



## FOREIGN LANGUAGE AND GLOBAL STUDIES

Like all classes at Hilltop Middle School, *Foreign Language and Global Studies* (F.L.A.G.S.) provides a rigorous academic program. What makes FLAGS unique is that every student takes a foreign language and participates in events that highlight global awareness and interdisciplinary project-based study. With six core learning outcomes, the FLAGS curriculum is designed to provide opportunities for students to become effective communicators, mathematically adept, critical and creative in their thinking, global and civic-minded, and technologically adept. With an added community service component, F.L.A.G.S. is committed to developing character, empathy for others, and empowerment so that students become agents of change in their school, community, country, and world.

All interested students will be placed in the program or on a wait list.

### Steps for FLAGS Placement

- Sign Up for an individual Student/Parent Orientation\*.

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Time:** \_\_\_\_\_

\*If you need to change your orientation date/time, you may do so by following the instructions on the FLAGS website.

- Give current teacher instructions for completing the Teacher Questionnaire.
- Get printed confirmation from teacher after he/she completes the Teacher Questionnaire.
- Read, initial, and sign Student / Parent Pledge.
- Review the topics that will be discussed at the orientation.
- Child and parent arrive at scheduled orientation with these 3 items:
  - This checklist with your names printed at the top.**
  - Signed Student / Parent Pledge**
  - Teacher Questionnaire Confirmation Page**

**Questions?** Visit us at [www.htmflagsprogram.org](http://www.htmflagsprogram.org) or email [athena.manjarrez@sweetwaterschools.org](mailto:athena.manjarrez@sweetwaterschools.org)





## Student/Parent Pledge

Foreign Language and Global Studies (**FLAGS**) is committed to providing you with a program that is interdisciplinary with an emphasis on developing an awareness of global issues. All events (indicated with an asterisk\*) can be found on the **FLAGS** website. Please read and initial each statement to indicate your understanding of the expectations we believe will ensure success in **FLAGS**.

### Student's Initials

- \_\_\_\_\_ I understand that middle school students must keep track of assignments for 6 teachers and I pledge that I will do my best to complete them on time.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I understand that academic honesty must be upheld at all times and I pledge to always do my own work without copying, plagiarizing, or cheating.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I understand that learning a second language is challenging and takes time, therefore I pledge to make a commitment to taking at least 2 years of the same foreign language.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I understand the iPad is a powerful learning tool and pledge to use it responsibly.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I understand that the Multicultural Fair, Portfolio Night and all **FLAGS** events\* are integral to the program and I pledge to participate in them.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I understand that community service is an important part of **FLAGS** and I pledge to complete the expected hours.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I give permission for the Hilltop Middle School **FLAGS** program to use my picture or other likeness in their general publicity in print and/or online.

### Parent's Initials

- \_\_\_\_\_ I understand that middle school students must keep track of assignments for 6 teachers and I pledge to support my child in getting them completed on time.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I pledge to regularly review my child's work to ensure that it is always completed honestly and on his/her own.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I pledge to provide the encouragement my child may need to remain committed to learning the same foreign language for at least two years.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I pledge to closely monitor my child for his/her appropriate use of the iPad at home.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I pledge to stay informed of my child's progress and make adjustments at home to ensure his/her success in the program.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I understand that there are monthly parent meetings, a Multicultural Fair, and a Portfolio Night. I pledge to do my best to offer time, support, and leadership whenever I am able to.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I pledge to support my child in his/her efforts to complete the minimum number of community service hours required and I understand that these hours take place outside of the school day.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I give my permission to Hilltop Middle School **FLAGS** Program to use my child's picture or other likeness in their general publicity in print and/or online.

★ *We have read and support the FLAGS commitment guidelines.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

# Orientation Questions

Please take some time to reflect on the following questions. The one-to-one orientation is an opportunity for you and your child to become more familiar with the program and for us to get to know you and your child. It is not used to exclude or deny admission to the FLAGS program.

## Student Questions

1. Why do you want to be in the FLAGS program?
2. With 6 classes, middle school students often have multiple assignments to keep track of. What skills do you have that will help you to complete your schoolwork on time?
3. What do you do when you are struggling in class?
4. If you could design your own school project, what would you want it to be about and why?
5. Report cards don't tell the whole story of a student. What do you think your Report Card should communicate about your strengths and weaknesses?
6. We offer Spanish, French, Italian and Chinese as foreign language options. What language would you like to learn?
7. What do you plan to do with the language and world knowledge you gain from the FLAGS program?
8. If a language wheel were to be offered for 7<sup>th</sup> graders, would you be interested? This means that instead of taking one foreign language for the entire school year, you would rotate through different foreign language teachers every six weeks in order to allow you to “sample” each language that is offered. Then, in 8th grade you would pick one to take for the entire year.
9. What are some things you would like to improve in your community?
10. One of the requirements of the FLAGS program is to complete 8 hours of community service each year. Where would you like to volunteer your time and why?
11. Is there something else you would like to share?
12. **If you are interested in taking Spanish for Spanish Speakers, be prepared to answer a few questions in Spanish.**

## Parent Questions

1. How did you learn about the FLAGS program?
2. How do your child's interests or strengths align with the FLAGS program?
3. What do you want your child to get from the program?
4. Describe your child in one word and explain why.
5. How do you support your child when s/he is struggling or you feel they need extra attention?
6. With 6 classes, middle school students often have multiple assignments to keep track of. How can you provide your child with support to ensure his/her schoolwork is completed on time?
7. What do you believe are your child's strengths in school?
8. In what areas do you think your child should improve in school?

Student's Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

# PLEASE GIVE THIS TO THE TEACHER WHO WILL COMPLETE THE TEACHER QUESTIONNAIRE!

ATTENTION 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> GRADE TEACHER,

One of your students is interested in the FLAGS Program at Hilltop Middle School for the 2019/2020 school year. As part of the FLAGS orientation packet, we ask for feedback from the student's teacher. To ensure the success of every child who selects FLAGS as their academic program, we will use your candid estimate of their academic performance and interests to better meet their needs.

The questionnaire will be delivered and returned digitally. **Please take a moment to email the following information to the address at the bottom of this letter.**

**In the subject line, please type "6<sup>th</sup> (or 7<sup>th</sup>) Grade Teacher Questionnaire" as our email filter will not deliver emails with a blank subject line.**

- Your Name
- Your School Email Address
- Student's Name
- Current Grade Level (6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup>)

Within 48 hours of receiving your information, I will send you a link to the questionnaire and your PIN number. Please do not share your PIN with anyone, including but not limited to, the student and/or their parents. **After completing the questionnaire, please print and complete the confirmation page (pictured below) and give it to the student. As evidence of submission, we ask that the confirmation page be submitted at the time of their FLAGS one-to-one orientation.**

Please note that your feedback will not be used as a selection tool, but as valuable information to meet the needs of the student. We recognize that this is beyond your official duties and we greatly appreciate your help. Thank you in advance.

Sincerely,

Angel Prado  
HTM FLAGS  
[htmflags@gmail.com](mailto:htmflags@gmail.com)



## 6th Grade Teacher Questionnaire

The 6th Grade Teacher Questionnaire has been completed for

\_\_\_\_\_  
(student's name)

by \_\_\_\_\_  
(teacher's name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(teacher's signature)

Please print this page, sign & give to student/applicant.