

Words from Wise



Express Lane



Attendance = Achievement

Your child's attendance is the first step towards his/her success in school. As a parent, it is important to set rules about attendance and stick to them! Remind your child that unless he or she is sick, or there is a family emergency, his/her primary job is to be present at school. Think about this... by the time he/she is in 7th grade, a student who misses about 25 days of school each year will have missed and ENTIRE YEAR of instruction! Although students may be able to get caught up on missed homework and quizzes, there is no substitute for the instruction provided by his or her classroom teachers!



Quote of the Month

"There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work, and learning from failure."

- Colin Powell



Power Through Projects

In the middle school, your child will begin completing more and more independent projects, both inside and outside of school. Projects allow students to showcase their creativity, force them to plan their time wisely, and prepare them for real-world deadlines and presentations. While many students get excited to tackle these type of assignments, projects can also be extremely difficult for students who struggle with organizational skills. You can utilize the following suggestions to help your tween power through his/her upcoming projects!

Break Down Goals

Have your child list all of the steps that need to be completed and help him/her break these tasks into smaller parts. Have your child check off each step that they complete and allow them to view their progress as they go. By separating these larger components into smaller jobs, your child may feel less intimidated by the size of the assignment.

Research with Care

Your child may have plenty of resources that he or she can use (books, the Internet, maps, interviews), but they'll need a system to keep track

of the things that they learn. As your child reads through books, or scrolls through websites, help him or her keep track of new information using an ordered system. Color-coded index cards, computer fonts, and Post-It notes can all help your child separate categories of information. Tabbed computer files or titled notebook pages can help separate various sources.

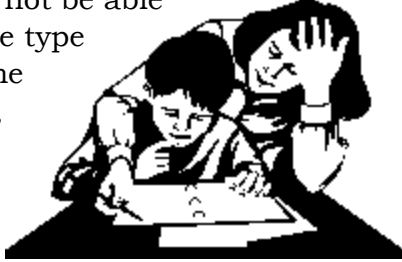
Showcase Strengths

Presentations often offer students multiple ways to present their learning to teachers or classmates. Posters, computer presentations, audio recordings, webpages, and models/diagrams are all common ways for students to display their work. Encourage your child to consider a presentation method that will allow him or her to show off unique talents and add some personal touches.



Homework... Help!

Having trouble helping your middle-schooler with his or her homework? Don't worry, you're not alone! By the time their kids reach the middle grades, many adults have a difficult time remembering the content, strategies, and concepts that their children are learning. Although you may not be able to provide the same type of instruction as the classroom teacher, there are some other things that you can do to support your tween at home.



Utilize the Internet

When it comes to math and science, the Internet can be especially helpful in providing tutorials for yourself and/or your child. Websites like www.greatminds.net and www.adaptedmind.com can provide detailed descriptions of Common Core math skills. You'd also be surprised by the amount of instructional videos and tutorials that can be found on YouTube.com with a simple search!

Need Something to Do?

Want to get out of the house, but stay out of the cold? Check out the boys modified basketball team in action!

Modified Boys Basketball Schedule

- 1/8 – Home vs Wilson (4:00)
- 1/12 – Away vs Newfane (4:00)
- 1/16 – Away vs Barker (4:00)
- 1/19 – Away vs Akron (4:30)
- 1/26 – Away vs Albion (4:30)



Play the Role of Student

Although you may not be an expert in the content, allow your child to teach you what he or she already knows. This can be especially helpful prior to tackling a lengthy/tough problem. When provided with a basic overview of the skills that have been taught, you may be able to work together on the more challenging question.

Teach Problem-Solving

You may not know the skills, but you can still promote problem-solving. Instead of allowing your child to get frustrated and give up, suggest that he or she call or video chat with a classmate who can help. If a friend isn't available, encourage them to consult the textbook or search for some tips online.

WISE HOMEWORK HINT

- 7th Grade students can now locate their nightly homework assignments on the school website. (Go to Clifford Wise → Services Tab → Student Counseling → 7th Grade Homework)

Fact to Forget - "In 2017, natural disasters caused a record-breaking \$306 billion dollars of damage in the U.S."

Reminders

- 1/8 – PTSA Meeting (OO @ 6:30 PM)**
- 1/15 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (NO SCHOOL)**
- 1/25 – End of 2nd Marking Period**
- 1/30 – BOE Meeting (6:30PM)**

Chess Club

- 4th & 5th – 1/9 & 1/23**
- 6th & 7th – 1/16 & 1/30**