

Liberty Survival Guide

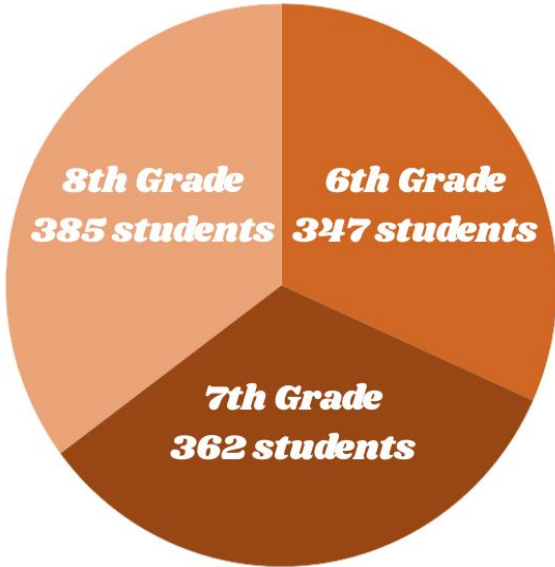


Everything You'll Need to Know to Survive LMS

26-27 School Year

Welcome to Liberty!

School Population - 1,094



Meet the Principal



Mr. Brown

Welcome to Liberty Middle School! Our school is a wonderful place that can truly feel like home to you. We have an amazing environment here—one that's supportive, respectful, and full of opportunities to learn and grow. I want you to know that I have high expectations for all of our students—but I also believe in being fair and consistent. My goal is to help each of you succeed, not just in your classes, but in becoming the best version of yourself.

Get involved! Join a club, participate in sports, or lend a hand at school events. The more you engage, the more connected and confident you'll feel. Also, be sure you understand how to use a computer—it's crucial for communication and will help you as you learn to navigate the school. From checking assignments to reaching out to teachers, technology will be a big part of your success. And finally, never hesitate to ask questions. If you're unsure about something, just ask. We're all here to help you thrive. Let's make this year something special!

People to Know: Administration



Mr. Brown

Mr. Brown played in the NFL for several years, playing for teams like the Falcons, the Jets, and the Rams!



Mr. Swearingen

When he was a kid, Mr. Swearingen lived on a farm in Geneva, Alabama!



Dr. Hamilton

In her free time, Dr. Hamilton enjoys going to and watching musicals!



Ms. Young

Ms. Young likes to live by the motto of “Work hard so you can play hard!”

Here at Liberty, we have a great administration staff to help you out. It consists of our principal, Mr. Shannon Brown, and our assistant principals, Dr. Hamilton, Mr. Swearingen, and Ms. Young. Mr. Brown is located downstairs in the office, which is next to the front entrance of the school. Dr. Hamilton is upstairs directly next to the library. Mr. Swearingen’s office is downstairs, in between the office and purple pod. Lastly, Ms. Young’s office in orange pod is next to the choir classroom and across the hall from the theater classroom. All four of these adults are helpful in case you ever need help or experience any problems.



“Liberty has a lot of kind and fun teachers who can help you! There are a lot of opportunities to make friends and get involved with our school. One piece of advice I can give is to take it one day at a time - everyone is learning and adjusting. You will never be alone!!”

Ms. Young



Places to Go

When you start at a new school it is essential to know how to get around. Three places to know that can help you be successful are the front office, the student assistance lab, and the nurse's office.



Nurse's Office



The nurse's office is located in the Front Office. Ask your teacher for permission to visit the nurse.

Student

Assistance Lab



The student assistance lab is in room 224 led by Mrs. Pacheco. Students with accommodations can test with her. The Student Assistance Lab (SAL) provides a quiet environment for students who need a small group, extended time, or something read out loud to them for a test.

Front Office



The Front office is located at the base of the center stairwell. You might need to visit the front office to turn in an excuse or a substitute attendance slip.



"I love the ladies in the front office! They are so kind, wonderful, and always go above and beyond to help with any questions I have. Every time I either check in or check out they always greet me with a smile and make me feel so welcomed!"

-Cicily Chen

School Resources

There are lots of resources available for students here at Liberty that you can always use, including the media center, counselors, and SRO. Our school library/media center is located in the center pod, above the office (near the entrance). It not only has books



available for students to check out, but also many other useful resources, including a printer and a makerspace area. Before school, there is a study hall for students to have a quiet place to study/catch up on homework.



Located in the back right corner of the library is the makerspace. This is a place where students can come build crafts and turn on their creative minds. There is a button maker and lots of supplies to use as well!

Counselor Request Form

[Request To See Counselor](#)

Computer Help Desk Ticket

In order to fill out a help desk ticket, go to your MCS bookmarks and click "Incident IQ Tickets".



LMS has three counselors. The counselors' offices are located all around the upstairs part of the school. There's one in yellow pod (room 217), one in red pod (room 245), and one in blue pod (room 234). The counselor you'll have depends on your last name. The things the counselors can help with include stress/anxiety, organization problems, home issues, and peer/social concerns. They can also help you with career questions.

The SRO office is located in blue pod (room 233). The school resource officers' job is to provide safety and protection to students and staff here at Liberty.



"My role here at LMS is to keep students and staff safe as well as to build relationships."

-Officer Bullington

Day in the Life at Liberty

A	8:15-9:30
B	9:35-10:50
C	10:55-12:10
D	12:15-2:00
E	2:05-3:20

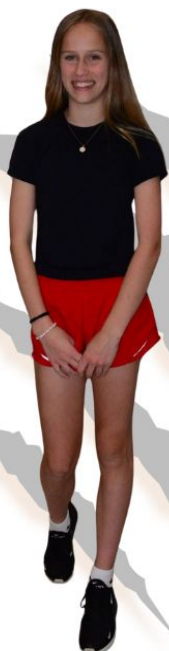
E	8:15-9:30
D	9:35-10:50
C	10:55-12:10
B	12:15-2:00
A	2:05-3:20

B	8:15-9:30
A	9:35-10:50
C	10:55-12:10
E	12:15-2:00
D	2:05-3:20

D	8:15-9:30
E	9:35-10:50
C	10:55-12:10
A	12:15-2:00
B	2:05-3:20

ADV	8:15-8:45
A	8:50-9:55
B	10:00-11:10
C	11:15-1:00
D	1:05-2:10
E	2:15-3:20

At LMS, there are 4 rotating schedules, as shown above. The schedules are different on Tuesdays, because your advisory class will meet first on this day. Advisory is like a homeroom class. On Advisory days, it is the same class order as all the other days in the week, but there is a 30 minute period where you go to our advisory class first before reporting to your other classes. It is important to learn which pod each of your classes meets in so you can learn how to get around LMS, no matter which rotation you may be on.



“My favorite thing to do in the cafeteria is talk to my friends and socialize.”
-Haley Morris

Cafeteria Expectations

You will always eat lunch with your C block class. At LMS, students have free seating. In the cafeteria, there is tons of options when it comes to seating. There are booths, high tables, and regular tables as well. Be sure to take a seat quickly and eat because your lunch period will end before you know it!

Sixth Grade Sports

If you're in sixth grade, these are the perfect sports to join!

Run Club

Do you like to run? If you do, this is the perfect club for you.

It's a great place to start if you're hoping to join the JC Track. The sponsor for the 2025-2026 team was Mrs. Gwaltney. Run Club competes in local 5K races throughout Madison and Huntsville.

Practices are held on Wednesdays from 3:30pm-4:30pm.



Archery

Archery can be a great sport for sixth graders. Ms. Daughtry was the head coach for the 25-26 school year. They previously competed at nationals last year. You do not need to have any prior experience to join archery. Practices are held on Monday from 3:30-5:00pm. Tryout information is on the LMS website.

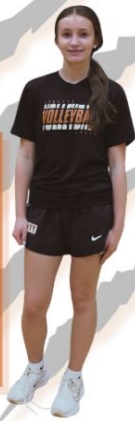


“Some advice I would give a rising 6th grader wanting to join archery is to know that this is a sport that anyone can do, and to not be nervous about anything.”

-Genevieve Waider

"I like art class because I have the freedom to express my creativity and I am not judged off of perfection. I feel as though it is a good break from all of my other classes. I make friends and get have fun in the class."

-Claire Couch



Admission to Advanced Art requires students to submit a portfolio of finished art pieces for review. This course focuses on building technical drawing skills, such as realism, through diverse creative projects and multiple art mediums. A separate sculpting class is available to seventh and eighth graders, focusing on 3D art using clay and papier-mâché.

Intro to Visual Art lasts nine weeks, accepts all grade levels, and teaches basic art and art history.

Intermediate Art is a nine-week follow-up course open to students who completed the introductory class.



The Arts at Liberty

Beginning Theater is nine-week course for all grades covering basic theater, acting skills, and on-stage confidence.

Intermediate Theater is a single-semester course open to all students that covers performance aspects like puppetry and monologues, building on prior knowledge without requiring Beginning Theater.

Advanced Theater is a semester-long, audition-only course for all grades focused on a major final production, requiring off-campus, after-school rehearsals and performances.

Technical Theater is a nine-week course—available only during second and fourth quarters—focusing on backstage crew work, lighting, sound, costume design, and set building for major productions.



"Advanced Theater is amazing because it is a year-round class where you can make life-time friendships and have a whole lot of fun. It is a very encouraging environment, promoting student communication and creativity."

-Kellen Niebuhr



"I like meeting new people and going on field trips with my friends. In Beginning Choir, you get to enjoy new experiences that you may not have otherwise been able to do, as well. I have a lot of fun performing and I like spending time with other people in choir."

-Ashley Perez-Avelar



Choir is an elective open to everyone from square one, making it ideal for new students since solos and perfection are never required.

Beginners learn foundational music theory, vocal improvement techniques, and essential social skills. Students can participate in Honor Choir across all grades, join Advanced Choir in 7th or 8th grade if they took 6th-grade choir, and attend field trips or SCPA events in later middle school years.



Band fosters a supportive, family-like environment where students build deep social bonds. Beginners transition from having zero instrument knowledge to performing full concerts together as a group. Joining advanced 7th or 8th-grade bands have the opportunity to go to field trips, football game performances, and state assessments.



"Rising sixth graders should join band because it automatically gives you a friend group, good experiences, and good skills. You get to perform at concerts, learn how to play an instrument, and learn how to be a good audience member."

-Avery Morman



The Arts at Liberty

Clubs & Organizations

Don't be afraid to try new things - make sure to join some school clubs and extracurriculars! Joining clubs is beneficial, as it builds friendships and practices soft skills.

At LMS, there is definitely something that will interest you. There are a variety of clubs that range from academic to artistic, and athletic to community service-oriented. Some clubs meet in the morning, but most clubs meet in the afternoon. You can go to the Liberty webpage to learn more about these clubs (when to meet, who the sponsor is, what you do, etc.).

Some popular clubs include 4-H Club, Anime and Manga Club, Art Club, Beta Club, Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA), First Priority, Green Power Team, Madison City Friends, Newspaper Club, Robotics, Scholars Bowl, Step Club, Student Council, Student2Student (S2S), and Technology Student Association (TSA). Some of these do require students to fill out an application or attend an interest meeting.



**“Being in Science Olympiad has helped me expand my knowledge of science and has encouraged me to work hard. By participating in this club I have met many new people.”
-Taryn DeSpain**

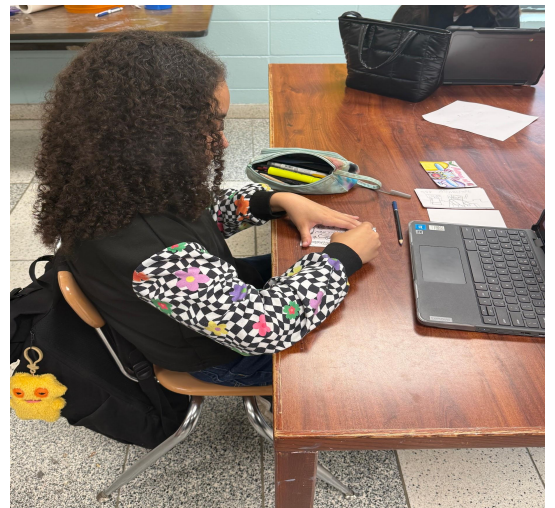


Clubs & Organizations

Make sure to watch out for flyers in the hallways, and emails in your inbox/StudentSquare as they can update you about club interest meetings and anything new about these clubs.

Some organizations meet during the day as classes. You must register for these when you register for all other classes, so be sure to register for these ahead of time if you are interested. These include Yearbook, Digicom, Band, and Choir. These classes are all year-long and may require you to stay after school.

Sixth graders can't join sports teams, but they can become team managers. Becoming a manager is a great way to explore and learn more about the sport. It also lets you in on the experience of playing sports at LMS!



**“My favorite thing about Art Club is getting to make art outside of class with my friends. A fun memory from Art Club is when I finished a project I had been working on for a while and showed it to all my friends.”
-Chloe Syrratt**

LMS Events

Spirit Week



Every year at LMS before our football and basketball teams face off our big rivals, there's a week of dressing up. During spirit week, each day would correlate to a different theme. For instance, this year Monday's theme was Anything but a Backpack, so students brought their belongings in unexpected carriers and gave their backpacks a break. Thursday-game day was Whiteout Discovery. Whiteout day was super fun as students and teachers dressed in all white to support the football team as they took on (and beat) Discovery. Spirit week is a great way for students to dress out of the norm and to show support and spirit as Liberty takes on the Panthers.



In-School Games

This year, students at Liberty had the opportunity to attend various exciting in-school games. Some of them included the in-school baseball, softball, and volleyball games, and teachers played against the students for some of them. For instance, the in-school volleyball game was a game where LMS teachers and sports coaches played against the 8th grade girls' volleyball team. It was very fun to watch the teachers play against the school team. Some of the in-school games were held outside, and students were able to enjoy the outdoors while observing the school teams play. During these events, students had the ability to purchase concessions and hang out with their friends. These games usually last about an hour and a half, and students who attend these have an excuse and won't be marked absent from class. Everyone is allowed to go as long as they have a ticket to enter, and they can be purchased in the cafeteria the week of the game.



"The best part about this year's In-School softball game was seeing my school show up to support my team. I loved getting to see my friends as I played!"
-Loraleigh Copeland



LMS Events

School Dance

Every year at LMS, students are welcomed to attend the annual school dance. The dance takes place in the spring with different themes each year. It is held in the gym, with various decorations placed around the cafeteria and hallways. Past themes have included "Under the Sea" and "Enchanted Evening." Students often wear outfits related to those themes, and during the dance, they can take pictures in a photo booth. Admission is \$6, but if you want to eat, \$12 tickets are available that include a pizza and a soft drink. The school dance is an excellent way for students to hang out while showing off their dance moves. Students should definitely come to enjoy this wonderful experience!



Powderpuff & Academic Celebration



Near the end of the school year, there are two big events that happen side by side and that is the academic celebration and Powderpuff. Now you may be wondering, what is Powderpuff? It's when 7th and 8th grade girls sign up to play flag football, and 7th and 8th grade guys sign up to cheer. Different grades are assigned different colors to wear, and t-shirts are also sold for people who want to support a team. Powderpuff usually happens at the start of May and tickets are usually sold the week of the game. The money raised is for the Torrell Holley Scholarship and is given to a James Clemens senior. Concessions are also sold at the game, so make sure to bring some extra pocket change. Only people with tickets are able to go. After Powderpuff, the baseball field is open to any student free of charge for an academic celebration which usually features a bunch of bouncy houses, and one year there was even a dunk tank for teachers! The celebration lasts until around 3, and then students are escorted back to class.

"My favorite part of powderpuff this year was getting to have fun and do things I don't normally get to do. It was really fun hyping up the crowd."
-Jaxon Skifstrom



Tips For Students

- **Follow the “one-way traffic” rule in the hallways.**
- **Do not pull your phone out during school!**
- **Participate in clubs and organizations.**
- **Be open to making friends!**
- **Pay attention in class and try your best!**
- **Be respectful and listen to your teachers.**
- **Manage your time well!**
- **Don't talk bad about others.**
- **Dress out for P.E and wash your uniform!**



“Enjoy the moment while you're in it! The 3 years of middle school go by faster than you think! Cherish the moments with your friends. You'll blink and the school year will be over, so just have fun!”

-Marquis Gray



Student Spotlight



“Two things that have helped me adjust to Liberty is being open to meeting new people and making new friends.”

-Laila Dobbins

Middle school makes students adapt quickly to new academic and social changes.

They must overcome new challenges, like navigating multiple classrooms while balancing assignments from different classes. Socially, they must navigate situations with peers and meet new people. Ultimately, developing self-confidence and strong time-management skills are some of the most critical milestones for success in middle school.



“Something that has helped me in middle school is locking in and paying attention even when my friends are in the same class.”

-Adelyn Pedersen

This survival guide is a fully student-created document and is a collaboration between the Newspaper Club and the Yearbook Staff.

Contributors

Charlotte Bembry

Claire Bowen

Cicily Chen

Grace Cobb

Emma Ellis

Tanvi Gaikwad

Eliza Jane Harrison

Jaci Jolley

Addison Kadera

Katie Kimberly

Mary Grace Kimberly

Dylan Lobaugh

Ella Mathison

Ella Meisenheimer

Lilly Meisenheimer

Avery Morman

Melissa Nguyen

Mabry Nichols

Caroline Pasho

London Redmon

Abina Rijal

Brooklyn Smith

Brooklyn Steinert

Meena Swarna

Jessica Syratt

Addyson Turner

Scotlyn Walker

Rachel Zhang