Welcoming 6th grade to MUMS!

We are excited as we prepare for the 2021-2022 school year at MUMS. This is the first of many updates to come regarding our transition to a 6-8 learning community. We look forward to sharing information with you about MUMS’ school, staff, and services as we embark on this journey and welcome you to join us in this exciting transition!

Getting Grounded: This Fall MUMS staff spent some time reflecting in depth on 4 questions. 1.) What do I do? 2.) How do I do it? 3.) Why do I do it? 4.) Why do I do it here at MUMS? We took the words they used to describe our values, purpose, and passion for teaching and learning and created some word art to support the grounding of our work. As you read these words above, you will begin to understand the genuine and authentic nature of who MUMS teachers are and the gifts they bring to your children when learning. We are honored to be a part of this team and we are excited to welcome you all to join us soon!

Laying the Foundation: In planning MUMS 2021-2022 remodel, we started our work at the foundation. Faculty and leaders have been streamlining and enhancing current systems of support for students and staff. We continue to review our strengths, challenges, and implications for the finalization of any targeted focus.

Laying our foundation has included work around:

➔ Staffing for the 2021-2022 School Year
  ◆ Next year MUMS will consist of three grade level teams, each staffed for Math, Science, Language & Literature, Individuals & Societies, Language Acquisition, Physical Education/Health, and Guidance. We will also have our mixed team spanning across grade levels including Design, Art, Intervention, Music, and our Librarian. The assignments of these teams will be finalized following the hiring process.
- Hiring for Principal, Design, Literacy Interventionist, Language Acquisition (World Language) and Guidance (In Process).
- **Student/Staff 21-22 Schedule/Model**
  - January 11, 2021 the Addison Central School Board approved the MUMS new model which will be voted on for budgetary approval by our community in March.
  - Teachers and administrative colleagues are reviewing the model to support this iterative process of finalizing details.
- **Building 6th grade curriculum in the Middle Years Program (MYP)**
  - Staff and administrators are collaborating on curriculum scope and sequence for 6th grade in the MYP.
  - Curriculum planning for the MYP includes collaboration with elementary staff and MUHS staff as this impacts our k-12 pace, sequence, and purpose.
  - Team collaboration in weekly data team meetings to support IB unit lesson planning.
- **Community outreach and engagement**
  - The Community Partnership at MUMS held its first meeting in January, and plans to meet monthly to build meaningful connections with families and to promote community partnership to support all stakeholders. Please let us know if you are interested in joining this effort.
  - Middlebury Parks and Recreation - Meeting with leaders to discuss how we might partner with them to maximize opportunities for students participating in sports at MUMS along with possibilities to supplement and balance opportunities with recreation.
  - Mary Johnson Children's Center - Meeting with leaders to discuss how we might partner in supporting summer programming opportunities for students transitioning to MUMS.
  - Addison Central Teens - Collaborating with leaders on supports and opportunities for our students.
- **Student Ambassadors**
  - Planning celebratory activities for memorializing current teams, and welcoming new students starting this spring.
  - Colorful corridor competition to recognize and celebrate our four current teams.
  - Students in Design class are working on bots to share with 5th and 6th grade students this spring to introduce them to MUMS and share information in fun and creative ways.
  - Taking the lead on a plan that will include our current 5th and 6th graders in naming our new grade level teams.