

August 1, 2011

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope this letter finds your family relaxed and ready for another school year. Your son or daughter is about to begin a new adventure as a Middle School student. Over these next three years, your child will undergo a physical and emotional metamorphosis. Our students enter the 6<sup>th</sup> grade as children and leave the 8<sup>th</sup> grade as teenagers. They make new friends, discover their talents and surmount new challenges. It is an exciting time. During this first year, 6<sup>th</sup> graders will become part of an academic team, join an overnight trip to Greenkill and begin to learn a foreign language. They get lockers, move around for classes and learn to navigate the hallways of a new building. Without a doubt, you will be impressed and amazed as you witness your 6<sup>th</sup> grader's growth.

As a school counselor, I see myself as having a responsibility to be your child's advocate in the school building. My role is to support his or her social, emotional and academic growth. It is my hope that your child will develop a positive self-image, strong academic motivation and the ability to make wise choices. Through a partnership with you and the teachers, I will seek to help your son or daughter develop the skills necessary to succeed, not just in school, but also in life.

I will be your child's school counselor throughout the next three years. Developing relationships with the students will enable me to better assist them throughout the adjustments of their Middle School years. It also gives me the opportunity to better know the families of my students so please do not hesitate to reach out to me at anytime. As a new mom myself, I know that parenting can be just as anxiety provoking as it is rewarding. My door will always be open and I invite you to contact me if you would like to discuss any questions or concerns that you may have on your mind. I will return to school on August 23rd, 2011 and will be happy to assist with any scheduling conflicts at that time. I also hope to meet your son or daughter at the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation Barbecue on August 24<sup>th</sup>.

My phone number is (516) 277-7303. For further information you can also visit the Guidance Department's link in the Middle School's website at [www.northshoreschools.org](http://www.northshoreschools.org).

I look forward to working with you and your child this coming year.

Sincerely,

Aimee Canzoniero  
Middle School Counselor  
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