



## Who do I contact?

### Guidance Dept.

Gloria DeJesus Ext 31007

For **FOCUS** Questions contact

Gale Cole Ext 30128

Ms. Moravecky – Eagle or Avid

Mrs. Jackson – 7<sup>th</sup> Graders

Mr. Thorstensen – 8<sup>th</sup> Graders

Mrs. Tammy Green - ESE

### Attendance

Pam Mosley Ext 31005

### Deans Office

Lynnette Rivera Ext 31006

### Clinic/ Care

Ms. Baptiste Ext 31010 or

Mary Coonan Ext 31001

### AVID Coordinator

Jennifer Zifer Ext 31084

### Athletic Director

Teresa Boyce Ext 5310

### Media Center

Julie Edwards Ext 31036

### ADMIN Contact:

Principal, Mr. Scheuerer

AP of Curriculum Mrs. Thomas

AP Dean Mrs. Higham

AP Dean Mr. Mannes

**Mission Statement: Central Middle School will provide quality education in a culture of collaboration and learning to prepare all students to be college and career ready fostering success in a global society.**

**Vision Statement: Central Middle School will empower students by**

## Advancement Via Individual Determination

# AVID

AVID is not just another program. At its heart, AVID is a philosophy for holding students accountable to the highest standards and for providing academic and social support. AVID students rise to the challenge!



### **Central Middle School (CMS) is an Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) school.**

Our CMS staff is driven to ensure that AVID instructional strategies are used to enhance students' **Writing, Inquiry, Collaboration, Organization, and Reading** skills. (**WICOR**) In addition, career & college exploration is embedded within instruction and throughout the culture of Central. Together, as a community of students, parents, and staff we strive to ensure career/college readiness and improved academic performance for every child.

Parents AVID resources are available at <https://www.avid.org/parent-resources>

Our CMS 2020 AVID Theme is "**Future Me**". The emphasis is on supporting students to identify personal strengths/interests and use these to explore possible "future" careers. Through backward planning, students will discover what it will take to achieve their dream career. WE will actively support student goals.



**R** **Reading**  
 Deep Reading Strategies  
 Vocabulary Building  
 Summarizing  
 Note-taking

**O** **Organization**  
 Planners  
 Graphic Organizers  
 Cornell-note taking  
 Project Planning & Goals

**C** **Collaboration**  
 Group Projects  
 Study Groups  
 Peer Editing  
 Class Discussions

**I** **Inquiry**  
 Socratic Seminars  
 Tutorials  
 Essential Questions  
 Research

**W** **Writing**  
 Reflections  
 Quick Writes  
 Peer Evaluations  
 Annotations

## What in the WICOR?

**AVID's proven learning support structure known as WICOR, incorporates teaching/learning methodologies in the critical areas of Writing to Learn, Inquiry, Collaboration, Organization, and Reading to Learn.**

**Now in our language here at CMS,** this translates into strategies that teachers and staff members can use and share to support all students of varying talents and abilities alike, as one school community. Using common language, through WICOR, and engaging students in reciprocal teaching allow them to take some control of their school day. They begin to use the language and communicate more effectively about their goals, their struggles, and their idea's for support systems that we must build together and maintain support them. Language is powerful and if we can include each member of the child's academic world, including themselves and their parents, their growing confidence and achievement levels won't depend on test scores alone.

Take time to familiarize yourselves with WICOR and discuss the power of these learning tools at home because these students are becoming who they are going to be right now. ***Let us engage and empower them with live skills and strategies that allow them to achieve their dreams, manage conflict, and form lasting relationships that will cement our community here at Central Middle School for decades to come.***

## Why AVID Binders?

- Less Wasted Time**
  - Everything is in place
  - No more digging in backpacks
- Less Lost Work**
  - Nothing is loose
  - Backpacks are clean
- Less Stress**
  - Students know where everything is
- All students with the same system**
  - They can help each other
- Life Skills**

**Organization**

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Planners  
 Graphic Organizers  
 Cornell-note taking  
 Project Planning & Goals

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## 5 Steps of Focused Note Taking and the Language

### WE use...

#### **1. Taking Notes...**

Create notes, determine purpose, record essential questions, and select format.

#### **2. Processing Notes...**

Thinking about notes, Revise notes, Organize notes, Evaluate Information.

#### **3. Connecting Thinking...**

Think beyond the notes, Analyze notes, Ask Questions, Connect to previous learning.

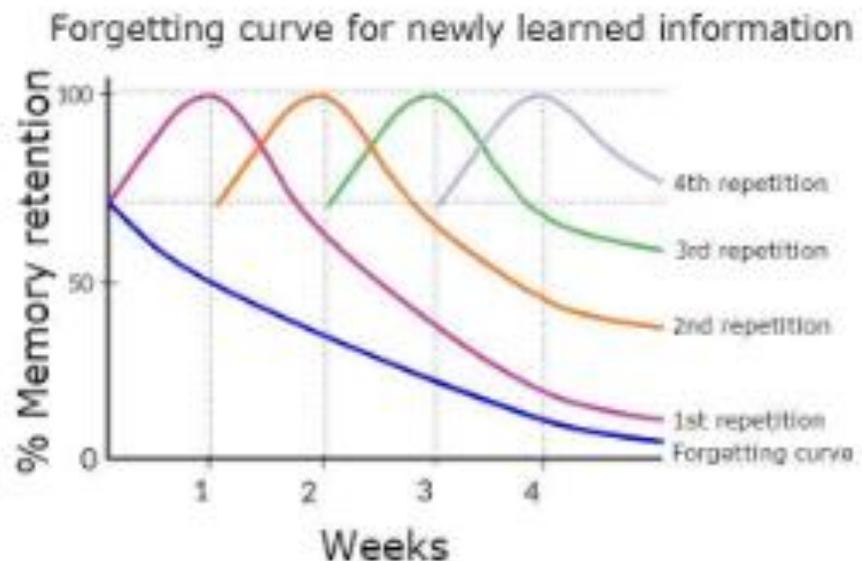
#### **4. Summarizing and Reflecting on Learning...**

Think about notes as a whole, Identify Important Aspects, Craft Summary, Reflect on Learning.

#### **5. Applying Learning...**

Revisit Notes, Craft Summary, Use Notes to meet the Purpose of Learning.

Information is quickly forgotten – roughly 65% of what we learn in class will leave us within one hour, 66% in 24 hrs, and 75% after 6 days... Unless... we revisit our notes. This is why our Focused Note Taking Strategies are so important. <https://youtu.be/yZQj8ElwljU>



## *How do I help my child study?*

The Greatest Benefit of AVID Binders is that everything is found inside of it. All of your students materials, classwork, homework, notes, important papers, you name it... it should be there. This is "Student Accountability 101". You can be their best advocate and check their binders once a week. Make it a habit even. Pick a night when you schedule a block of time to examine their progress for the week. Help them manage the loose papers, and organize their materials so that they may be at their very best the following day. This way they can ask all the right questions the following day and begin to solve problems before the weekend begins. Use FOCUS to reach out to teachers and view the resources they share.

Students are also able to help one another. They can collaborate and share their successes and failures openly. Failure can be a wonderful teacher if students learn that they are able to fix their mistakes and solve their own problems. Often they work better together and aren't afraid of admitting mistakes with their own peers who share the same experience. Encourage them to have a Homework Buddy. Using technology to bridge the gap works for distances as well. Peers who hold one another accountable begin building trustworthy relationships in which more students accomplish great tasks with pride and feel good about it. Trust me, as a parent, watching your child solve their own problems is life changing!

Finally, learning the language of Focused Notetaking may help you communicate with children at home and teachers at school. The more often we share the language from their day, the more likely they are to use it and understand it. Review the 5 Steps with students and ask them what some of those steps look like in class. Perhaps they can show you examples in their binder from the weeks discovery in a specific class.



# Progress Monitoring in Motion:

Students have begun a few progress monitoring steps. These assessments simply allow everyone a chance to track and share academic growth and achievement throughout the year for each child that participates.



Reading Plus Benchmark Assessments were given in ELA and Social Studies classes. This sets up a baseline score for the start of the year and helps build specific support for each student in all courses.



NWEA MAP Growth data assessments are administered to students in Math and Science to evaluate the child's math skills. Bridging the Gap is a term used frequently this year and the MAP scores will allow staff members to target primary skills and build student confidence through interventions and daily lessons for students while they practice in class and at home.

## Central Middle School Spirit Shirt



Front

Back

Available to Purchase for students and parents.

Great SPIRT gear!

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>nd</sup> Block Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Scheduled lunchtime: \_\_\_\_\_

_____ small \$12	_____ large \$12	_____ 2XL \$14
_____ medium \$12	_____ x-large \$12	_____ 3XL \$14
		_____ 4XL \$14

\_\_\_\_\_ Quantity ordered \$\_\_\_\_\_ Total

Order forms and payment are due by **Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup>**

Please turn order form and payment to the **CMS front office, attn: Ms. Zifer.**

Checks/money orders made **payable to Central Middle School.**



**NJHS will be operating a little differently this year!**

**If you were accepted for membership last year as a 7<sup>th</sup> grader, please know we are currently planning out how to properly recognize and induct our members, and how to proceed virtually until further notice. We will be sending out more information as we finalize our plans. Thank you for your patience and understanding!**



## EAGLE Athletics Updates

**There WILL BE Sports in Middle School this year!**

*The district has agreed to swap Track and Basketball seasons this year due to COVID-19 limitations. Track will be held in the Fall, most likely October. We have guidelines coming. Basketball will then be in the Spring of 2021.*

*Please keep watch for any updates we will share with you. When we are made aware, you will know!*

**Parents! Any student planning on participating in track or basketball will need to complete a new physical packet for this school year. Physical packets can be found on the school website under athletics. No student will be able to participate without a completed packet.**

## Welcome Deputy Mullin

Deputy Jeremy Mullin has been sent to us after working at the North Area ALC in Brevard County. He enjoyed his work with students there and is excited to interact with ours at CMS. "As I got older," he said, "I realized that kids are the best people."

Dept. Mullin views himself as a down to earth guy who truly enjoys helping other people. When asked "Why law enforcement?" he said, "It's a challenging and rewarding career full of surprises, and opportunities to help people."

So we present to you a true servant of the CMS community. We are proud to stand with Deputy Mullin and hope that you find time to approach him with a kind word. If you're wondering how to relate to an officer of the law, he loves Marvel Comics, Pizza, and corny jokes.

## Morning Study

### Hall in the Media Center

*A monitored study hall is provided for any student who needs to be dropped off early.*

*8-9 am*

*Monday – Friday.*

*There will be limited seating.*

*2-3 per large table, masks are required on campus.*

*Computers will be available, but every other to establish social distancing.*

attendance  
**MATTERS**<sup>®</sup>



Central Middle School