

Events Planned for the Fifth to Sixth Grade Transition (approximate dates)

Early May - TMS Presentation to Parents of Incoming 6th Graders:

- Join Thurston administrators for an overview of the 6th grade experience. The evening will start with a presentation from 6:30 to 7:30. From 7:30 to 8:30, you can explore the building and join TMS administrators and PTO representatives in the Cafeteria for questions. This is particularly helpful event for first-time Thurston parents. A “save the date” flier will be sent to incoming families.
- Sign up information for bus and Fall Cross Country will be available

Late May- Teacher to Teacher Transition Meetings

- The 5th grade teachers will meet with the 6th grade team to pass along information about students’ learning style, strengths, etc.
- If 5th grade parents have input that you would like to share with the middle school team, you can send a letter (or email) to Assistant Principal, Matt Kuklantz: mkuklantz@westwood.k12.ma.us. While we do not honor requests for specific teachers or teams, TMS staff are able to consider factors like learning style, timing of classes and peer supports. Please contact us with your questions or concerns or with any information that you think will help us make thoughtful decisions about your child’s educational program.

Mid-Late May - TMS 8th Graders Visit Hanlon

- TMS Students, Team Leaders, and Guidance Counselors visit elementary schools to talk with 5th graders about what to expect for middle school; presentations take place in the 5th grade classrooms and last about 30-45 min

Late May - Hanlon 5th Graders take Field Trip to TMS (morning)

- Grade 5 students visit Thurston from 9:00 to 11:00AM to meet administrators, visit classes, tour the building and see a concert by 6th grade musicians.

Mid-August - Students Receive Class Schedules and Teacher Assignments in the Mail

Late-August - TMS Open House

- Drop in any time at our annual Open House. Students can reunite with friends, walk through their class schedules, and practice opening lockers while their parents connect with other families and learn more about Thurston’s PTO.