

Westlake Middle School **Back-To School Night** September 22, 2022



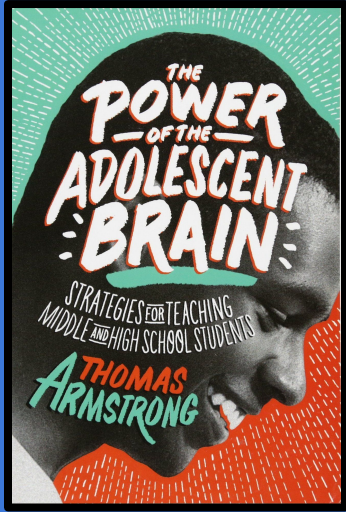
What's On Our Minds

1. Back-To-School Night - Classrooms and Relationships
2. Our Amazing PTA!!! - Get Involved
3. October PTA Meeting - *Ryan's Story*
4. PTA Family Book Study - Learning Partners
5. Mt. Pleasant Portrait of A Learner & Middle School Success
6. The Start of The School Year - Bottom Lines & Messages
7. Measuring Success - The Data and The Other Data

PTA Sponsored Events

- Bagels and Locks
- Spirit Wear and Spirit Week
- Woo Hoo Welcome
- Staff Breakfast
- Seasonal Festivals
- Holiday Boutique
- School Dances
- Food Truck Friday
- 8th Grade Events
- Cultural Celebration





"At around the age of 11 for girls...12 for boys, there is a short period when the amount of grey matter increases again...during adolescence, the brain undergoes a second round of pruning"

The adolescent brain is being “rewired” and Executive Functioning Areas Are Impacted –

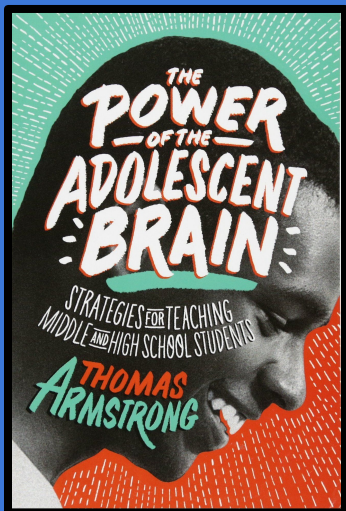
- Planning
- Decision Making
- Setting Priorities
- Inhibiting Impulses
- Appropriate Behavior

The adolescent brain is primed for big rewards which increases risk taking.

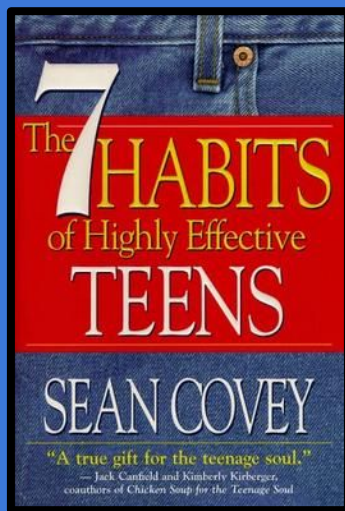
Rewards are amplified by social acceptance from their peers [not boring adults].

RISK TAKING IS AN ESSENTIAL TRAIT THAT HELPS LAUNCH ADOLESCENTS OUT OF THE PARENTAL NEST AND INTO THE WORLD.

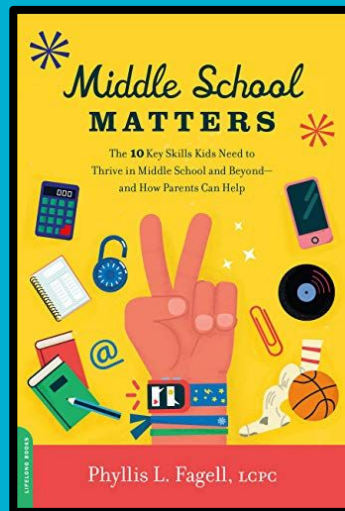
Encourage appropriate and healthy risk taking. Join a club. Try a new sport. Do something adventurous as a family.



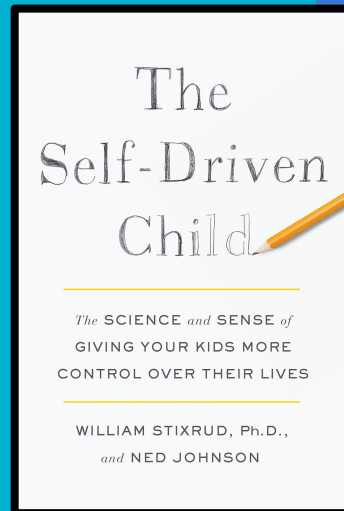
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Habits are things we do repeatedly...our habits will either make or break us. Luckily, you are stronger than your habits.



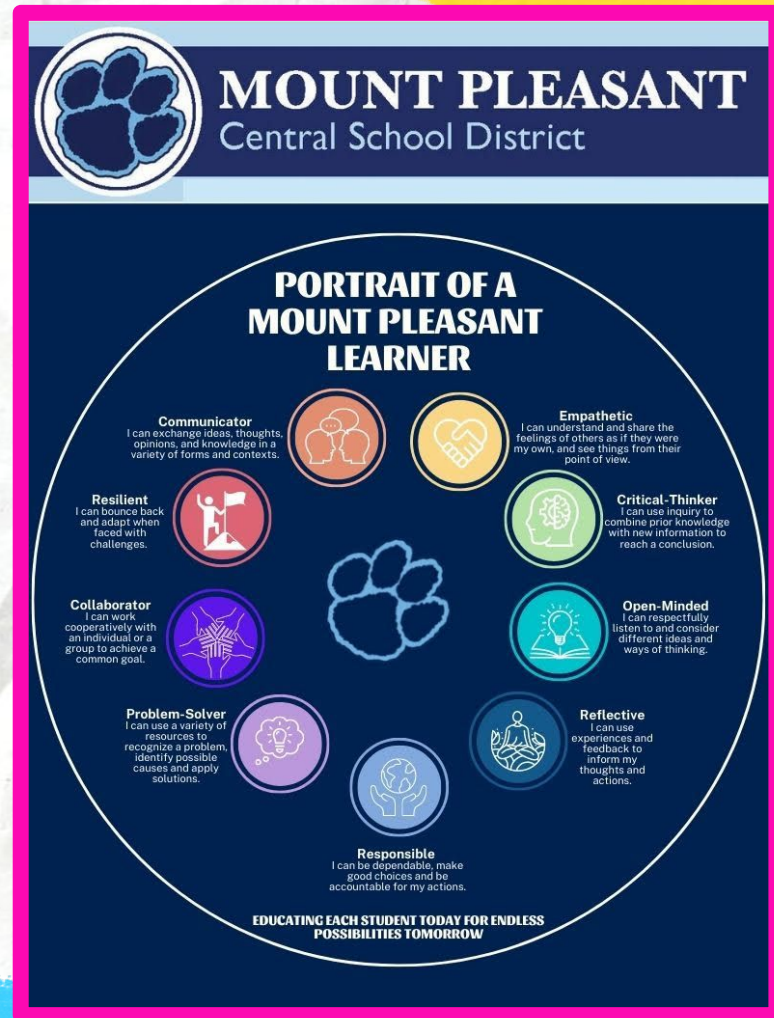
Parents of Middle Schoolers can't afford to sit this phase out...It's the ideal time to teach [skills], and foster integrity and healthy risk taking.



We can't really control our kids—and doing so shouldn't be our goal...Without a healthy sense of control, kids feel powerless and overwhelmed.

MIDDLE SCHOOL SUCCESS

- Engage by listening, speaking, reading, writing.
- Be curious, ask questions, wonder.
- Make connections between subjects & real life.
- Take interest in new learning and opportunities.
- Work hard, take responsibility, become more independent.
- Work together to solve problems.
- Try to understand how others feel & understand other points of view.
- Take healthy risks and try new things.
- Reflect on what you did & how you can improve.
- Focus on progress. Know you have tools to grow.



MIDDLE SCHOOL BOTTOM LINES

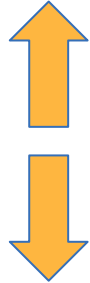
1. Act safely throughout the school
2. Respect and responsibility for personal space
3. Understand and use respectful language (DASA)
4. Use mistakes as learning experiences - bounce back!
5. Maximizing Learning Time and The Learning Environment

Numbers DATA Measurement



Why we measure success?

Individual Support



**Systemic
Improvement**



How do we measure success?

**Achievement or
Performance Level**

AND

**Growth or
Progress**



What do we use to measure success?

Numeric Grades and Report Cards
Homework, Classwork, Quizzes, Test, Projects, Writing
Criterion Based Grades - IB Subject Criterion and Rubrics
Reflection, Goal Setting*, and Progress Monitoring
State Assessments
 ELA, Math, Science, Algebra, Living Environment
Internal Assessments
 IXL, NEWSLA
Standardized Assessments
 NWEA MAP
Individual Progress Measures - IEP Goals

*Goal Setting Examples:

- Complete HW by 5:00 p.m.
- Go to office hours once a week
- Check Google Classroom with my parents



Sharing Measures of Success



New York State ELA & Math Exams

- Given Once in The Spring
- Levels 1 to 4
- Available in The Parent Portal

NWEA MAP

- Nationally Normed
- Given 3 Times a Year
- Achievement Percentile
- Growth Percentile

IXL Diagnostic (Adaptive)

- Math (subcategories)
- Reading (subcategories)

IXL Skill Practice

- Individual Smart Score

low stakes

The Other Data Criteria for Student Generated Self-Assessment

- Advocates for themselves
- Demonstrates responsibility
- Active participant in class ☒
- Studies outside of the classroom
- Uses teacher feedback ☒
- Independently organized ☒
- Perseveres solving problems
- Explains thought process ☒
- Routinely submits work on time
- Always prepared for class ☒
- Always puts their best efforts
- Interest and motivation to engage
- Accepts challenging classwork

