06 -3:15	Student Dismiss	1:20	Student Dismissal
3:15-4:05	Activity Period		

- All classes have a three-minute passing time.
- Students should **not** arrive at school before 8:35 each morning.
- Students lunch periods will fall within 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, or 6<sup>th</sup> periods.

## ATTENDANCE

Regular school attendance is essential to learning. It is important for you to be prompt for all your classes. Successful students are seldom absent or tardy. Students must attend school if they attend after-school activities.

Students are required by law to be in academic attendance for at least 300 minutes to be considered in attendance a full school day, and 150 academic minutes for a half of a school day. This total does not include our passing times or lunch periods.

### Absence

When you are ill or if you need to miss school because of a visit to the doctor, your parents should call school at 429-3030 between 7:30 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. Parents may also call during non-business hours the night before and leave the school a message regarding your absence. If you are absent for three or more days, your teachers will provide assignments, which your parent may pick up after school. Additionally, a doctor's note should be submitted documenting the illness. Students who seek an excused absence for religious ceremonies or holidays, which are normal school days, will have such days counted as an excused absent day. The day must be counted as an absence on their attendance record.

### Planned Absence

Vacations should be planned to coincide with the regularly scheduled school breaks (which can be found on the school calendar). If your family chooses to take a vacation at another time, the school office must be notified in writing. In the event you will be absent from school due to a vacation, the absence will be considered unexcused. Upon your return to school, you will receive information on missed assignments and class work/homework. Any work missed due to vacation will not be included in your grade average.

### Tardiness

A LATE ARRIVAL TO SCHOOL REQUIRES AN EXPLANATION. If you arrive late for school, you must immediately report to the office with a note or phone call of explanation from a parent, doctor, or dentist. Parents should contact the Grissom office if you will be tardy. If we do not receive a call or a note explaining your tardiness, you will be asked to call home. You must also arrive on time for all classes during the day. If you are late, you must have a note/pass explaining your tardiness. Chronic tardiness may result in disciplinary actions being taken by administration.

### Truancy

Student attendance is critical to the learning process. Truancy is therefore a serious issue and will be dealt with in a serious manner by the school and district.

Students who miss 5% or more of the prior 176 regular school days without valid cause are considered chronic truants. Students who are chronic truants will be offered support services and resources aimed at correcting the truancy issue.

If chronic truancy persists after support services and other resources are made available, the school and district will take further action, including:

- Referral to the truancy officer
- Reporting to officials under the Juvenile Court Act
- Referral to the State's Attorney
- Appropriate school discipline

A parent or guardian who knowingly and willfully permits a child to be truant is in violation of State law.

## ACCIDENTS/INSURANCE

During the school day, all accidents are reported immediately to the school office. Prompt attention will be given to any student injured during school hours. An accident report will accompany all injuries, and every attempt will be made to notify parents at home or work to obtain specific instructions. However, if the emergency requires medical response, the student will be taken to Palos Hospital via a local ambulance service. **Parents are responsible for the cost of medical transportation. School District 140 does not carry health or accident insurance on students.** If students are not covered on your family's private health insurance plan, parents may obtain a student insurance plan. Information about student insurance is available on the district website or at [www.k12specialmarkets.com](http://www.k12specialmarkets.com).

### Emergency Information

The school office will keep on file emergency information for each student. This information contains data about who the school should contact in the case of an emergency. Be sure that you complete the data sheet prior to the first week of school.

**Emergency information should be updated to reflect any changes that occur.** All members of the school community will be notified through the SCHOOL MESSENGER call system in the case of an emergency school closing. Information will also be posted on the district website: [ksd140.org](http://ksd140.org)

***\*\*IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO HAVE ACCURATE PHONE NUMBERS ON FILE.\*\****

### **Medicine at School**

Students who have conditions that require medication must have two letters on file in the school office. The first letter is a release allowing the school nurse or designee to administer the medicine. The second letter is the doctor's verification, the identification of the medicine and the dosage requirements.

### **Dental Requirement**

The Illinois School Code now requires a dental examination for all children in kindergarten, second, and sixth grade. The dental examination form is to be completed by May 15<sup>th</sup> of the grade requirement. This law became effective on July 1, 2005 and applies to all public, private, and parochial schools in Illinois.

### **Illness at School**

If a student becomes ill while in school, he/she must obtain a pass from the classroom teacher and then report to the nurse's office. Parents will be contacted if the illness seems serious or if it is accompanied by a noticeable fever.

### **Concussion Protocol**

Student athletes must comply with Illinois' Youth Sports Concussion Safety Act and all protocols, policies and bylaws of the Illinois High School Association before being allowed to participate in any athletic activity, including practice or competition.

A student who was removed from practice or competition because of a suspected concussion shall be allowed to return only after all statutory prerequisites are completed, including without limitation, the School District's return-to-play and return-to-learn protocols.

### **Vision Screening**

Please be aware that the vision screening provided by the district is not a substitute for a complete eye and vision evaluation by an eye doctor. Children are not required to undergo the vision screening if an optometrist or ophthalmologist has completed and signed a report indicating that an examination has been administered within the previous 12 months.

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## **FIRE AND OTHER EMERGENCY PROCEDURES**

In the event of an emergency, an alarm will sound. During this alarm, absolute silence is necessary so that everyone can hear and obey orders. Each classroom teacher will give specific instructions either to evacuate the building or to go to a designated area of the classroom or hallway. The alternate evacuation site for Grissom will be the Tinley Park Recreation Center, if emergency officials require us to vacate the campus.

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### **Visitors/Security**

Grissom Middle School has a closed campus plan for the safety of our students. School doors will be closed and locked during school hours and entry may be gained only through the doors in the front vestibule. Visitors must push the security button located near the door. A parent or a parent-designee in the office must sign out students who are to be dismissed early. Any visitors in the building (including parents) must sign in and out through the office. Prior to leaving the office area and coming in contact with students, visitors must have their Driver's License or State ID scanned through our Hall Pass system and will be issued a visitor's badge that they must wear while in the school.

### **Bus Conduct**

While riding on the school buses, students are required to conduct themselves in a proper and orderly manner. A detailed list of rules should be reviewed. These rules can be found in the district calendar. These rules are designed to ensure safe travel for all riders. The bus driver will assign seats. Administration will review and/or reassign seats as needed.

- Students must obey the instructions of the bus driver at all times.
- Students must remain seated and facing forward.
- Students should not push, move about or annoy others.
- Food and drinks are prohibited on the bus.
- Students are prohibited from hanging or throwing things out of the bus windows.

- Students may be assigned a seat on the bus.
- Students are not allowed to make loud or distracting noises.
- Students are prohibited from using their cellular devices to take any pictures or videos on the bus.

**Our office does not have the authority to permit bus riders to transfer from their assigned bus to another bus even if there is a signed note from a parent. Bus riders must remain with their assigned bus. Students are not permitted to “switch” buses from their original District bus assignment. Students who walk do not have permission to ride buses at any time.**

Students who walk to and from school should cross 80<sup>th</sup> Avenue and other busy streets only at marked intersections and they must cross wherever a Crossing Guard is stationed. Students who walk are reminded to respect and not damage the private property or landscape of area residents. Our school will join with police and area residents to prosecute vandals in our neighborhood area.

### **Assembly Conduct**

Assemblies are provided to entertain, inform, and recognize students. The guidelines for school conduct are to be observed during these assemblies. When an assembly is scheduled, students are to report to their scheduled class and wait for their class to be called to the assembly. Students will proceed with their class to the assembly and sit in their assigned spot with their teacher. After the assembly, students should remain in their seats until they are dismissed.

### **Lunch Conduct**

- Each student must remain seated at his/her assigned table for the entire lunch period.
- Students should raise their hand for permission to use the washroom during lunch period.
- Students will not be allowed to leave lunch to go back to their lockers.
- Students should clean their table and floor area when they are finished eating.
- The lunchroom supervisors should be obeyed at all times.
- Glass bottles are not allowed.
- All food and drink must stay in the Commons.
- Fountain drinks are not permitted in the Commons and are not to be dropped off at the office with lunches.
- Lunches dropped off should be labeled and placed in the student’s team bin, which is located in the vestibule.

### **Standards of Dress**

Since school is a place for business, a student’s general appearance should not be distracting or unreasonable, immodest, or unkempt. Proper and appropriate attire is also required for our students whenever they participate in after - school activities or in any school-related activity, including dances. Parents are asked to monitor student appearance so that it will comply with state health and safety standards. Dress standards should be observed at any school or district sponsored event.

- Clothing, jewelry, or general appearance, which detracts from the educational setting, is not permitted.
- All clothing should be clean and appropriate.
- Clothing which shows disrespect for any race, creed, color, or nationality is not permitted.
- Articles of clothing which display obscene or suggestive phrases may not be worn.
- Occult (Satanic/devil worship) clothing or related symbols may not be worn.
- Clothing that displays antisocial, immoral, or illegal behavior is not permitted.
- Undergarments should not be visible.
- Halter tops, tube tops, tank tops, strapless or low-cut clothing may not be worn. (A “three finger shoulder rule” is a reasonable guide to follow.)
- Bare midriffs are not permitted. All tops must be appropriate and modest. Undergarments must not be visible.
- Clothing with holes, rips, or tears above the knee as a fashion statement is not permitted.

- Clothing or accessories which promotes alcohol, drugs, tobacco products, or which promotes violence or death, may not be worn.
- Shorts and skirts must be of an appropriate length and of a modest style (Fingertip length is a reasonable guide.)
- Pants must be worn at the waist.
- Jackets, coats, hats, gloves, or other outerwear may not be worn in school. Headwear may be worn for religious/ medical purposes or for spirit days.
- Students should not wear jewelry or clothing which violates the standards set forth here, or which presents a safety or health hazard.
- Students may not wear clothing, accessories, jewelry, or any certain colors which imply “gang” affiliation.

### **DISCIPLINARY MEASURES**

Violation of the standards of conduct and dress may be subject to a form of disciplinary action. These actions include written assignments, detentions, suspensions or expulsions.

#### **Detention**

A detention is normally not the first line of correction. Verbal warnings or other intervention strategies may be used by the teachers. Our goal is to correct any problems and help the child realize that their actions have consequences when they disregard guidelines.

Detentions may be issued for, but not limited to the following reasons:

- Disrespect
- Excessive tardiness
- Physical abuse
- Class disruptions
- Vandalism
- Verbal intimidation
- Violation of safety
- Offensive language
- Academic misconduct

Teaching Teams may assign detention for continued, repeated acts of irresponsibility such as chewing gum, coming to class unprepared, or other lesser actions which evolve into a disregard for authority, such as in the lunchroom or in an assembly.

Detention may take the following forms, depending upon the circumstances surrounding the incident and the student’s overall record of cooperation:

- a written assignment which focuses on the problem
- a before or after school detention issued with administrative approval
- a “time-out” session within the child’s school day, such as during lunchtime or during times of student options

#### **Suspensions**

A student may be suspended, following due process, from classes, and all associated activities for serious misconduct or repeated acts of misbehavior. Such acts include but are not limited to the following:

- Bullying another student.
- Fighting, or serious, intentional physical abuse or harm to others.
- Gambling.
- Gang symbols or other gang related items.

- Insubordination or disrespect towards an adult.
- Possession, use, or display of any dangerous weapon either real or an imitation.
- Profanity or profane gestures.
- Pulling a fire alarm or tampering with fire safety equipment.
- Repeated acts of misconduct or misbehavior, which may or may not merit a suspension, but which illustrate the student's disregard for regulations.
- Repeated interference with the educational process.
- Theft or vandalism of property belonging to the school, school personnel or others.
- Trafficking or advertising any unknown or otherwise harmless substance as a drug.
- Use, possession, sale, or distribution of alcoholic beverages.
- Use of medical marijuana while in school.
- Use, possession, sale, or distribution of any drug, narcotic, medical, illegal substance or related device.
- Use or possession of fireworks or explosive devices or look-alike objects, including a flame-igniting device.
- Use, possession, sale, or distribution of tobacco, vape devices, vape liquids, or E-Cigarettes.
- Possession, distribution, and/or the attempt to obtain pornography or sexting.
- Use of any cellular radio telecommunication device (e.g. cellular phone) on school property during school hours, except in the event of an emergency.
- Verbal intimidation, which may include, but is not limited to slurs of a religious, ethnic, racial or sexual nature.

Parents are responsible for their suspended student for the time period he/she is excluded from school. Suspended students will be given guidelines so they can adjust their behavior in order to avoid repetitive suspensions in the future.

Upon the student's return to school, the student may be excluded from all school-related activity privileges. Based upon the number of suspensions a student has, or the circumstances of any suspension, the student may be excluded from certain activities or events by the building Administration for a specified amount of time.

### **Search of School Property**

School authorities may request the assistance of law enforcement officials for the purpose of conducting inspections and searches of lockers, desks, parking lot, and other school property and equipment owned or controlled by the school for illegal drugs, weapons, or other illegal or dangerous substances or materials. This procedure may include the use of specially trained dogs.

### **Expulsion**

Expulsion is the exclusion from school for a period of time greater than ten days. Only the Board of Education may exercise this serious disciplinary option.

### **Firearms/Weapons**

District 140 has a strict policy regarding students who bring firearms/weapons to school or have firearms/weapons in their possession while in school. This also includes "look-alike" weapons, or objects used as a weapon. These students are subject to severe penalties, including expulsion.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **Student I. D.' S**

Each student will be issued a photo I.D. card for the current school year. This I.D. is the property of Kirby School District 140 and is initially given free of charge. The I.D. may not be defaced or damaged on either side, which includes writing, holes, pictures, stickers, trimming, cutting etc. In the event of loss or mutilation, a temporary I.D. will be issued until a replacement can be given at the cost of \$2.00 to the student. Students must carry their I.D. and must produce and/or surrender it upon the request of any teacher, bus driver or staff member for identification purposes. I.D. cards must be carried at all times throughout the school day.

### **Student Lockers**

**Lockers and desks are the property of the school district.** Students will be assigned an individual locker. This locker is the student's responsibility for the entire school year. The school reserves the right to inspect lockers. Locker combinations should be memorized and kept confidential. At no time should a student attempt to open another student's locker. Never kick or force the doors of your locker. If your locker fails to work properly, the office should be notified so repairs can be made. Lockers that are damaged beyond normal wear will be the financial responsibility of the student's family. Locker decorating is not permitted. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen property.

### **Personal Possessions**

Students should not bring cameras, lasers, roller blades, baseball bats or other valuable items to school. These items are a distraction and are often lost or stolen.

Skateboards are not to be brought to school. Skateboarding on school grounds at any time is prohibited.

### **Personal Technology Devices**

Kirby School District 140 is pleased to allow students access in school to their personal technology devices (i.e. Kindles, Nooks, iPads, etc.) as a means to enhance learning opportunities. **Students who choose to bring such devices to school are responsible for their personal equipment and are expected to comply with District standards. Tech support will not be provided on any student owned equipment. Personal devices brought to school will NOT have access to KSD 140's network which is filtered and protected by multiple firewalls. Therefore, it is important that you realize that any mobile broadband Internet access by a student's personal technology device will NOT be filtered.**

**Students will be expected to only use their Internet access as directed by a teacher in support of academic activities. Students must use such devices appropriately or they will be subject to disciplinary measures. Staff may review students' use to insure that users are acting in an appropriate, responsible manner.**

**This does not allow the use of cell phones on school property during school hours which is prohibited by Board of Education Policy 500.36 in compliance with Illinois School Code.**

### **Hallways**

Crowded hallways are often the sites of accidents. Students are cautioned to walk, not run, and to refrain from bumping and shoving others. When in the hallway and stairwells, always stay to the right. The elevator is not for student use except in a medical disability. In such cases, a special "Pass" is necessary for the student.

### **Bicycles**

Bicycle racks are located on the west side of the building. All bikes must be parked in the racks and individually locked. Students assume responsibility for their own bicycles. The school cannot be held responsible for bikes that are damaged or stolen. Bikes must be walked while on school grounds. Bikes may not be parked inside the school vestibule or hallways. Students may be denied bike privileges if reported for reckless behavior.

### **School Supplies**

The PTO supplies each student with an assignment notebook. Students are required to buy the school supplies that their teachers determine necessary for their successful completion of classes. These supplies include, but are not limited to: pens, marking pens, pencils, notebook paper, spiral notebooks, and folders. Students must bring these supplies to class each day.

### **Food/Gum/Candy**

All food items are restricted to the commons. Gum is not permitted in school at any time. Energy drinks are not acceptable. **Fountain drinks are not allowed at school.** The sharing of food is not permitted.

### **Back Packs**

Students are allowed to bring backpacks to school. However, they are to be placed in the locker throughout the day. Students are not allowed to use them during passing periods. Please use caution when purchasing backpacks. They must be able to fit into the locker.

### **Violent Offender Community Notification**

- State law requires that all school districts provide parents/guardians with information about sex offenders and violent offenders against youth.
- You may find the Illinois Sex Offender Registry on the Illinois State Police's website at: <http://www.isp.state.il.us/sor/>.
- You may find the Illinois Statewide Child Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Registry on the Illinois State Police's website at: <http://www.isp.state.il.us/cmvo/>.

### **Pesticide Application Notice**

Notification will be given before application of a pesticide.

## **ACADEMICS**

### **IPads**

Each student will be issued an iPad. Students are responsible for these devices and their condition for the entire year. As soon as you receive your iPad, put the cover on it and record your name inside the cover. Each student will be responsible for the condition of the iPad and must return it at the end of the year. Fines will be charged when iPads are lost or damaged.

### **IPad Reminders:**

- Your iPad is a school-owned device. We may collect your iPad at any time.
- Your iPad should only be used for school work or school appropriate activities.
- Your iPad should not be used for streaming music or videos, unless required for a class assignment.
- Your iPad should not be used for playing games, unless required for a class assignment.
- Your iPad must be charged at all times.
- Consequences will be given for inappropriate iPad use.

### **In-School Work Habits**

- Students must report to class on time with all textbooks and supplies.
- Students are to have completed all homework before class begins.
- Students arriving with a late pass are to enter the classroom quietly without disrupting class activities.

### **At Home Study Guidelines**

School responsibilities and learning do not stop at the dismissal bell. To offer you an idea of how to successfully manage your at-home study time, try following these guidelines:

- Study in a quiet, well-lit room.
- Pick a time to study when you are most alert. For some, it is best to study right after school; for others the best study time is just after dinner in the evening. Find the right time for you and use it every day.
- Have all materials (books, pens, paper, etc.) ready before you begin to study.
- Study in short blocks of time (20-30 minutes) with five-minute breaks between study blocks.
- Complete study tasks and then review or proofread your work.
- Check your assignment book to make sure that you have completed all of your homework and study requirements.
- When you have completed your homework, place it in a folder or notebook where it will not be misplaced.
- Be sure to submit all of your homework on time to receive full credit for your efforts.

### **Homework**

Each student has been issued an assignment book that is provided by the P.T.O. in which he/she must record daily assignments. Lost notebooks must be replaced at a cost of \$5.00. Students are expected to complete all work by its due date. Homework is a necessary part of our instructional program. Teachers will assign homework in varied quantities.

### **Contests**

Contests sponsored by outside organizations will be permitted by the Building Principal provided such contests clearly serve to advance the educational aims of the school. Only those contests specifically recommended by the Building Principal and designated by the Superintendent shall be allowed.

### **Grading Scale**

Assignments, quizzes, and tests will be evaluated using the following district grading standards:

A+ 100-98	A 97-93	A- 92-90
B+ 89-88	B 87-83	B- 82-80
C+ 79-78	C 77-73	C- 72-70
D+ 69-68	D 67-63	D- 62-60
F 59-0		
P	Passing	
I	Incomplete	

Percentages greater than or equal to .5 will NOT be rounded up to determine grades.

Parents and students will have access to grades on-line. The website is: <https://sds.ksd140.org/parentconnect>

Once you enter the activation code, directions will be given for the access process. ***Be sure to keep your activation code and password in a safe place.***

### **Report Cards**

Report cards are issued at the end of each quarter. This evaluation of the student's progress takes into account individual characteristics, abilities, and effort. If parents or students have questions about a report card grade, please contact the classroom teacher for clarification.

### **Parent/Teacher Conferences**

After the end of the first marking period, a parent/teacher conference will be scheduled as needed. At other times throughout the year, conferences may be arranged between parents and teachers. Consult your child's teacher for a mutually convenient time.

### **Honor Roll**

An honor roll is published at the end of each quarter. To be included on the honor roll, an overall grade point average of 3.5 to 3.74 is required. A grade point average of 3.75 to 4.0 is considered high honors. Honor Roll status will not be awarded to any student who receives less than a C grade in any subject. Plus and minus grades appear on report cards, but they will not enter into determination of the grade point average. The following letter grades and their corresponding numerical value are listed below:

A	4.0
B	3.0
C	2.0
D	1.0

Percentages greater than or equal to .5 will NOT be rounded up to determine grades.

### **MTSS**

In response to Federal and State mandates, School District 140 has instituted a Multi-tiered Systems of Support program. This Mandate requires school districts to provide early intervention support to struggling learners. Parents of students who have been identified as in need of assistance in Reading and/or Math will be notified of an assignment to MTSS. Regular monitoring will be conducted in order to determine the duration of the intervention period.

## **ATHLETIC COMPETITION/ACTIVITIES**

### **Southwest Interscholastic Conference (SWIC)**

Grissom Middle School provides a broad and varied program of extracurricular activities designed to meet the needs and interests of students. Students who represent the middle school in extracurricular activities must maintain good academic and disciplinary status in order to remain eligible for these programs. Student eligibility is determined by their teachers based on the student's schoolwork and behavior. Any team member who receives an "F" in any subject is temporarily suspended from competition for one week, or until academic improvement is noted. Students who are on suspension may practice at the discretion of the coach but may not play or participate until a passing grade or progress is made toward improving their academic performance.

Grissom Middle School is a member of the SWIC, which offers many competitive activities including: girls' 12" fast-pitch softball, boys' 16" softball, girls' and boys' cross country, girls' and boys' basketball, girls' and boys' volleyball, girls' and boys' track, girls' and boys' soccer, mathletes, and declamation.

### **Clubs and Activities**

We encourage our students to become part of extracurricular activities because we believe that they are a vital part of the middle school experience. Various school clubs and activities operate throughout the year. Each club is open to any student and although eligibility is not rated as in our SWIC activities, it is expected that each club participant will maintain passing grades and appropriate behavior. Attendance during regular school hours is required in order to participate in after - school activities.

## **8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE CLASS ACTIVITIES**

Eighth grade students enjoy certain privileges and activities within the school year, many of which are scheduled at the end of the year. Eighth graders must demonstrate basic responsibilities, appropriate attitudes, and academic success before they are allowed to participate in these activities.

### **Activities**

- Attending the class field trip (Students who are not allowed to attend the class trip may be excluded from the graduation ceremony.)
- All class-related activities which merit good citizenship and satisfactory academic achievement
- Participating in the formal Graduation Ceremony, which involves the purchase of cap and gown, paying the necessary fees, being seated with the Class of Graduates at the Ceremony, and walking on stage to receive the diploma

### **Requirements**

- Students must earn a cumulative grade point average of at least 1.0 (D)
- Students must demonstrate appropriate behavior throughout the school year as supported by behavioral records and staff recommendations
- Students must show respect and cooperation toward adults and fellow classmates

### **Reasons for Exclusion from Activities**

- A cumulative grade point average below 1.0 (D)
- Severe or repeated misconduct or misbehavior problems as documented through conduct referral forms, detentions, suspensions and teacher or administrative notations