

## **OPPORTUNITY PERIOD**

The school day for students in grades 5, 6, 7, and 8 includes a full class period which we call OPPORTUNITY PERIOD. This OPPORTUNITY PERIOD is used for activities that had interrupted class time. These activities can be meetings, rehearsals, assemblies, tutoring, test make-up, library research, computer use, and much more.

Wherever and whenever possible special area teachers and their facilities will be available at this time for student use. Communication among staff and **a written pass or notification is necessary** to insure proper use of this time. At the very least, this time is to be used for homework help, study, reading and other academic pursuits. This will be a quiet time controlled by regular classroom rules.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION (P.E.)**

Students are required by law to participate in the physical education program unless excused by a note from parents or doctor for illness or injury. All students are required to wear sneakers, preferably with non-marking soles. NO student will be permitted to participate with unsafe footwear, for example, those sneakers without a heel (slides) or those sneakers tied behind the sneaker tongue.

Students in grades 5-8 are required to change their clothing for P.E., that is, to change their top and bottom clothing. They must wear a T-shirt, tucked in and shorts to the mid-thigh level. Consistent with the school's dress code, students are not permitted to wear tank or spaghetti type tops, shorts or pants with wording on the backside, shorts or pants worn below waist level. It is suggested that jeans or jean shorts not be worn, and that an extra pair of socks and sneakers are available, especially if the student is scheduled for early morning classes. Aerosol deodorants, hair sprays, etc., are not permitted for use in the locker room.

Students in grades 5-8 may select a small locker to store their personal belongings for P.E. If they choose to keep that locker, they must place a combination lock at their own expense on the locker and provide the combination to the P.E. teacher. If students do not wish to supply a lock, they must carry their gym clothes for each session.

Frequently our gym facilities are utilized after-hours to other organizations, thus exposing the locker rooms to many people. To avoid any loss, parents are asked to reinforce to their children the need to be responsible for their belongings.

## **TELEPHONE - STUDENT USE**

Students need permission and a pass from a staff member to use the office phones. Generally, permission to use the telephone is granted only when a pressing need exists. The pay phones are not for student use. Students are not permitted to use cellular telephones in the school. The school does not assume any responsibility for their damage or loss should they be brought to school. Any cell phone brought to school must be turned off during the school day.

## **LIVE ANIMALS IN THE CLASSROOM**

A student or staff member may bring a live animal to school for educational study, provided that (1) A written request for the permission of the visit, including the educational purpose of the visit, has been granted by the Chief School Administrator; (2) Proof that the animal has been protected by a rabies vaccination or a written statement from a veterinarian that the animal is not susceptible; (3) The classroom teacher approves of the animal for educational purposes and assumes responsibility for the visit; (4) The animal is properly caged or leashed and supervised at all times; (5) No animal shall be permitted on school buses.

For more information and/or a "Permission to Bring Live Animal To School" form, please contact our main office.

## **SCHOOL-WIDE COUNSELING PROGRAMS**

### Teasing and Bullying

Education about teasing and bullying is ongoing at KTS, especially at the middle school level. Our objectives are to help students differentiate between normal conflict versus teasing and bullying behaviors and to identify effective strategies to respond to teasing and bullying.

### Mediation

The mediation program is a valuable opportunity to educate all of our students about the process of peacemaking. When conflicts arise at school, students may be invited to participate in mediation either with pre-selected Peer Mediators from the seventh and eighth grade or with the school counselor. The resolution process promotes effective listening skills and teaches students how to compromise and get along with one another. Research has shown that the peer mediation process teaches students how to handle conflicts

12 nonviolently.