



# Middle School Student Sound Off

*Jean Carlo Lamas, Grade 7  
Preston Middle School*

## The First Day of Middle School

I felt fear as I walked into a new building, excited to start middle school. When I walked in, I could feel my heart racing. My Dad said, “Está bien?” I said, “Si estoy bien. Nomás estoy nervioso.”

Once I got my schedule for my new classes, a teacher came up to me and said, “Welcome to Preston Middle School. Let me show you your first class.” When I walked into my first class, I was nervous because I did not know anyone. In my mind, I would think that walking into this building would be something out of the ordinary. It was a transition I was expecting from 5th grade to 6th grade. But making new friends was my obstacle through this upcoming year because I am a very shy person. Once I stepped foot into the classroom, people were already talking to each other.

I was very nervous because I was not ready at all to make new friends yet. But what I did not expect was to actually have people come up to me and create a friendship with me. Kade was one of my classmates who started to become friends with me through this new year. Kade and I created a very close bond and I felt so much better everytime I would go into school knowing I have such a great friend with me.

I met Kade during class when he came up to me, “Hey Jean Carlo, where are you from?” I said, “Oh, I’m from Mexico. Well, actually, my parents are from Mexico.” He said, “Oh that's really nice!”

During this class, I had such a wonderful teacher, Ms. Cesar, who helped me get through my 6th grade year. She would let Kade and I eat in her classroom, and work together during study hall. Ms. Cesar helped me with my homework and to stay on track throughout the year. Through this whole experience, I was able to reunite with one of my best friends from 4th grade and his name is Trevor . My bond with him is great! The first time we saw each other at Preston we were in shock because it was unexpected. Trevor and I have known each other since 4th grade. We both have a lot of common interests like sports, video games, and playing together at recess in 4th grade. Being able to continue our friendship was something that I was glad that happened during my middle school experience.

Through my first year of middle school I was very nervous but never have I thought of getting to meet great friends like the ones I have today. Entering into a new building can be scary, yet it can also open your mind to show you new experiences in life. I was able to leave my shyness aside and be able to make new friends and to continue a streak of being a great student and trying my best each and every day. I was even nominated two times for Prestigious Puma which is an honor for students who show kindness, perseverance, and hard work. Never be too shy to show your true self.