

Westlake Middle School | An IB World School

Mt. Pleasant Central School District



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Dear Westlake Middle School Families,

The second secession of our PTA Book Study was great. We dove deeper into Middle School Matters and looked at the 10 key skills kids need to thrive. We spent some time talking about the skill of self-advocacy. We want kids to not only know what they want, and to set goals and plans to get there, but to be able to use tools, resources, and other people to help them as they take the steps to get there. Starting small and thinking about the biggest most important things, we want young adults to realize that if they want something sometimes they are going to have to ask and advocate for how and why they should get it.

Here is a quote that resonated with the group:

This is hard for adults, let alone kids, but it is imperative for them in a world full of people who'll tell them "no." By middle school, kids should be mastering how to ask teachers for help or clarification. To get them to a point where they can do that, we need to encourage them to take risks and manage fear.

We used this discussion to choose the next chapters in the book to focus on. We will discuss Chapter 2 - making responsible, healthy, and ethical decisions; and Chapter 11- encouraging balance and setting reasonable expectations. **We will meet on January 11th at 6:45 p.m. in WMS Room 219, just prior to the PTA Meeting. Please enter through the Back Circle.**

Thank you to our PTA for helping us organize this important work. It is not too late to join us. If you need a book, please email us.

Thank you,
Anthony Mungoli
Principal

Christine Parrottino
Assistant Principal