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Wellington Middle School

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WMS Newsletter - The First Nine Weeks

October 21, 2019

Issue 1, Volume 2

Overview

We kicked off the new school year with our Knights of the Roundtable with the focus of students getting involved and having their voices heard. This goes along with the building-wide theme for all staff and students to set SMARTS goals focused toward having their best year ever by knowing the impact their attitude and efforts have on their own success and others. A huge "Thank you" to all of the outside organizations for volunteering their time and presenting excellent information to our middle school students. We appreciate your partnership with us and look forward to future opportunities to collaborate to help students and the community know the impact we can have in Wellington!



Here is the link to the on-going agenda sharing all of the wonderful presenters.

https://drive.google.com/open?id=1ga2rbGWdNL7nFLzoloUlg-jr3WWot2aIMV_WKjDRraM If you have an idea for a presenter or would like to present yourself, then please contact Dr. Doud.

Quest and Knight Time

Quest is for student discovery, innovation and strengthening skills for success through exploration and intervention.

Differentiated instruction based on individual student data:

- Students are assessed often throughout the school year
- Students are taught based on their individual needs and areas for growth
- Intervention support is focused on Math and Reading
- Other areas for growth include
 - STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math)
 - Communication (Reading, Writing, Speaking, Listening)

Knight Time - 1:1 Mentoring

Knight Time is like the high school's Crusader Connection class

- All students have a Knight Time Class
- Students will keep their Knight Time mentoring teacher for the duration of their years at WMS
- Students will plan and conduct their student-led conference with their Knight Time mentor teacher and their parent/guardian
 - During fall and spring Parent/Teacher Conference days - Goal 100% participation

Quest and Knight Time

Through the use of student data and positive mentoring relationships, we meet students where they are and provide focused and specific instruction and projects to strengthen areas of weakness and enrich and stretch their talents and strengths through:

- 16 Habits of Success
- 36 Cognitive Skills
- SMART Goals
- Weekly 1:1 Mentoring and review of progress on SMART goals
- Measurement of students' participation and setting/meeting SMART goals is reflected in Infinite Campus as "E" - exceeds standards, "M" - meets standards, or "P" Progressing toward the standard, and "NP" No Progress being made. Students earn credit for the classes as long as they are meeting or exceeding standards.

Bringing it all together - Quest and Knight Time

Use the Self-Directed Learning Cycle to set goals, develop a plan to achieve those goals, learn what you need to know, show evidence of what you have learned and reflect on the process.



Book Fair in the WMS Library

Please stop by the library before or after your student-led conference to browse the amazing books available at the Book Fair. You can also enter for your chance to win Pizza For Parents! The Book Fair will be set up from Oct. 14-24 but if you don't have time to stop by the library you can still purchase books through the online fair. Online shopping dates are Oct. 10-30. Check the [WMS library webpage](#) for the link!

What are Student-led Conferences?

Student-led conferences will take place in the evening on October 22nd and all day and evening on October 24th at Wellington Middle School. Students will contact their parents/guardians to reserve an appointment time during the first week of October. Student-led conferences will take place in the Knight Time classroom with the Knight Time mentor teacher as the facilitator. This process allows students to outline for the parents what exactly they have learned over each nine weeks and take ownership of their learning. The objective is to increase student accountability and autonomy concerning academics and their habits of work and learning as well as to hone student verbal communication and critical thinking skills and to build open relationships with families concerning student progress in middle school. During each conference, students will demonstrate the responsibility to prepare, organize, and direct the conference with their parents, emphasizing the academic and behavioral accomplishments they have achieved during the school year and targeting additional goals and areas for growth.

Here is a video highlighting the benefits and process of student-led conferences as shared by another school district.

<https://youtu.be/NTIp9vpzx-Q>

Please connect with your student today to schedule your student-led conference.

Fundraiser Pick Up

There has been a change to the date in which the fundraiser items will be delivered to WMS and ready for pick up. October 23rd your student will be bringing their fundraiser items home with them after school or you will be receiving a call from your student to assist with a pickup.

ALICE Training

Along with fire and tornado drills, WMS will conduct crisis drills and training for our staff and students. Staff will have a review training in ALICE from SRO Yunker. Parents will be invited to attend an ALICE information meeting - date to be determined in November. Students will have their review ALICE training in the near future during Knight Time presented by SRO Yunker. Many more discussions and drills will occur throughout the year.

A.L.I.C.E.

Common Sense, just not Common Knowledge

Alert
Lockdown
Inform
Counter
Evacuate

ALICE is **NOT** a linear, progressive response.