



## CORTLAND JUNIOR SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

*8 Valley View Drive  
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Dear Parents and Guardians:

In an effort to support the transition of incoming seventh graders, we are offering a new orientation called "Bridging the Gap." The orientation is for all incoming seventh grade students and their parents or guardians. In the event parents cannot attend due to other responsibilities, we highly encourage students to come alone.

Two sessions of the orientation will be offered in hopes of meeting families varied schedules. We hope you will be able to attend one of them. An orientation will be offered on August 4 and 5 from 8am to 11am with a barbecue lunch at the end of the second day. The orientation will also be offered August 11 and 12 from 1pm to 4pm with a barbecue dinner at the end of the second day.

The orientation will be conducted by a group of junior high school teachers. Topics will include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Who's Who – getting to know key staff members and your school
- Building orientation – knowing your way around the Junior/Senior High School
- Etiquette – knowing the behavioral expectations of the Junior/Senior High School
- Lockers and computers – knowing how to find and open your locker and log into the computer system
- Grades – knowing how teachers will grade your work

Teachers will conduct 20 to 25 minutes sessions, and parents and students will move from session to session until all groups have attended all sessions. The purpose of the orientation is to give both parents and students the necessary tools and information for a smooth, comfortable transition from elementary school to junior high school. As I have experienced over the last two years, this type of orientation program can alleviate many anxieties that a new seventh grader may be feeling.

We highly encourage your child's attendance and hope to see many, many of our incoming seventh graders. We look forward to getting to know you and your child!

To help us plan, please contact Mrs. Timmons at the Junior High School Office at 758-4190 no later than July 30. If you have any questions regarding the orientation, please call the Junior High Office and ask to speak with Mr. Cafararo, the Junior High School Principal.

Unfortunately, we will not be able to provide transportation. We hope that you are able to make the necessary arrangements for your child to attend. Additionally, we will not have childcare for younger siblings available.

Sincerely,

Kevin M. Cafararo  
7-8 Principal