

# Incoming 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Families

School Counselor Connect  
Colina Middle School



## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Course of Study

- 6<sup>th</sup> grade students will take:
  - English 6
  - Social Science 6
  - Math 6 or Accelerated
  - Science 6
  - CORE
  - PE 6
  - Elective
- 2 main academic teachers
- School within a school environment
- CORE time
- PE by grade level
- Honors pathways
- Math options
- Elective class options



- Students in 6<sup>th</sup> grade will take English 6, Social Science 6, Math 6 or Accelerated, Science 6, CORE, PE 6, and an Elective class.
- Students will have two main academic teachers – one teacher for English and Social Science and one teacher for Math and Science.
- Most 6th grade classes are in the 6th grade corridor – English/Social Studies classrooms are on one side of the hallway and Math/Science classes are on the other side. Sixth grade lockers, restrooms, and lunch tables are also in the 6th grade corridor, which helps to create a school within a school environment for our 6th grade students.
- Students in grades 6, 7, and 8 have CORE for 22 minutes after lunch each day to

get started on homework, ask teachers questions, and participate in additional enrichment or support programs. Students also have access to Chromebooks throughout the day and during CORE to work on assignments and check their grades and progress on Q and Canvas. Q and Canvas are the online programs/apps in which students and parents can check grades, homework, assignments, attendance, and more. Login information will be sent home at the start of the school year.

- Each year, students will have PE class that meets daily. PE at Colina is offered by grade level. So, 6th graders are only with 6th graders in the locker room and at PE. Students have a PE uniform and a PE locker and change out daily for PE. There are private changing stalls and restrooms available, if preferred, to change into PE clothes. PE clothes and locks will be available for sale during orientation the week prior to school beginning and are available throughout the year for purchase in the Student Store. There are also loaner PE clothes available if cost is a concern. More information about PE clothes and purchasing options will be included in the summer mailer.
- Honors pathways, math and elective class options will be discussed in more detail on the upcoming slides.

Schedule  
Options

Periods A-5 7:55am-2:19pm	Periods 1-6 9:00-3:10pm
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A: Elective</li> <li>• 1: English</li> <li>• 2: Social Science</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1: English</li> <li>• 2: Social Science</li> </ul>
<i>Nutrition</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3: Math</li> <li>• 4: Science</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3: Math</li> <li>• 4: Science</li> </ul>
<i>Lunch</i>	
<i>CORE</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5: PE</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5: Elective</li> <li>• 6: PE</li> </ul>
<i>CORE</i>	
<i>Lunch</i>	
<i>CORE</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Buses for 9:00am start time only</li> <li>*Elective class considerations</li> <li>*Tuesday Common Planning Time</li> </ul>	



- There are two main schedules at Colina – periods A-5 from 7:55am-2:19pm and the traditional schedule of periods 1-6 from 9:00am-3:10pm. Families indicate on their class preference form which schedule is preferred. The A period start time is based on space availability.
- All 6th grade academic classes are taught before lunch during periods 1-4. Students starting A period will have their elective class as their first class of the day and PE as their last class of the day. Students starting 1st period will have their elective and PE as their last classes of the day.
- The Career Wheel elective is available during A period for a periods A-5 schedule. Elective class options available 5th or 6th periods for a periods 1-6 schedule are the Career Wheel, Beginning and Intermediate Band, Beginning and Advanced

Strings, and Beginning and Intermediate/Advanced Chorus. Students take one elective class in 6<sup>th</sup> grade.

- If students will be riding the bus to and/or from school, only the periods 1-6 schedule is available.
- Tuesdays are Common Planning Time days. School starts at 10:00am for all students (there is no A period class on Tuesdays). Students leave school at approximately their typical scheduled times, either 2:25pm or 3:10pm. The full bell schedule can be found here: <https://www.conejousd.org/colina/>

## Honors Pathways

- All 6th grade classes are offered at the College Prep (CP) level.
- Accelerated Math for 6th grade is also available.
- Students who earn A-'s or above both semesters in English 6 CP and/or Social Science 6 CP will automatically be placed in English 7 Honors and/or Social Science 7 Honors.
- Students interested in the honors level who do not qualify automatically will need to petition.
- Honors Science becomes available in 8th grade.

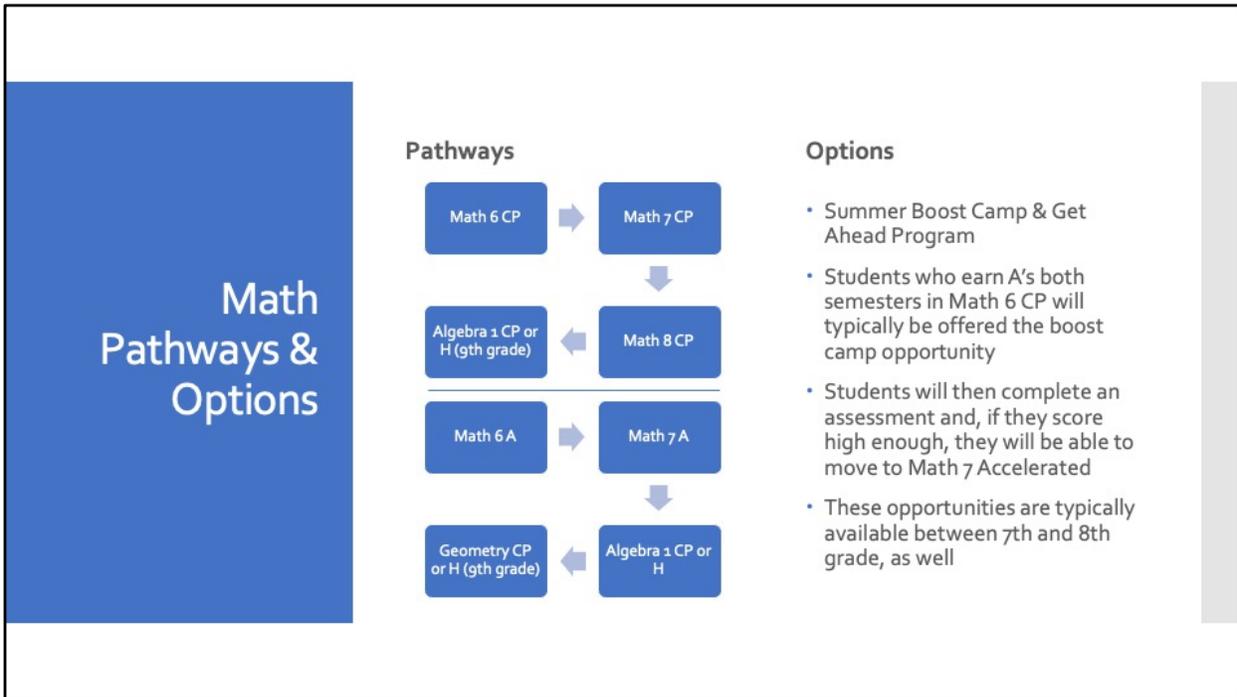


## Math Placement

- Math 6 CP (College Prep) or Math 6 A (Accelerated)
  - Math 6 A: A's/B's all trimesters of 5<sup>th</sup> grade Math + 83% or above on end-of-course exam
- 5th grade math end-of-course exam administered by 5th grade teacher in class
- Students interested in Math 6 A not currently in CVUSD or at MATES, will need to submit copies of transcripts + take 5th grade end-of-course exam at Colina in early June
- Math 6 Accelerated covers all of 6th grade math curriculum plus half of 7th grade math curriculum
- If interested, students who do not automatically qualify for Math 6 A may submit a petition form for further review by the Math Department
- Students may also take a test to challenge Math 6 Accelerated and start in Math 7 Accelerated in 6th grade

- Students who earn A's and B's or the equivalent all three trimesters of Math in 5th grade and score an 83% or above on the 5th grade end-of-course exam will automatically be placed in Math 6 Accelerated.
- The 5th grade math end-of-course exam will be administered by the student's 5th grade teacher in class near the end of the school year for students currently in CVUSD schools and at MATES.
- For all other students interested in Math 6 Accelerated, copies of transcripts will need to be submitted with final grades for 5th grade and the 5th grade end-of-course exam will need to be completed at Colina Middle School in early June. If interested and currently at a non-CVUSD school or MATES, please register for this exam on the website in April 2022.

- A new lesson is taught approximately each day in Math 6 Accelerated. In the Math 6 CP class, a new lesson is taught approximately every other day with a review day in between.
- If needed, petition forms will be available on the website in mid-August.
- For students interested in taking the Math 6 Accelerated Challenge test, this test will be administered through the District Office in early June. More information, including the exam registration process, will be posted on the District Office website.



- Students in Math 6 CP move to Math 7 CP, then Math 8 CP, and Algebra 1 CP or Honors in their 9th grade year of high school.
- Students who earn A's and B's in Math 6 Accelerated move to Math 7 Accelerated, then to Algebra 1 Honors or CP in 8th grade, and Geometry Honors or CP in their 9th grade year of high school.
- Students who take Math 7 Accelerated in 6th grade move to Algebra 1 Honors or CP in 7th grade, and Geometry Honors or CP in 8th grade.
- In high school, students take Algebra 2 after Geometry, then Math Analysis, then Calculus or Statistics.

- Each summer, students who started in the Math CP pathway will have the opportunity to boost up to the accelerated level and/or get ahead if they would like. The get ahead option is available in high school.
- Students who earn A's both semesters in Math 6 CP will typically be offered the opportunity to take a three-week math boost camp at the beginning of summer to learn the material from the first half of the 7th grade curriculum. They will then complete an assessment and if they score high enough, they will be able to move to Math 7 Accelerated.
- Students who do not automatically qualify for the summer boost camp can receive resources to prepare for the exam and will have the opportunity to take the assessment for a passing score to boost up.

## Elective Classes

### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

- Career Wheel (periods A & 5)
- Chorus (periods 5 & 6)
- Band (periods 5 & 6)
- Strings (periods 5 & 6)

### 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

- 6<sup>th</sup> grade electives +
- Computer Animation
- Principles of Computer Science
- Debate/Public Speaking
- ASB Leadership/Yearbook
- Drama
- Special Friends/TA
- Advanced Art
- Spanish 1 CP

- Students will indicate their 1st and 2nd choice elective on their class preference form.
- Descriptions of elective classes can be found here:  
<https://www.colinacounseling.org/elective-classes.html>

**Class Preference Forms**

Student Last Name \*

Your answer

Student First Name \*

Your answer

Elementary School Currently Attending \*

Your answer

Sibling Attending Colina 2022-2023

Your answer

Please choose your preferred schedule. \*Schedule is subject to change.\*

Periods 4 - 5 / 7:55am-2:15pm (Student must be picked up at 2:15pm. There is no study hall available. Substitutions available. Requests for an elective might not be accommodated as the number of spaces is based upon availability. Elective class available for this schedule is the Career Wheel.)

Periods 1 - 2 / 9:00am-3:10pm (Periods 1 - 2 will be accepted if no preference form is submitted. Electives available for this schedule are Beginning or Intermediate/Advanced Orchestra, Beginning or Intermediate Band, Beginning or Advanced Orchestra, and the Career Wheel.)

Please select your 1st and 2nd choices for an elective class (requests granted based on space availability).

Each student is assigned English, Social Science, Math, Science, Physical Education, and an Elective class. All Electives are approved by final grades and end of year evaluations from the public schools a score of at least a B- (50) grade is required. For a COLINA Elementary school in SOUTH of Colina, transferred in making the student request an [elective](https://www.colina.edu/colina-education) (space starting in April). Students in special education or CLE are assigned according to their IEP's LTA.

	1st Choice	2nd Choice
<b>CAREER WHEEL:</b> This class rotates through multiple electives during the year. Classes are computer equipped and may include career-related, art, computers (coding and animation), online public speaking, introductory Spanish, and bridge building.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>ORCHESTRA (BEGINNING):</b> Yearlong class. No experience necessary.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>ORCHESTRA (INTERMEDIATE/ADVANCED):</b> Yearlong class. Teacher permission/audition required - contact Ms. Rodriguez at <a href="mailto:msrodriguez@colina.edu">msrodriguez@colina.edu</a> .	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>BAND (BEGINNING):</b> Yearlong class. No experience necessary. Band instruments: Flute, clarinet, bassoon, saxophone, trumpet, French horn, trombone, tuba, percussion.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>BAND (INTERMEDIATE/ADVANCED):</b> Yearlong class. Students must have at least one year of experience playing an instrument. Teacher permission/audition required - contact Ms. Davis at <a href="mailto:mdavis@colina.edu">mdavis@colina.edu</a> .	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>STRINGS (BEGINNING):</b> Yearlong class. This class is for beginning and intermediate players. No experience necessary. String instruments: violin, viola, cello, etc.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>STRINGS (ADVANCED):</b> Yearlong class. This class is for advanced players. Teacher permission/audition required - contact Mrs. Fortizzo at <a href="mailto:fortizzo@colina.edu">fortizzo@colina.edu</a> .	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

- Students at Conejo, MATES, Westlake Hills, and Westlake Elementary Schools will receive this class preference form following our visits to each elementary school in February and March. Electronic forms are due approximately one week after the elementary visit. Parents will receive an email with a link to complete this form from their elementary schools.
- Families not at these schools will receive this form during the enrollment process.
- As long as forms are received prior to the end of the school year, start times and electives are not granted on a first-come, first-served basis.
- For students with an IEP, there will be transition meetings between elementary schools and Colina to ensure classes are programmed according to the student's

individual plan.

- Students in the English Language Development program will be programmed in support classes, if applicable, based on their English Learner level.

## Activities & Athletics

### Activities

- 6<sup>th</sup> grade socials
- COTY competitions
- Renaissance
- Citizenship points
- Lunchtime activities
- Fall carnival
- Spring luau
- + More

### Athletics

- Boys & Girls teams:
  - Basketball
  - Soccer
  - Volleyball
- Games are played against other middle schools at the Teen Center
- Practices are held at Colina
- Lunchtime sports

- Joining the PTSA is a great way to be informed and involved in social events at school.
- There are several 6th grade socials throughout the year. There is a DJ and a dance floor, plus activities such as inflatables, rock climbing walls, etc. Sixth grade socials are separate from 7th/8th grade socials.
- Class of the Year (COTY) competitions are held throughout the year.
- Students who earn A's, B's, C's and E's, S's in grades, citizenship, and work habits participate in Renaissance program activities and rewards.
- Students who maintain excellent citizenship points throughout the year earn a

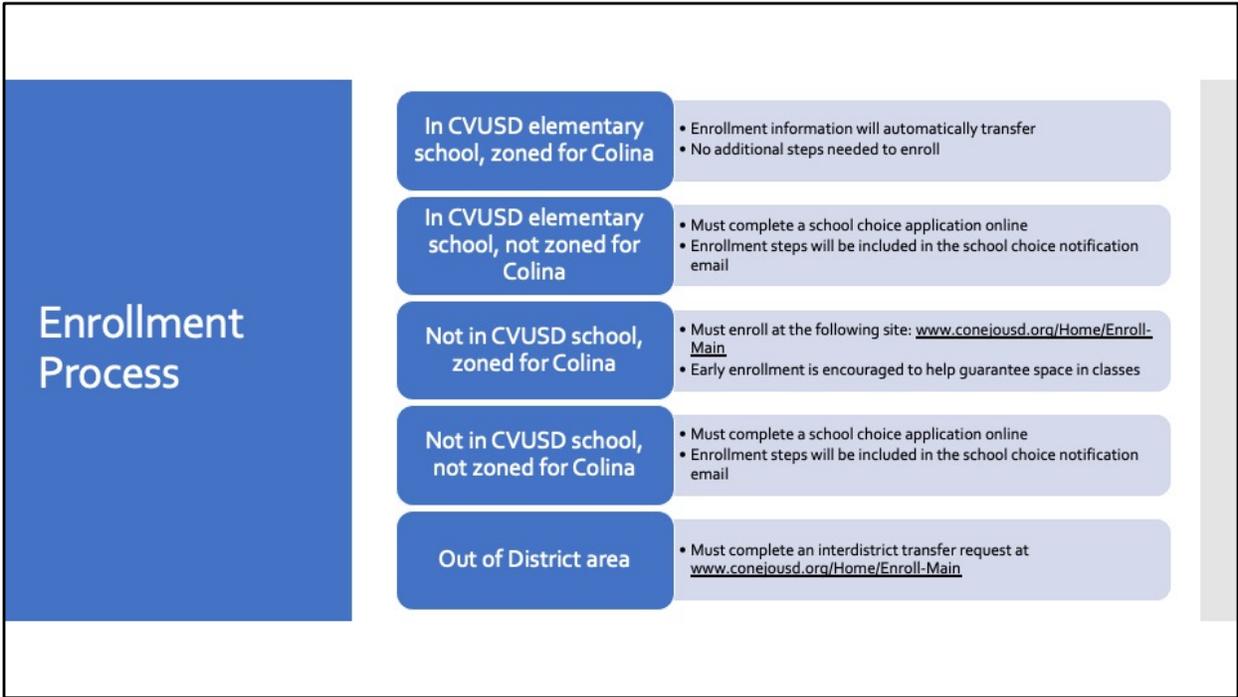
special activity.

- There are many different lunchtime activities throughout the year for students. There are also several clubs that meet at lunch or after school that students can participate in.
- The fall carnival and spring luau are fun events for students to attend after school. Many parent volunteers are needed for these events. They're a great way to get involved.
- Competitive athletics and lunchtime sports are offered at Colina. Tryout information will be shared through announcements and weekly emails sent home to families.

## Resources

- The **Boys and Girls Club** is a great resource on our campus for families needing extended care before and/or after school
  - Students can also spend time there during lunch
  - They have homework help and enrichment programs, as well
  - Please visit their website and feel free to reach out to them if you would like additional information
- All students are issued **Chromebooks** to use during class, CORE, and at home to work on assignments and check their grades and completed assignments on the Q Student Connect portal and Canvas.
- **Q Connect and Canvas**
- **Colina Counseling website**

- The following is a link to the Boys & Girls Club on our campus:  
<https://www.bgcconejo.org/join-the-club/find-a-club/cal-marje-johnston-boys-girls-club/>
- The following is a link to information about Q Connect:  
<https://www.colinacounseling.org/q-connect.html>
- The following is a link to information about Canvas:  
<https://www.colinacounseling.org/canvas.html>



- More enrollment information can be found at the following site:  
<http://www.conejousd.org/Home/Enroll-Main>

## Upcoming Events



- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Student Presentations:
  - Lang Ranch: February 8<sup>th</sup>
  - Conejo: February 15<sup>th</sup>
  - Glenwood: February 16<sup>th</sup>
  - MATES: February 16<sup>th</sup>
  - Westlake Hills: March 1<sup>st</sup>
  - Westlake: March 15<sup>th</sup>
- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Visit: March 29<sup>th</sup> 9:00-11:00am
- Cougar Camp: August 16<sup>th</sup> 8:30am-1:00pm
- Orientation: August 17<sup>th</sup>
- First Day of School: August 24<sup>th</sup>
- Weekly Tours: Wednesdays at 11:00am

- For the 5th grade visit on March 29<sup>th</sup>, students at Conejo will walk to Colina and students at Westlake Hills and Westlake will take a bus to Colina.
- All other students interested in attending the 5th grade visit at Colina, will need to be dropped off and picked up by parents. A permission form needs to be completed, as well. Please send an email to [achiapuzio@conejousd.org](mailto:achiapuzio@conejousd.org) to RSVP.
- During Cougar Camp, students will participate in activities to get to know each other, practice opening their lockers, and meet with 8th grade WEB (Where Everyone Belongs) leaders to help orient them to middle school.
- During Orientation, students will receive their full schedules and can purchase PE clothes, PE locks, spirit wear, and more. Families can also join the PTSA and turn in

required forms from the summer mailer. The summer mailer will include information about these events and more.