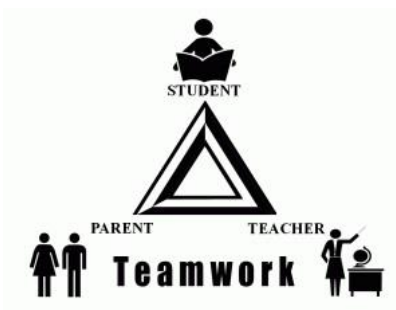


MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

HOW CAN WE WORK TOGETHER?



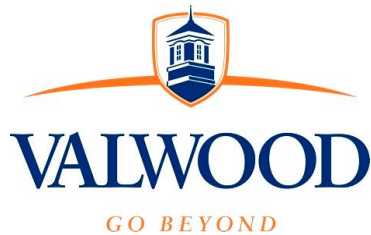
The success of a student in all categories is characterized by the triangle above. The parents and school provide the support for the student, while the student is responsible for doing his/her part. The best strategy parents and the school can have is communication. Being the parent of a middle school child, at times, can be difficult. The middle school child is different and eccentric. There will be a day when you may look at your child and ask yourselves several questions like; Why does he/she act this way? What was he/she thinking (or not thinking)? What has happened to my child and who is this new kid I have in my house?

It is our responsibility to be understanding and work with the students to help them become responsible, organized, and upstanding individuals. To help with the transition of your middle school child and answer any questions you may have while in the Middle School at Valwood, we will send you parent guidelines each week. These guidelines will help the Valwood faculty, parents, and most importantly the students.

Day to Day: #1 Drop your child off with the passenger door opening to the Middle School for safety. You may drop him or her off as early as a teacher is in the Middle School building. Most teachers will arrive at 7:30 am, but some will be at the school at 7:15 am.

Academic: #1 Organization - Help your child make lists, check his or her notebooks, and back pack at least once a month for neatness and organization.

Character: #1 Everyday ask how your child's day went and let him/her tell you one good thing that happened and one bad thing that happened that day.



A website you may want to look at to help your student understand the importance good study habits and being organized is the College Board Parent Action Plan: Middle School Link.

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/get-started/for-parents/parent-action-plan-middle-school>

Sail the 7 C's: Our first "C" the Middle School is discussing this month is Critical Thinking. Below are five definitions of critical thinking we are discussing with the students. We will add more definitions as the weeks move along.

1. Use various types of reasoning (inductive, deductive, etc.) as appropriate to the situation.
2. Analyze how parts of a whole interact with each other to produce overall outcomes in complex systems.
3. Effectively analyze and evaluate evidence, arguments, claims, and beliefs.
4. Analyze and evaluate major alternative points of view.
5. Synthesize and make connections between information and arguments.

Important Announcements:

- **Blue vs. Orange Teams:**
 - **Blue: 52**
 - **Orange: 90**

Points are continuously added and removed due to students' behavior, study skills, and character.

- **Progress Reports** have been emailed to all families. If you have any questions about RenWeb, please get in contact with Mrs. Julie Guilliams, jguilliams@valwood.org. If you have concerns or questions about grades and comments, please take the time to email the teacher, myself, or Mrs. Parrish to set up an appointment for a meeting. Progress reports are not a final grade, but an overview of how well your child has been doing so far this quarter.
- **Yearbook make up and class photos** will be taken on Monday, September 17th. These retakes are for students and faculty who missed picture day last week.

Thank you for all your support and help.

GO VALIANTS!

Chad Gallahan

Middle School Dean