



### DRESS STANDARDS

Connolly Middle School has a dress code. The dress standards are designed with modesty, simplicity, safety, efficiency, and comfort in mind. The dress code is enforced on campus before, during and after school. The purpose of the dress code is to promote a school-learning environment that is respectful and allows all students to maximize their academic growth.

### COMMUNICATING WITH FAMILIES

**Parent Teacher Conferences** – scheduled twice per year

**Parent Vue** – An online tool that allows parents and guardians to view student’s attendance, school schedule, current assignments, grades, health/immunization data, and personal profile.

**Connolly website** – [www.tempeschools.org/Connolly](http://www.tempeschools.org/Connolly) – information on school news and events

**Teacher web pages** – Many teachers maintain their own web pages, which can be accessed through the Connolly website.



### SCHOOL HOURS

7:50 a.m. – 3:05 p.m.  
1:05 p.m. early release every Friday

### OFFICE HOURS

7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

### PRINCIPAL

Kathryn Mullery

### ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Mindy Udall Schulte

### TOSA (TEACHER ON SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT)

Jennifer Dial

### COUNSELORS

Elizabeth Kiel

(480) 967-8933 ext. 4816  
ekiel@tempeschools.org

Gail Tronzo

(480) 967-8933 ext. 4817  
gtronzo@tempeschools.org



# Connolly Middle School

2002 E. Concorda Dr.  
Tempe, AZ 85282  
(480) 967-8933  
Fax: (480) 929-9695

[www.tempeschools.org/Connolly](http://www.tempeschools.org/Connolly)  
[www.facebook.com/ConnollyMiddleSchool](https://www.facebook.com/ConnollyMiddleSchool)

To download a middle school catalog, which features a complete course listing with descriptions, visit [www.tempeschools.org/middleschool](http://www.tempeschools.org/middleschool)

# Welcome to Connolly Middle School!

Our motto is: "Whatever it takes, we are college bound!" At Connolly, we prepare students for college and success in a global society, in a variety of ways, using rigorous coursework and encouraging critical thinking.

Connolly Middle School offers a unique educational experience because of the AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) program. We are recognized as an AVID National Certified School and are proud to be an AVID National Demonstration Site. Research validates that the AVID college-readiness system works for all students. AVID's proven methodologies implemented throughout each subject increase rigor and promote academic achievement for general, gifted, and special education students.

Connolly's west campus is home to ASPIRE Academy, which is designed for the most academically gifted middle school students. ASPIRE teachers regularly challenge students intellectually and creatively to reach their full potential.

Connolly strives to provide levels of acceleration and challenge in all sections of required courses, as well as elective programs and music. The fine arts music program at Connolly offers outstanding opportunities to expose middle school-age students to symphony orchestra, jazz band, and a variety of vocal and instrumental performance classes.

If you have questions about Connolly Middle School, please feel free to contact me at (480) 967-8933.

Sincerely,



**Kathryn Mullery**  
Connolly Middle School  
Principal

## WHAT PARENTS ARE SAYING ABOUT CONNOLLY MIDDLE SCHOOL

"We could not be happier that we chose Connolly Middle School. It is an academically rigorous place for our daughter to learn. It has a nurturing and supportive feel to it. We really feel that Connolly is preparing her to move on to the next step of high school and beyond."

"There is so much passion, commitment, and desire from the teachers at Connolly, and they're all working together to make a difference in the lives of students. You can feel that every time you walk onto the campus."

"The programs are really outstanding. I feel fortunate to be a part of a school that offers so many different opportunities for our kids. Whether it's the AVID program, the honors program, after-school programs, they are helping create well-rounded citizens."



## AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination)

The AVID strategies for learning are implemented throughout all classrooms and subjects. The AVID philosophy is embraced by all teachers and staff: Hold students accountable to the highest standards, provide academic and social support, and students will rise to the challenge.

In addition, any Connolly student can apply to become an AVID student and attend an AVID elective class daily. Twice a week, college students visit AVID classes to tutor and mentor students. AVID students are also provided a variety of opportunities to prepare for success in college, including enrollment in rigorous classes that lead to advanced placement in high school; an opportunity to visit colleges and universities across Arizona and the United States; public speaking; community service; and exposure to guest speakers who discuss pathways to college and careers.

Because AVID provides students with a clearly defined and delineated road map, they gain the confidence needed to pursue their dreams of college.



## SPORTS AND AFTERSCHOOL CLUBS

Connolly Middle School offers a variety of opportunities for students after school. All clubs and activities are free of charge. These include:

**National Junior Honor Society** – Open to 7th and 8th graders who have demonstrated excellence in five key areas: scholarship, leadership, service, citizenship, and character.

**Yearbook Club** – Members help develop the annual yearbook.

**Newspaper** – Students publish a monthly newspaper and receive training on interviewing, creating articles, taking photographs, writing captions, and working with others as a team.

**Homework Help** – Connolly offers a variety of interventions to assist students with their schoolwork before, during, and after the school day, as well as on selected Saturdays.

**Science Club** – Students work on projects that culminate in the Geek's Night Out event with the City of Tempe.

**Student Council** – Participants provide student activities, share in the management of the school, help problem solve, and help involve students in school affairs.

**Sports** – Connolly students participate in the Tempe Athletic Conference and the All-City Athletic Conference. Sports offered include cross-country, volleyball, soccer, wrestling, softball, basketball, and baseball.

## ASPIRE ACADEMY

ASPIRE Academy at Connolly is designed for gifted students in sixth through eighth grade who test in the 94th percentile or above in verbal, quantitative, or spatial areas and in the 85th percentile or above in an additional area on a state board approved test for gifted identification.

The four core areas of math, language arts, science, and social studies are taught by gifted-endorsed teachers who are highly qualified in their subject area. Students work on content in more depth and complexity. Courses move at an accelerated pace appropriate for gifted learners.

Electives in the arts, physical education, Spanish, and technology are offered to allow and encourage students to expand their talents. In addition, students will have an opportunity to participate in a project-based learning elective, modeled after our popular K-5 integrated PACE gifted services.

## OUTSTANDING MUSIC PROGRAMS

The music programs at Connolly Middle School have a long tradition of excellence. There are many opportunities available for students to continue their education and enjoyment of music at Connolly. All music classes meet daily and are a regular part of the student's class schedule. The music program provides an opportunity for musical and social growth in a warm, friendly atmosphere.

Continuing fifth-grade music students have the opportunity to play in orchestra, band, and/or sing in the choir as a sixth-grade student. Continuing advanced music students are able to expand their knowledge and skill level. Sixth-grade students, who want to learn to play an instrument or sing, can sign up for one of our beginning classes in orchestra, band, and/or choir.

Connolly is proud to be one of the only middle schools in the state of Arizona to provide a full symphony orchestra experience to band and orchestra students. This class is an extra ensemble that meets on special occasions throughout the school year.

All eighth-grade music students are invited to participate in the end of the year trip to Disneyland, California. Students participate in a Disney Magic Music Day Studio Recording Session, which is a once in a lifetime experience. This opportunity is not provided anywhere else in the United States.

