

The Longhorn Way

Parent Edition No. 4 September 1, 2017

Implementing the LEAD (Middle School Version of Leader in Me) process is one of our building goals this year. For our new parents, our staff has been researching, learning, and implementing the LEAD 7 Habits for the last 3 years. We are ready to carry it out the LEAD process with our students. We will develop a common language and teach 21st century skills to our students during West Time and LEAD Time on Wednesdays. We will meet with multi-age groups to work on these skills in West Time/LEAD time. (This is our sixth year of West Time!). We will also be using this time as an opportunity for students to use the leadership skills they learn, while working on a specific interest, thus providing some personalization for our students.

The main goal of West Time and LEAD time is for students to find a purpose, place, and voice at West Middle. The middle years are hard and research indicates when students have a voice, choice, and purpose achievement soars. In addition, social emotional learning is critical at the age as they navigate adolescence. Our goal is to recognize the worth and potential in all students so clearly that they see it in themselves.

We have a google folder that includes all of our lessons for West Time and LEAD Time. Each week, we will add lessons to the folder for parents to follow. It can be found here and on our website: [West Time & LEAD Time Lessons](#). Please do not hesitate to call or email with questions. As soon as the students learn the habits, we will provide opportunities a parent night for student to teach the lesson to parents. Here are the 7 Habits of Highly Effective People:

7 Habits of Highly Effective People

1. Be Proactive- You are in charge of your choices.
2. Begin with the end in mind-Have a plan.
3. Put first things first- Work first then play.
4. Think win-win-everyone can win.
5. Seek first to understand then to be understood-Listen before you talk.
6. Synergize-Together is better.
7. Sharpen the saw-Balance feels best. Take care of yourself.

After School Activities: Start Wednesday, September 6th. Check out the activity booklet for details. Transportation provided see routes in the back of the activity booklet.

All District Mixer: Our first all district middle school mixer is being held on Friday, September 8 at Parkway Central High sponsored by Parkway's Drug Free Teen Voice for Change. It will be held from 7:00 to 9:30 pm. Tickets are \$10 at the school store if you pay by Thursday, September 7 (\$15 after and at the door). Registration forms can be found outside your child's counselor's office or you can register online at: www.tinyurl.com/connect4mixer-CHS

West Middle Family Picnic: We hope you have marked your calendar for our annual Family Picnic. Sign up here: [Family Picnic RSVP Form](#) September 10th from 1:00-3:00 pm at Forest Park Pavillion #5.

PTO News: HAVE YOU DONATED YET? The PTO's 2017-2018 Jr. Longhorn Spirit Campaign is underway with a goal to raise \$12,000 by 10/31/17 to help support PTO funded programs and

projects at West Middle. To date, we have raised \$2,458.30 so we've got a long way to go! There's no selling ANYTHING and 100% of your donation stays at West Middle and is tax deductible! For more information on how to donate you can go to the [PTO Website](#) or contact Libby Riley at jrlonghornspirit@gmail.com.

Donating your time! We have several volunteer opportunities for parents. Please sign up soon, as we have several upcoming events! Visit: [PTO Volunteer Sign Ups](#) or contact Angela Staples (PWMS Volunteer Coordinator) at ARBStaples@gmail.com.

Thanks for sharing your kids with us!
~Annie

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Mark Your Calendar

September 4th	No School
September 5 - 8:	Team 6 White to Camp
September 6:	Late Start - West Time Schedule After School Activities Start!
September 10:	West Middle Family Picnic 1:00 pm-3:00 pm in Forest Park

A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way.