



June 2018

Hello Railroaders!

I would like to take the opportunity to introduce myself and share with you an exciting opportunity we are going to offer here at Whitehall later this summer. My name is Christopher (Topher) Montville and I am the Middle School Guidance Counselor at Whitehall Middle School. I will be working together with you and your child for the next few years in grades six through eight to help enhance their academic, social, and career exploration and success.

Later this summer, Whitehall Middle School will be partnering with The Council for Prevention to offer a transition and orientation program for incoming sixth grade students called **Railroader Camp**. This experience is geared toward helping students make the transition to the Middle school and have a foundation of skills and resources to start off the new school year. The program will include *Life Skills*® training (which is an evidence-based program that promotes skills such as decision-making, goal setting, problem-solving, etc.) with adventure-based activities that encourage participants to practice the skills they learn throughout the camp. We will also be working on some hands-on Science exploration each day.

**Railroader Camp** this year will be held Monday, August 20 through Friday, August 24 from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Lunch and transportation will be provided for participants.

On the last day, (Friday, August 24) a barbeque will be held for the program participants and their parents/guardians are invited to join us from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM at Hewlett's beach and park pavilion. This will be a nice opportunity for students and their families to celebrate their success together and chance to meet some of the faculty sixth grade students will be working with this fall.

I hope that you will be able to take advantage of this summer transition/orientation opportunity for your child. Please complete and return the permission form enclosed with this letter to the guidance office by **Friday, August 3**. Also, please be sure to mark on the form if you as a parent/guardian will be attending the barbeque on Friday, August 24.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the **Railroader Camp** or other thoughts, please feel free to contact me directly by email: [tmontville@railroaders.net](mailto:tmontville@railroaders.net) or phone: 499-0480 x 2008.

Enjoy your summer and see you at **Railroader Camp**!

Sincerely,

Topher Montville  
Whitehall Middle School Guidance Counselor (6-8)