



## MOSAICS

### About Parent Conferences in October!

MOSAICS's students will lead conferences! There is no need to "sign up" for a time, simply show up at your convenience on the night of parent conferences. I will be at dinner from 6:30-7:00 but please stop by before or after that time. **Be sure to bring your student with you.** Your student has a binder with everything we have accomplished in gifted. He/she will discuss the work with you. I will be moving from group to group, answering any questions you may have. If you are unable to bring your student, he or she can bring the binder home at any time so you can see what we have been doing in class.

As always, if you would like to meet or talk about specific issues regarding your student, please email me at [ttow@parkwayschools.net](mailto:ttow@parkwayschools.net) or call me at 314-415-7844 anytime during the school year. Please check Infinite Campus for your student's grades. Please check my website for important information: <https://sites.google.com/parkwayschools.net/centralmiddleschoolmosaics>

**6th grade:** One of the required projects this year is a research/presentation on a famous architect. Students should choose an architect by the end of August. I will help the students backwards plan this assignment, but the majority of the researching and presentation preparation will be done at home. Presentations will begin right after winter break and will be at least 15 minutes long. We will also be starting the novel *The Westing Game* by Ellen Raskin. Students will have daily assigned reading and they will have assessments over the reading. At the beginning of October, we will be working on our Design Thinking unit. Students need to bring in a bag of random things from home to help them build an object they are going to invent - the better the variety of "things" the more options for their inventions.

**7th grade:** Students should be looking for a topic for their I Know It, You Will Too! Presentation. Their topic should have had some global effect and the presentation should be 20 minutes long. Presentations will begin November 6th! We will have a limited amount of class time to work on this project, the majority should be done at home. We just started our Skatepark project in class! Please, please, please start sending in cardboard tubes (toilet paper rolls, paper towel rolls, and wrapping paper rolls).

**8th grade:** We began the year solving some logic problems! Ask your student about these challenging puzzles. Students spent some time learning about the Russian Revolution, Communism, Socialism, and Capitalism. We began reading Ayn Rand's, *Anthem*. When they finish the novel, they will begin the Rollercoaster Physics unit. They will be problem solving some rollercoaster faulty designs. Finally, the students will work in small groups to build their own rollercoaster!