

Dear Sixth Grade Parent/Guardian,

The middle school years are filled with transition. The changes you have seen in your child physically, emotionally, and socially have been enormous. Middle school children have also grown in their ability to use alternative strategies or problem solving techniques. They can now draw on their own knowledge and experiences in order to extract meaning from one experience and apply it in the next experience. In other words, they are able to think more critically and incorporate higher-level thinking.

In sixth grade we focus on increasing the responsibility placed on the individual student. To help your child become more academically independent, we have established the following policies and procedures:

Homework:

- Homework must be submitted to the teacher on time. However, during the 1st marking period, three assignments may be submitted the following day for half credit. In the 2nd through 4th marking periods, two assignments may be submitted the following day for half credit. Students' marking period averages will be affected by miss/late homework. For every missed assignment, one percentage point will be deducted from the final marking period grade.

Assignments:

- Students who submit a late alternative assessment (labs, projects, essays, presentations) one day late will receive one letter grade lower and an additional grade lower for each day following. No credit will be given for work submitted beyond the fourth day. Students are required to submit their assessments, even if they receive no credit, to assure that they have learned the desired objectives.

It is our hope that your child will be successful at Pearl R. Miller School. We believe that this is an important step in assuring that your child will be academically independent.

Sincerely,
The Sixth Grade Team