

## **2007 Robious Venturers Answer Your Questions**

### **What is ASE?**

*“Academic Success Enrichment”*

*“ASE is divided into 2 parts: Enrichment and TA time. Enrichment is where we work in groups doing different things while TA time is a study hall.”*

*“ASE is a block of the day when you have time to do assignments, meet/talk with teachers, and work on group projects.”*

### **How do you use your ASE time?**

*“Wow those 20 minutes of TA (teacher assistance) time are extremely useful. You can do work, do forgotten homework, or help the teachers.”*

*“In my regular ASE, I work on homework, class-work, or my MAPS. If I am not working on any of those, I read.”*

*“To meet with the Senate, study for tests, do MAPS, to do group projects. I also talk with people.”*

*“I played the Stock Market game.”*

*“You can do Venturer Times, where you get to write a newspaper, KMO (Knowledge Master Open) is a world-wide computer competition testing all of your knowledge, and CSI where you can search clues and become detectives.”*

*“I talk to my friends and study for the class after. Sometimes I will do any homework so I have time after school.”*

*“I used my time working on MAPS and catching up on things I missed when I was absent.”*

### **How much homework might Venturers expect?**

*“The same amount as 5<sup>th</sup> grade, maybe less. The block schedule helps balance out the homework.”*

*“Well, it all depends on the student. If they leave it until the last minute, then it will feel like a ton! However, if you allow yourself to get your work done early (always remember future Venturers, do your best), then it will feel like a feather.”*

*“Very little.”*

*“A lot!!!!!!!!!!”*

*“I spend about 2 hours per night on homework.”*

*“A fairly good amount of homework.”*

*“You should not expect that much, but you should be prepared to have a lot.”*

*“It is not an exceedingly large amount, most likely less than the other teams.”*

### **What is the nature of homework for each of the core classes in 6<sup>th</sup> grade?**

#### **1. English**

*“Most of the homework is either studying or working on a unit, like folklore or poetry.”*

*“We have units in English. We do these in class so we don’t have too much homework.”*

*“We don’t have much homework. If we have any, it is usually a project or a mini-project that relates to the unit we are learning.”*

*“It is not hard and it takes 10-20 minutes to do, UNLESS it is a project which take a bit longer.”*

*“There is not very much, but you need to keep up with all your projects.”*

## **2. Math**

*“Always study for quizzes and tests!”*

*“Worksheets and small projects are likely, taking no more than 10 minutes for the worksheets and 1-2 hours for the projects.”*

*“MAPS about one hour per week.”*

*“We get worksheets that only take 10 minutes. Sometimes we get long-term projects but not often.”*

*“In Math 8, the homework takes between 5-30 minutes depending on if you listened in class.”*

## **3. Science**

*“Lots! We will have homework every night that will take about 30 minutes.”*

*“TONS of quizzes and tests! You pretty much have to move to a new chapter every two weeks so you have to study.”*

*“Reading, TV, worksheets, just too name a few.”*

*“Worksheets and reading, quizzes and tests. Science Fair is big in the spring.”*

*“Section reviews, lab worksheets, charts and graphs for class labs and lots of quizzes.”*

*“You always need to study.”*

## **4. Social Studies**

*“Mainly worksheets, interactive study guides, and reading”*

*“This homework takes me the longest. We do a lot of group projects so we get with our groups on weekends.”*

*“Sometimes we have to read in the textbook. I advise you to take notes unless the teacher gives you a worksheet.”*

*“If you love this subject, it will take you 5-20 minutes.”*

## **5. World Language or IL (International Languages)**

*“For IL, almost none.”*

*“We normally don’t have any homework in IL, and when we do it isn’t that much at all.”*

*“In Latin we normally have 11 lines of translation, studying for vocab quizzes, and a big project every nine weeks.”*

*“I take French. It is a lot of HW and studying, but it is nice to learn the language.”*

*“French takes forever. My hand usually cramps up after 30 minutes of writing.”*

*“For Spanish, we have vocab fans, worksheets, reading, quizzes and tests almost every class – study every night for 30 minutes!”*

## **6. Did you take a world language or international language elective? Describe the class.**

*“I took French. It is a fun class at the start but it will get harder by the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester. You have to study for a language class to get good grades.”*

*“IL (International Languages) is a good class for somebody who doesn’t know which language to take.”*

*“I take Spanish I and it is difficult. I must study to get an A. My teacher is very strict but she is a good teacher.”*

*“We do activities in Spanish to learn the material, and on Spanish holidays we sometimes have a mini-fiesta.”*

*“I take German and it is easy in class except for the POP exams. They happen every two weeks and count as two test grades.”*

*“I take Spanish. It is very hard and we have 1000 pounds of homework every night.”*

*“I take Latin. Mostly translations. Some exercises from the textbook. Usual vocabulary quizzes and quarterly projects. Make flashcards – it really works.”*

*“I took Spanish. Overall I really have enjoyed the class. I like how there wasn’t a lot of lecturing, and you were always doing something. I believe I have gotten very far in the Spanish language.”*

*“In German we have a great time because the teacher uses fun interactive games and workbook pages.”*

*“I’m in IL class, and first of all my teacher is great. I learn a lot in her class and I enjoy the projects. The homework she gives helps me actually, and IL pushed me toward the language best for me – Latin.”*

### **7. What techniques help VENTURER students manage assignments?**

*“Just do a little each night and make sure that you don’t leave projects and reports until the last minute. Also, your agenda is a must! You are bound to forget a homework assignment if you don’t use your agenda.”*

*“NOT PROCRASTINATING, do it the night you get it!”*

*“I’d say it is easier to do the assignments the day you get them because if you don’t, you might be cramming the next night to finish the assignments for the next day.”*

*“Make sure you write down your homework in class and ask any questions you may have in class.”*

*“In math, when studying for a quiz, look over your homework and redo the problems you missed until you get them right.”*

*“I have shelves in my room where I keep all the stuff I need for odd and even days.”*

*“Keep a homework folder to put all your homework in.”*

*“The main thing that helps me is paying attention in class.”*

*“ORGANIZATION REALLY HELPS YOU MANAGE YOUR HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS!”*

### **8. What helped you transition to middle school?**

*“The Stepping Up classes during the summer really help you get to know the school.”*

*“Having good 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers, friends, and the open house.”*

*“School is school.”*

*“Mainly the way I got organized is to take it slow at the beginning of the year.”*

*“The main idea is to stay calm. Teachers and counselors will help you get around classes during the beginning of school.”*

### **9. What have you enjoyed the most about your 6th grade year?**

*“The freedom of the halls instead of staying in the same room all the time.”*

*“The Washington DC trip OVERNIGHT! That was sooo much fun. We got to plan our day ourselves.”*

*“The thing I enjoyed most is meeting new people. Meeting new people is the life of middle school.”*

*“Being able to do projects and going on field trips and having an enrichment time and having great teachers.”*

*“I enjoyed having six different teachers and meeting lots of new people.”*

*“I was so afraid that I wouldn’t be able to open my locker, but they are really easy and helpful. I knew a lot of my friends who were going to be in my classes. I thought I would never be able to live without recess, but I don’t even notice it.”*

*“Meeting new people, making new friends, having more freedom, and having teachers that are GREAT.”*

*“I enjoyed making new friends and I have loved all of my teachers. I also love how all of my teachers treat me so well.”*

*“I like how we have the student-of-the-month assembly.”*

*“What I enjoy most is how the Venturer team is like a big family. We are not that big a group so practically everyone knows everyone.”*

*“The teachers brighten me up on sad days and I don’t regret coming to school! I look forward to Mrs. Cook’s daily stories, to Mrs. Estes’ scientific outlook on things, and to Mr. McEwen’s fun math games and jokes!”*

#### **10. What assignment did you find the most interesting and why?**

*“The Fast Plants in Science was an unusual assignment where we got to grow and watch plants change over time.”*

*“I loved the Job-O Survey and the reunion with snacks and dress-up. It was fun to wear high heels!”*

*“The flag creation in Social Studies because it involved coloring and drawing, and you have the opportunity to create a flag that suits you the most!”*

*“I liked the Golden Rectangle project because first of all I love math. The project combined art, education, numbers, talent, and style, and let people express themselves.”*

*“I liked the coffee house we did in English. We wrote our own poems and then shared them with everyone in a coffee-house environment.”*

*“My favorite is the Science Fair board. You get to plan your own experiment, do it, write things about it, and make it into a tri-fold board. It feels like you are a grown up scientist!”*

*“The wax figure museum was a lot of fun!”*

*“Colonial commercials – it was fun to act out and be with your friends while doing it.”*

*“I enjoyed the math project on the properties where we got to make a video that helps students learn the properties. My partner and I had a lot of fun coming up with ideas for it and filming it.”*

*“I found our poetry unit most interesting because we had about 5 or 6 assignments but you could turn them in when you wanted, and there was one big deadline.”*

*“I liked Job-O because it gave me a taste of what my dream job would be and what hard work it is.”*

*“I found the Audacity project most interesting because we got to change our voices and learn our own section of history. The project actually took you to that event you were covering.”*

*“The experiment where I got to eat pudding, oreos, and vanilla wafers.”*

*“I liked the one where we created an Indian artifact – it was fun and educational at the same time.”*

*“In social studies, we created a commercial to get people to move to the colonies. It was interesting because it was a different way of learning, yet still fun.”*

*“Our Math 8 golden rectangle project taught us that PHI is 1.618, the golden number of perfectness, and the fun part was we got to build our own house in the shape of the golden rectangle.”*

**11. Do you ever see your friends who are not a member of the Venturer team?**

*“Yes in the halls, at lunch, gym, chorus, band and orchestra.”*

**12. Do you have time for extra curricular activities?**

*“In the fall I played lacrosse, winter I played basketball, and now I am playing lacrosse again.”*

*“I do track and many other activities.”*

*“I can do everything I used to do in elementary school.”*

*“I end up doing homework in the mornings.”*

*“You have to plan your time wisely.”*

*“I play softball, basketball, tennis, swim, and YMCA weight lifting classes.”*

*“I take 3 dance classes, piano, judo, Chinese, and religion class, and I get my work done.”*

**13. What fieldtrips have you gone on? Describe what happened and what you enjoyed about any field trips.**

*“I really liked how our trip to DC was a little more independent and how we moved in small groups rather than one whole large one.”*

*“We toured many museums, ate at the Old Post Office, rode the Amtrak train down and back. It was the best fieldtrip I’ve ever been on! I learned about our government at the Capitol building. We enjoyed every minute of the trip.”*

*“My favorite part was riding the metro train to and from the Capitol.”*

*“We went on an overnight to DC. While having ton of fun, I also learned a lot. We learned about NORAD at the Canadian Embassy and about our country’s relationship with Canada.”*

*“Every group had to visit the Archives, the Capitol, the Portrait Gallery and the American Indian Museum.”*

*“We got to see a ‘Christmas Carol’, pick where we got to go, went on flight simulators, went shopping, and got to stay overnight. Loved the train ride.”*

**14. What advice would you give to a new Venturer student?**

*“Don’t be afraid if you have a rough first nine weeks. Your teachers will help you and everything will be okay. So don’t panic – they will understand.”*

*“Pay attention and take notes in class. Also the teachers don’t always say “take notes” so be prepared with a pencil and paper.”*

*“Always give your best effort! I’ve learned that you should always do your best the first time instead of doing a bad job and having to re-do it all.”*

*“Go the extra mile on projects.”*

*“Keeping your binder neat and organized really helps when you want to find something.”*

*“For projects if you have another idea that is NOT on the rubric, ask the teacher if you can do it.”*

*“Mrs. Estes forgets her purse and Mr. McEwen hates cats!!!”*

*“Mrs. Cook hates colons (unless they are used correctly)!”*

*“Take on new challenges and do everything to accomplish that challenge and your goal. I think if you do this, your 6<sup>th</sup> grade will be a better experience and more memorable.”*

*“Don’t be scared about lockers and getting to class on time. I know 3 minutes doesn’t sound like a lot of time, but don’t worry.”*

*“Just keep your cool. Be responsible for your work and actions. Don’t over stress yourself with homework (so don’t leave it until the last minute!). Also, trust and listen to your teachers. They will get you prepared for 7<sup>th</sup> grade.”*

*“Don’t be nervous.”*

*“Do not procrastinate! If you do, you will find yourself staying up until midnight the night before a project is due. Try doing it over the weekend or when you have little homework.”*

*“Don’t stay up late at night cramming for a test.”*

*“Pack your schoolbag the night before so you aren’t rushing around in the morning.”*