

Welcome to November and the close of the first ranking period. Did you know that Warsaw Middle School is expecting academic excellence from every student and that we need your help to bring that to fruition? Please remember these tips below as it takes teamwork (home + school) for a child to be successful at school.

Make academic effort the focus of your expectations

Research consistently shows that students feel more positive and connected to school when they believe that hard work will lead to success. Communicate to your child that you expect his best effort. When he gives it, let him know how proud you are. You should also expect that your child:

- Devote time to schoolwork. Effort can't be wished into practice. Your child should study each night. He should also have time for family, exercise, food and sleep. Most use of entertainment and social media should take place on weekends.
- Set goals. If your child is to put forth his best effort, he has to connect it to a goal. For example, "I will raise my math grade to a B next quarter." Your child's goals need to be specific. They should be achievable. And there should be a way to see his progress.
- Try rigorous courses. He should take as much math as he can, for example. He may not always make top grades. But research shows that even students who are thought to be "low-achieving" benefit more from taking harder courses than easier ones. Children rise to the occasion if given a chance.

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Starting second quarter, parents will be able to log into Infinite Campus and check on their child's grades and progress. We will be sending more information your way on how to do that via the Wednesday envelopes so keep checking them regularly. Until then, we look forward to another successful quarter and your continued support of Warsaw Middle School in our efforts to create well-educated, respectful and responsible citizens.

Below are some friendly reminders to help us all in our endeavors:

- Please be mindful of children in crosswalks when dropping students off in the AM;
- If your child does not take the bus, please make sure s/he is at school on time – by 7:55AM;
- Please check the Wednesday envelopes every week;
- Praise your child everyday!

~ Kristen Gilbert, Principal