

Thriving in Middle School

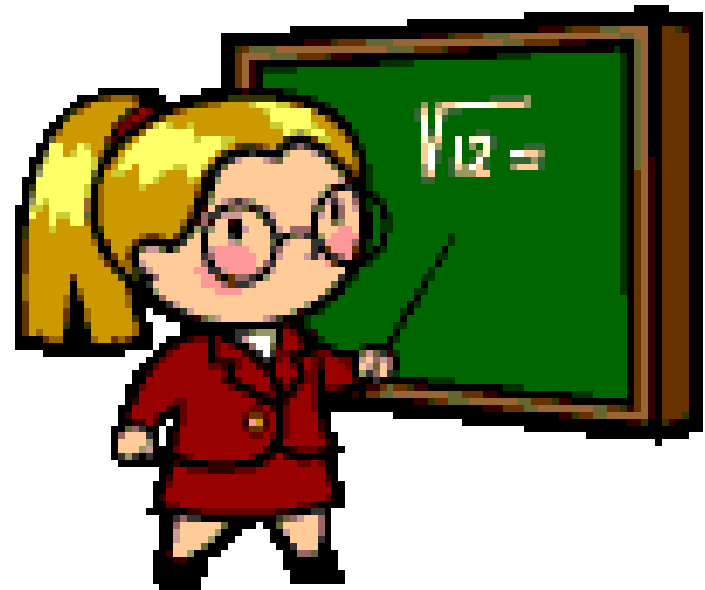
Tips For Parents Success for Students at Great Neck North Middle School

*Some slides created by Salem Middle School and Dillard Drive ES



Your Middle School Experience

- School Memories
- Student Expectations
- Parent Expectations
- School Expectations



All drop offs are on **POLO ROAD**

- No DROP OFFS in PARKWOOD LOT
- No U TURNS on Polo Road. (NCPD enforced)
- Use the entire DROP ZONE
- LOOK before you pull out.

THINK

**SAFETY
FIRST**





NO DROP OFFS OR PICK UPS
in the PARKWOOD LOT on
Arrandale Avenue



ALL DROP OFFS AND PICK UPS ARE ON



NO U TURNS and NO STOPPING
on Polo Road

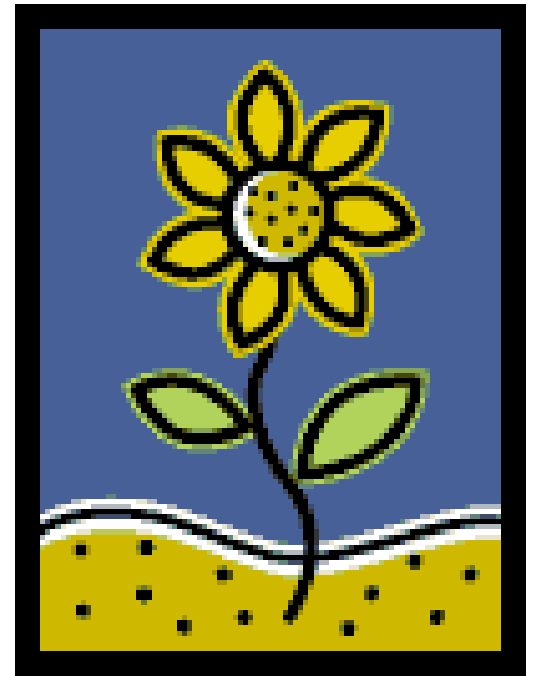


Please use the ENTIRE DROP ZONE

Please look before you pull out

Middle School Student Development

- ❖ Physical Growth
- ❖ New Hormones
- ❖ Concrete to Abstract thinking
- ❖ New Relationships
- ❖ Self Concept
- ❖ Attitudes & Values



School Concerns

- The BUILDING
- The Schedule
- Teachers
- Other Students
- Friends
- Popularity
- Homework



Worries that I may have....

- ⑩ Opening the locker
- ⑩ Getting lost or finding classes
 - ⑩ Getting good grades
- ⑩ Bullying and/or being teased
 - ⑩ Making new friends
- ⑩ Having more than one teacher
 - ⑩ Finding the bathroom

More worries...

- ⑩ **Not knowing the school rules**

- ⑩ **Carrying around all those books**

- ⑩ **Feeling stupid compared to other kids**

- ⑩ **Being embarrassed by parents in front of other kids**

- ⑩ **Puberty (pimples, body changes)**

- ⑩ **Changing before and after P.E. in front of other kids**

- ⑩ **Going from class to class without being late**

- ⑩ **Having girlfriends or boyfriends**

- ⑩ **Having someone to sit with at lunch**

Social Transition

- **Higher social skills associated w/ better friendship qualities before and after transition** (Aikins, Bierman, & Parker, 2005)
- **Students w/o mutual friendships had low school involvement and low peer acceptance; made the transition period harder** (Kingery & Erdley, 2007)
- **Students who believe they are capable of making friends experience less peer relationship strain during the transition** (Fenzel, 2000)
- **Parents become LESS COOL 😞!**
(nothing personal)

Gender Differences

- Boys show decreased academic achievement
- Girls show physical symptoms and psychological distress (Chung, Elias, & Schneider, 1998)

What Can You Do?

- **Help them set goals**
 - Academic, Sports, Personal
- **Ask questions**
 - What are you most excited about?
 - How can I help the most?
- **Listen Closely**
 - Listen without giving advice
 - Ask if they want advice
- **Reinforce the positive**
 - Anything!



What Can You Do? Cont....

- Help prepare them in advance
 - Encourage reading
 - Buy a combination lock to use for practice
 - Create opportunities for social practice outside of school

What do WE do?

- “Transition to Middle School” lessons:
 - Making friends
 - Time management
 - Navigating new spaces
 - Lockers
 - Taking on new responsibilities
- Review of elective choices in class
- Tour of North Middle School
- 6th Grade Book Read

Team Structure

- Caring Professional Educators
- Heterogeneous Grouping
- Team Taught/Resource Room/Self-Contained Classes
- Core Subjects
- Daily Common Time Meetings

What do WE do?

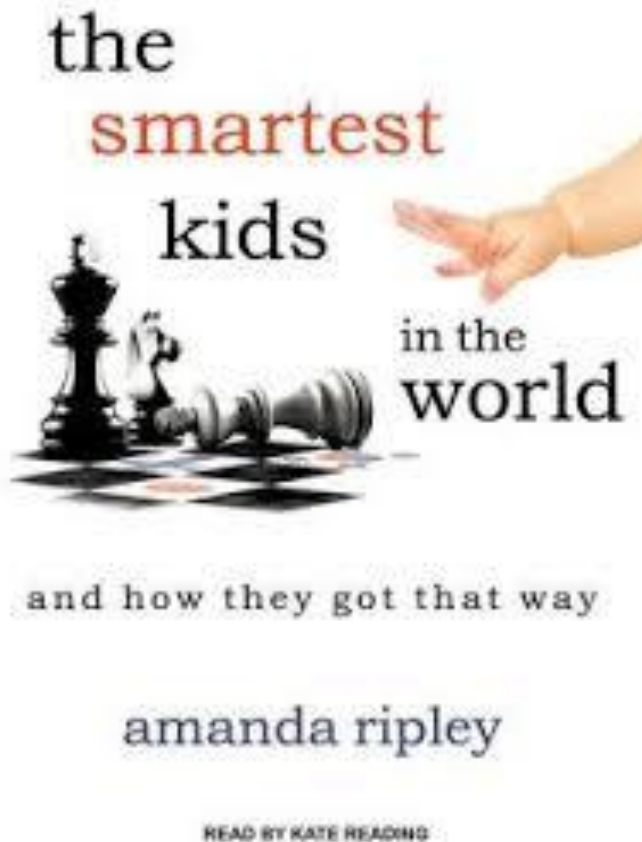
- Open House/School Tours
- Presentations at North Middle School and feeder schools

6th Grade Book Read/Talk

A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide consists of a light green square at the top left, a white rounded rectangle below it, and a dark blue horizontal bar extending across the width of the slide below the white rectangle.

Parent Book Read/Talk

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-42hks_qvf0



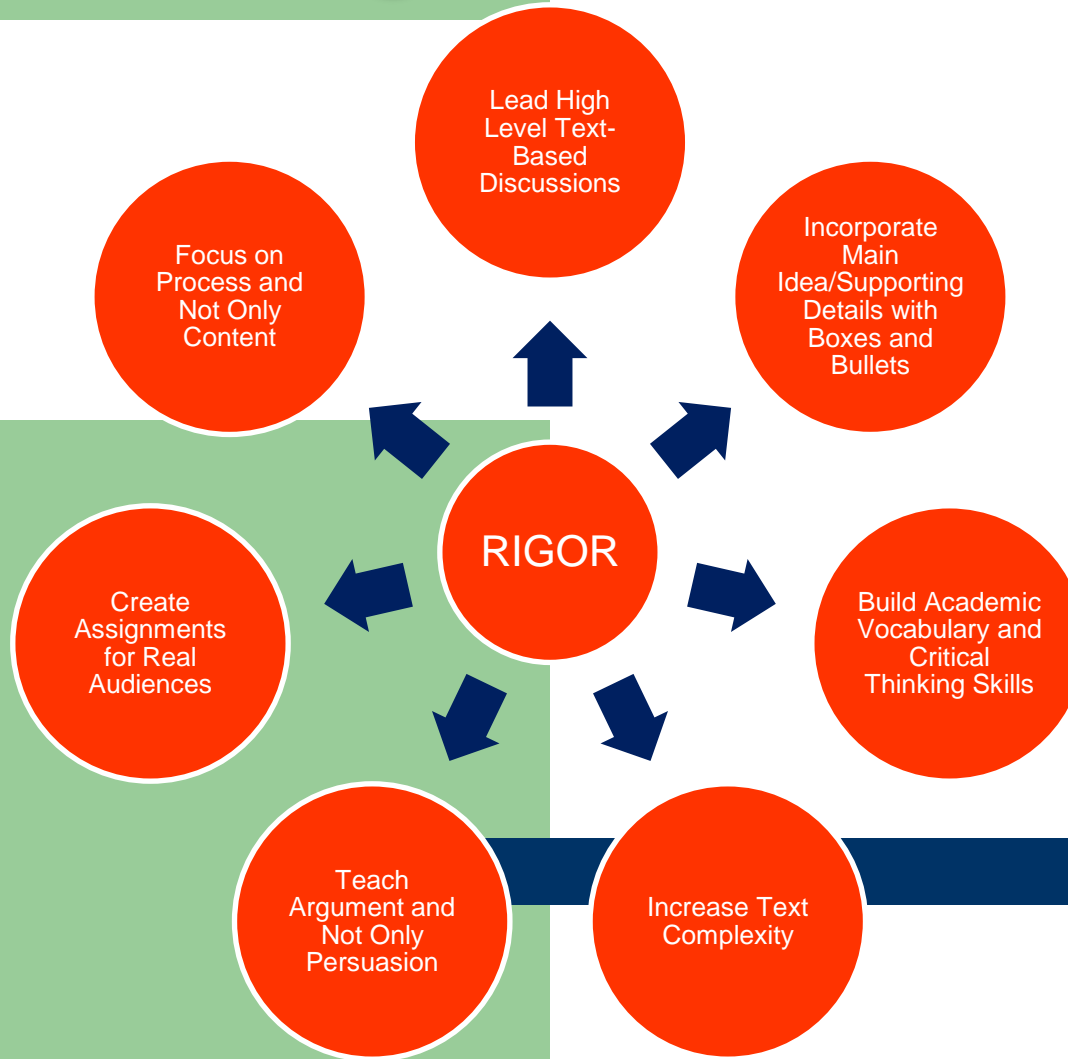
School to Home

- North Middle School STUDY SKILLS Packet
- Afterschool Routine: Create schedule for homework, dinner, sleep, etc.
- ORGANIZATION
- Set goals for the year
- Homework: Facilitate rather than complete
- Continue to designate family time together

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Skills, Rigor and CCSS



at North Middle School

Q & A and Resources



- Questions?
- Websites:
 - <http://pbskids.org/itsmylife/school/middleschool/index.html>
 - <http://www.nmsa.org/publications/webexclusive/helpfulhints/tabid/649/default.aspx>
 - <https://www.greatneck.k12.ny.us/site/handlers/filedownload.ashx?moduleinstanceid=13132&dataid=17696&FileName=StudySmart%20Guide.pdf>

Contact Info

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