WHAT ARE CONNECTIONS CLASSES?

• Enriched academic experience
• An opportunity for students to experience academics in a hands-on learning environment
• Merging of academics with real world experiences
• They *CONNECT* academics and the real world
MORE.....

• Expose students to career options
• Provide students with beginning skills that they can carry with them into further career preparation
WHAT RESEARCH SUGGESTS:

When students are provided with opportunities to make connections between real-world activities and their academic coursework, and when they have the freedom to explore issues that interest them.....

• They RETAIN what they learn
• They put more EFFORT into their work
• They are more ENGAGED in school
CONNECTIONS CLASSES

• Students spend two periods a day in Connections classes.
• Most classes last a quarter, or 9 weeks.
• Music Performance classes (Band, Orchestra, or Chorus) will last the entire year.
PERFORMANCE MUSIC STUDENTS

• Music Students will have their music class as one period all year.
• They will fill the other period with one class per quarter as follows:
  ▪ 1 Physical Education Class
  ▪ 1 Health Class
  ▪ 2 Connections Classes
STUDENTS NOT IN PERFORMANCE MUSIC

Students who are not part of the music program will have during the year:

- 3 Physical Education Classes
- 1 Health Class
- 4 Connections classes
CONNECTION CLASSES INCLUDE:

- Art
- Careers
- Computer Literacy
- Connections Math
- Music (Band, Orchestra, Chorus)
- Peer Mediation
- Technology Education
ART – MRS. MURPHY
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• Exercise creative thinking and problem solving skills
• Use problem solving skills
• Students will learn to “see as an artist sees.”
• Manipulate a variety of 2-d media as well as a 3-D medium
• Develop his/her artistic voice by experimentation in projects and in their sketchbook
CAREERS – MS. POMPEY

• Students realize that there are jobs that can be directly connected to their current personal interests.

• Students learn about what employers are looking for from their workforce, as well as how our body language is constantly providing signals (both good and bad) about what and how we are responding to our work environment.

• We will use the Georgia Career Information System to assist students on this journey of self-realization.
PEER MEDIATION- MS. POMPEY

• Help students gain insight into who they are in an effort to promote acceptance of themselves and others.

• In addition students are exposed to skills to assist them with their peers, at home, and with whomever they may encounter.

• focuses on helping students solve problems creatively (to help them find “win-win” scenarios).
COMPUTER LITERACY – MRS. STOVALL

• Keyboarding Techniques
• Format business documents using Word
• Internet Safety
• Hardware/Software Functions
• Excel spreadsheets
• Publisher publications
• PowerPoint/Prezi projects
CONNECTIONS MATH – MRS. FONTAN

• Working to support mathematical growth, concepts, and confidence utilizing a variety of instructional strategies

• Increasing mathematical vocabulary and reading comprehension strategies to decode mathematical problems
TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION – MR. BACHUS

• Focuses on modes of engineering
• Hands on applications
• Modular simulations
• Opportunities for imaginative building of machines