



Oak Park Elementary School District 97

*6th Grade*

# MIDDLE SCHOOL CONNECTION '24



Middle School Leadership Team | May 2024

# AGENDA

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- Our Team
- Idea
- Background
- Purpose
- Project Overview
- Next Steps

# MEET THE MS LEADERSHIP TEAM

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*Assistant Supt. of  
Middle Schools*

**Dr. Luis Fernando  
De León**



*Brooks Middle  
School Principal*

**April Capuder**



*Brooks Associate  
Principal*

**Dr. Denise Gildon**



*Brooks Associate  
Principal*

**Roshاون Bowens**



*Julian Middle School  
Interim Principal*

**William Lee**



*Julian Associate  
Principal*

**Tequila Butler**



*Julian Student  
Success Coach*

**Sergio Torres**



*Julian Student  
Success Coach*

**Katie Trathen**



*Julian Student  
Success Coach*

**Kasey Fleming**



*Brooks Student  
Success Coach*

**Joshua Rodgers**



*Brooks Student  
Success Coach*

**Nichelle Stigger**



*Brooks Student  
Success Coach*

**Bernard Starks**



*Communications and  
Engagement Manager*

**Rebecca Bald**

# BIG IDEA

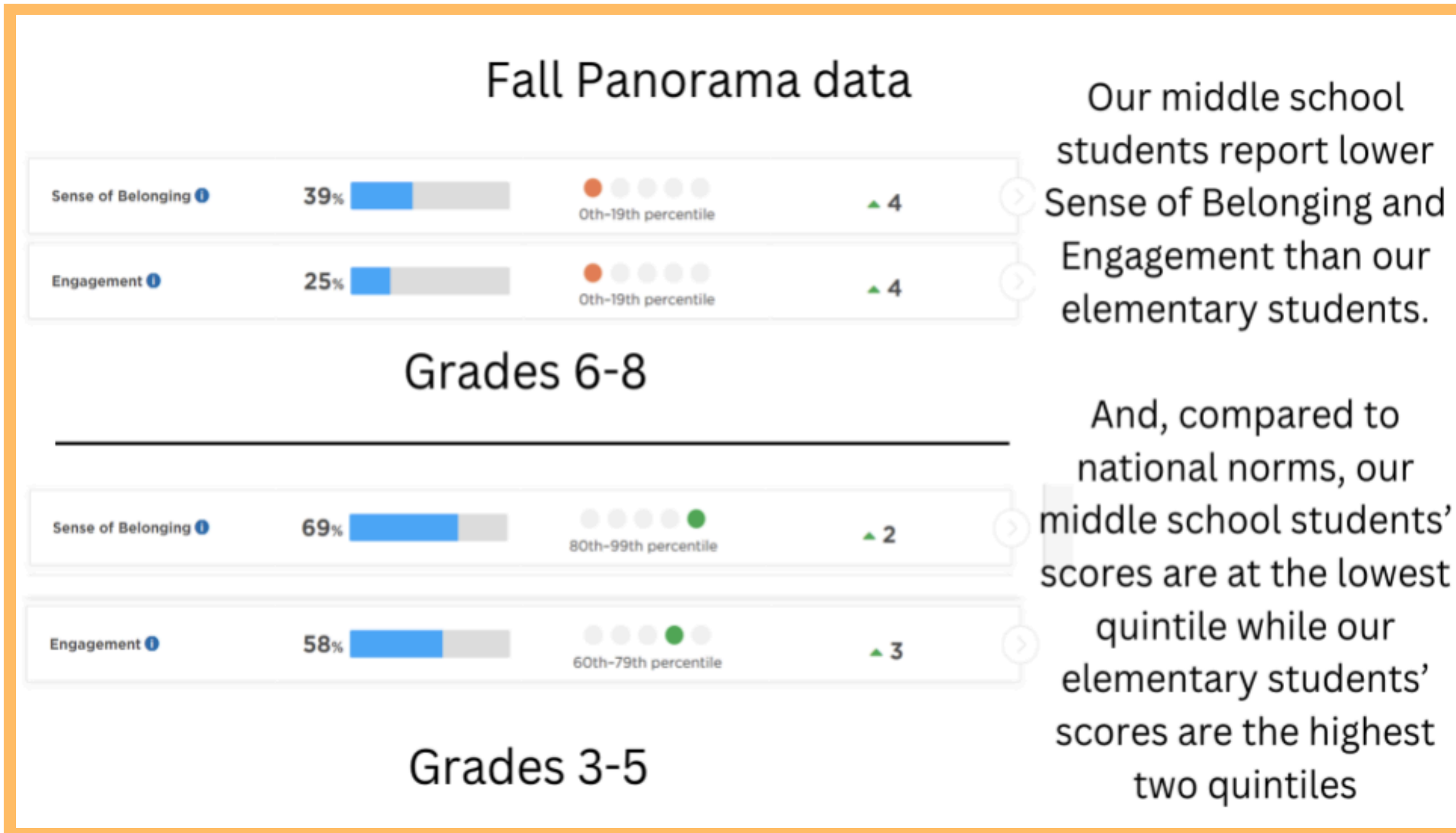
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Together, we can **better support** our incoming sixth-graders as they **transition** to middle school.

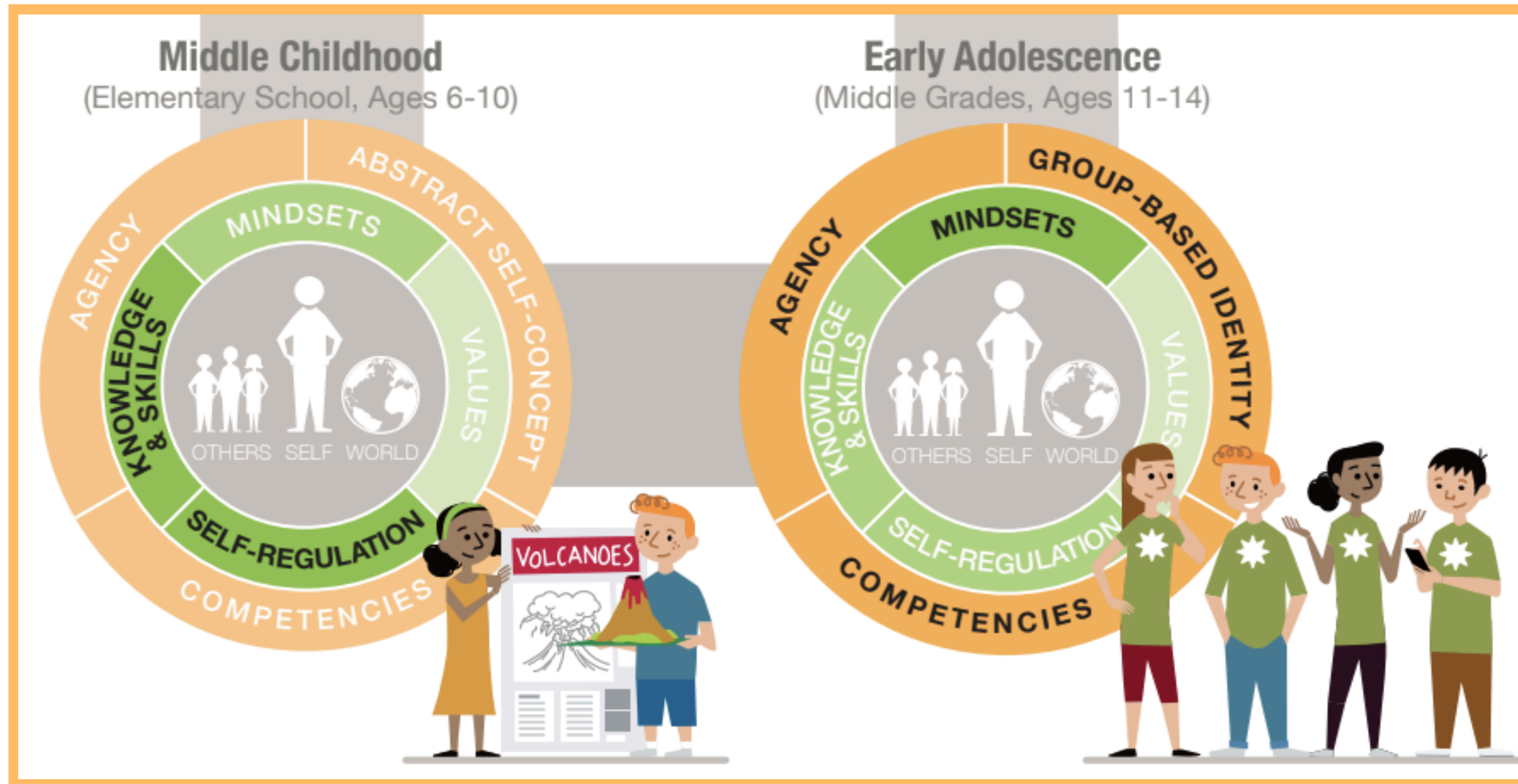
# BACKGROUND

## Fall 2023 Panorama Student Survey Data



# BACKGROUND

## Developmental Changes



Source University of Chicago CCSR

# OVERVIEW

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**Middle School Connection** is a **3-day transition program** for sixth-graders, designed to ease the transition from elementary to middle school.

PROGRAM	WHAT	WHERE	WHEN
<b>D97 6th Grade Middle School Connection</b>	3-day summer transition program for sixth-graders designed to ease the transition from elementary to middle school	Brooks and Julian Middle Schools	August 13-15 9 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

# PURPOSE

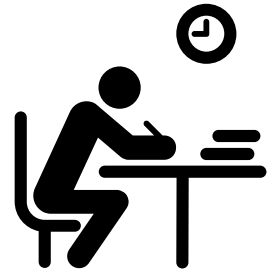
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**Foster** a sense of belonging and community among incoming sixth-grade students.



**Provide** opportunities for students to develop social-emotional skills and build positive relationships with peers and teachers.



**Equip** students with strategies to support success in sixth grade and middle school.



**Introduce** students to the academic expectations of middle school.

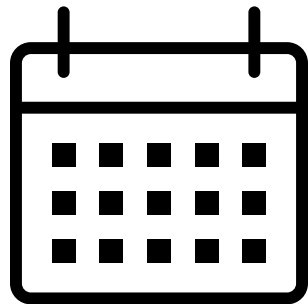


**Address** any anxieties or concerns students may have about transitioning to middle school.



# SAMPLE SCHEDULE

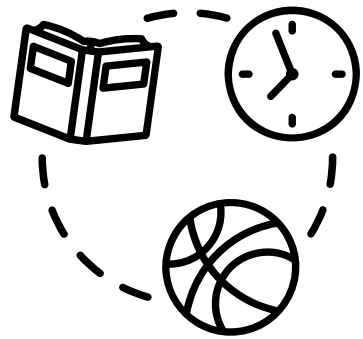
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Team	Team A	Team B	Team C
9:00 - 9:15	Morning Mtg	Morning Mtg	Morning Mtg
9:15 - 10:00	Art	SEL	STEM
10:03 - 10:48	STEM	Art	SEL
10:51 - 11:36	SEL	STEM	Art
11:36 - 12:00	Lunch/Recess with teachers	Lunch/Recess with teachers	Lunch/Recess with teachers
12:00 - 12:15	Check out - close and dismissal	Check out - close and dismissal	Check out - close and dismissal

# SAMPLE ACTIVITIES

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## Brainstorm:

- Team Building/Team Challenges
- Setting School-Wide Expectations
- Executive Functioning Skill/Tools for School
- School Operations - School Tour, Schedules, Lockers, IDs
- Social Emotional Learning & Support Systems
- Emergency Preparedness
- STEAM Activities
- CAST and BRAVO
- Information on Clubs & Activities
- Art Activities (tie-dye t-shirts - colors by house team)
- End of Week Celebration/Assembly
- Prizes and Giveaways

# STUDENT ENROLLMENT



**460+** incoming sixth-graders have signed up for Middle School Connection!



***Thank you for supporting our students and the success of our Middle School Connection Program!***



## **D97 Middle School Connection Student Sign-up Form / Registracion de estudiantes para el programa "Conneccion a Secundaria"**

We are excited to bring to our community Middle School Connection, which aims to support students as they transition from elementary school to middle school, ensuring a smooth and successful start to their sixth-grade journey. Middle School Connection will offer ALL incoming sixth-graders with a warm welcome and spark a sense of belonging before the first day of school. This program will be held at both middle schools Brooks & Julian from 9:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m., Aug. 13-15, 2024

- **Transportation:** For students who are assigned to a bus route to get to middle school, they will have pick-up and drop-off transportation to the Middle School Connection program held at their Middle School.
- **Lunch:** Lunch will be provided at no cost to student participants during the program.
- **Cost:** Free to all Oak Park Elementary School District 97 Incoming 6th Graders
- **Deadline:** Sign up for May 9, 2024

**Please note:** In order for your student to participate in the Middle School Connection program in August, your student must be registered to attend Brooks or Julian Middle School for school year 2024-25 no later than Monday, July 29, 2024. Please visit our [website](#) to complete your student's school registration to ensure your student is able to

# QUESTIONS / FEEDBACK

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What questions or feedback do you have?