Hello Middle School Families!

We hope that you had a wonderful summer, spending time with your families! We are looking forward to creating bonds with the 7th and 8th grade students and extending our hands to all RMSEL newcomers. We are excited for our new middle school teaching team for the 2019-2020 school year. Here is a list of information that you may find helpful for your child’s upcoming year in middle school.

**Crew Leaders:**

**Skye Golann (Humanities)**
Skye Golann has served in the RMSEL community this last school year as a teacher resident through the Public Education and Business Coalition (PEBC) Boettcher Residency Program. For the third trimester, Skye was the long-term substitute in the middle school, and accompanied our students on their Civil Rights Expedition. Prior to entering the teaching profession, Skye attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, graduating Summa Cum Laude with a Major in Political Science / Minor in Education. Skye served in the District of Columbia Public Schools in their Urban Leaders Program before making the decision to work directly with students in the classroom.

**Danielle Chandler (Math)**
Danielle joins our team from Highline Academy Charter School where she has been a Mathematics Specialist, Teacher, and Coach since 2016. Danielle is incredibly excited to integrate her knowledge of mathematics into compelling case studies that engage and support students as they demonstrate mastery in content. In addition to her work in the classroom, Danielle has also coached soccer and this summer she will be participating in RAGBRI – The Register’s Annual Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa. We are excited for Danielle to work alongside our staff and support our middle school students!

**Kristin Hatcher (Science)**
Kristin was previously a teacher at the DSST College View Middle School, since 2016, teaching both 6th grade Science and 8th grade STEM. Prior to her experience at DSST, Kristin also taught at Montclair Elementary School. Kristin originally attended the University of Colorado Boulder where she majored in Biology. Prior to returning to the University of Denver to receive a Masters in Curriculum and Instruction, she was a Professional Research Assistant at the University of Colorado Anschutz School of Public Health in the Epidemiology Department.

**David Mancinelli (Literacy)**
David joins our team from DCIS Montbello where he has most recently taught 9th grade English for the past four years. In addition to his teaching experience, David is also a Wilderness First Responder and has extensive experience in supporting students in the field, as he was previously an instructor at Open Sky in Durango, CO. David is excited by the opportunity to connect his passion for the outdoors and classroom instruction as he makes the transition to RMSEL.
Email Contact:
New and returning families, please have your child send their crew leader an email once you receive crew assignment information. We would love to hear how your summer is going, and your message would also provide us with an email contact for the upcoming year. Please feel free to contact us throughout the school year. Email is by far our most efficient way of communicating to members of our middle school team.

Skye: sgolann@rmsel.org
Danielle: dchandler@rmsel.org
Kristen: khatcher@rmsel.org
David: dmancinelli@rmsel.org

Summer Homework:
Students entering their 7th and 8th grade year are required to complete the following summer assignments.

7th Grade:
Please go to Khan Academy and click on “Courses” and then click on “6th grade math.” Review all skills from 6th grade. It is recommended to work for around forty five minutes to an hour per week on these skills. We will be jumping right into 7th grade material, so it is imperative that these skills are mastered.

Please also read one of the following books prior to the start of classes...

- *Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan
- *Norse Mythology* by Neil Gaiman

8th Grade:
Please go to Khan Academy and click on “Courses” and then click on “7th grade math.” Review all skills from 7th grade. It is recommended to work for around forty five minutes to an hour per week on these skills. We will be jumping right into 8th grade material, so it is imperative that these skills are mastered.

Please also read one of the following books prior to the start of classes...

- *Copper Sun* by Sharon M. Draper
- *Chains* by Laurie Halse Anderson

We all hope that you have a wonderful summer and we look forward to seeing you and your middle school student in August!

Best Regards,

*Skye, Danielle, Kristen, and David*
Middle School Supply List

Required:
- One 2 inch D-ring binder with clear cover insert *(for working portfolio)*
- 100 page protectors *(for portfolio)*
- 1 pack of 6-8 dividers *(for portfolio)*
- 1 accordion folder or “life support” folder
- 2 lined composition notebooks *(humanities and literacy)*
- 1 *graph* paper composition notebook *(science)*
- 2 *graph* paper composition notebooks *(math)*
- Plenty of pencils *(pencils are required for each core class)*
- Pens
- A pencil pouch
- Planner *(ideally with holes to fit in binder, available through school in August)*
- Calculator *(graphing calculator optional, but will be required in high school)*

Optional:
- Post-it-notes *(either 3x3 or 3x5)*
- White-out
- Pencil sharpener
- Highlighters
- Colored pencils
- Colored markers *(Crayola, etc.)*
- Glue sticks
- Sharpies
- Scissors
- Many students have found it helpful to have a laptop or tablet with wireless internet access.

Appreciated Donations:
- Post-it-notes
- Note Cards
- Extra pens/pencils
- Dry erase markers
- Books for our humanities libraries
- Masking tape
- Kleenex boxes to supply our Crew Rooms
- Clorox wipes for Crew Rooms
- *Any of the above optional or required items*