



The American International School • Vienna
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Spring 2021

Dear Middle School Parents,

I would like to sincerely welcome you to The American International School • Vienna! We hope to provide your child with an opportunity to explore their passions and feel a sense of belonging in this supportive and caring community.

Middle school is a time of exploration, growth, self-concept and belonging. Students in the middle are at their best when they can engage deeply in their learning, feel empowered to explore who they are as young people, and witness the profound impact they can have on the world around them. As teachers and parents, we attempt to frame each of their experiences through the development of a growth mindset; even during times of struggle or failure students can expand their own capacity as individual learners. Middle school is also about taking risks with learning, trying new things, and applying creativity and innovation to their learning and understanding themselves better. Middle school is about developing a sense of community based on authentic relationships with peers and teachers, in which everyone can feel a sense of belonging.

If you are new to AIS Vienna, I want to extend a special thank you for choosing to become a part of our community. Although it's natural for the first days and weeks of school to be filled with anticipation and apprehension, students and families will quickly find that they are not alone, and that there are new friends to be made and many ways to contribute in our well-rounded program. I am also new to the community this year, and I hope we can support and challenge each other as we navigate our first year together in the Middle School at AIS Vienna.

I encourage you to take some time to review all the information on the pages that follow this letter as it contains important details regarding orientation and the first days of school. As always, we are here to support your transition into our school, so please don't hesitate to let us know how we can help. I look forward to meeting your child and your family as we gear up for an awesome 2021-2022 school year in the middle!

Sincerely,

Jake Dibbert, Ed. D.
Middle School Principal
J.Dibbert@ais.at

MONDAY, AUGUST 16

- *AIS New Student Orientation (PK-12)*

Time	Activity	Who	Where
8:30	Middle School New Student Orientation	Middle School students and their parents	Main Gate Entrance
11:00-1:00	BBQ Lunch*	Students, parents, and teachers	Sports Hall (next to Playground)

*Depending on government-issued health restrictions

Our counselors, student ambassadors, and administration have planned an orientation schedule that helps ease students' transition to AIS. We will answer parent questions and provide students with a chance to meet their teachers, see their classrooms, get their laptops and lockers, make some initial friends and generally feel comfortable at AIS. Please make every effort to attend this orientation day. Arriving to school without having attended orientation or planned a schedule can make transitions significantly more difficult for your child.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 17

- *First Day of School*

Time	Activity	Who	Where
8:20	Welcome assembly	All Middle School students	AIS Theater
3:15	Dismissal for all students (Grades 1-12)	All Grade 1-12 students	
<i>Bus Service Available for Grade 1-12 Students</i>			