

# BARTON HILLS ELEMENTARY SIXTH GRADE

A unique opportunity to learn and lead

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The Barton Hills Sixth Grade year provides learning and leadership opportunities for students in a small, student-centered learning community.

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## Why should you be a BHE Eagle?

“We have a schedule, but our schedule isn’t an ordinary schedule. We have greenbelt lessons, walking field trips, eating outside. We are always doing something. We apply our lessons to everyday life” - E.P.

“It’s challenging but you have a lot of fun doing it. It already feels like middle school.” - E.A.

Have Questions about sixth grade at BHE? We can help:

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Sixth Grade at  
BHE is:

Rigorous academics  
with cross curricular  
study

Environmental  
curriculum focused  
on the Barton Creek  
Greenbelt and  
gardening

Campus Leadership

Middle school  
responsibilities and  
unique learning  
opportunities

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### **Rigorous academics with cross curricular study:**

Our teachers work closely together to provide a challenging curriculum within and across disciplines. Our expectations and curriculum are the same as a middle school in subject content including Art, Music, and P.E. There are many project based learning opportunities requiring students to make real-world connections and analysis. Technology is utilized on a daily basis to enhance communication, presentations, research, and products. Flexible groupings form the core of meeting student needs. As one sixth grader stated, “the teachers want to make sure you get better at something.”

“In sixth grade you have lots of privileges like eating outside, and gardening in science. We have a lot of fun projects that help you understand the material. You don't just sit and listen, you do stuff.” - A.F.



### **Environmental curriculum focused on the Barton Creek Greenbelt and gardening:**

Our campus is the only one with access to the Barton Creek Greenbelt across from our back parking lot! Sixth grade takes advantage of this treasured space by visiting the Greenbelt every week. Students might do science experiments, write in their almanacs or work on removing invasive species. In addition, our sixth grade designs, plants, and harvests gardens each season. Garden design, evaluating growing conditions, and applying new ideas are integrated in the studies of math and science.

### **Campus Leadership:**

Our sixth graders are leaders. They comprise the No Place for Hate Leadership Committee planning our yearly activities and teaching SEL lessons to other grade levels. They lead our morning announcements daily and are the lead actors and stage managers for our annual production of “The Nutcracker”. In addition, our sixth graders lead the center activities during the school-wide Track and Field Day as well as the annual Kindergarten Rodeo. They organize, decorate, advertise, and run the annual Barton Hills Bash.

“It’s cozy with good vibes”

G.Y.

### **Middle School Responsibilities and “Electives:”**

While on an elementary campus, our students have middle school responsibilities and expectations. They have multiple teachers, carry their books and supplies with them, and are part of a community of learners. They typically eat lunch outside everyday (weather permitting) and then have some social free time.

While we do not have course electives in the form of a traditional middle school schedule, we provide students opportunities to try a variety of non-core academic activities. Physical Education and Art and general Music occur on a rotating schedule. Music instruction is provided daily through band and orchestra. They periodically perform with the middle and high school bands and orchestras. Additionally, the sixth grade choir members have incredible performing opportunities. They have performed at ACL, SXSW, and in venues such as One World Theater and ACL Live at the Moody Theatre. Sixth grade do a yearly theatre production. They audition for the parts, create sets, run the lights and sounds, and of course, perform the show itself.

