

SURPRISE LAKE MIDDLE SCHOOL

COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

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Helping Your Child Succeed

We encourage parents to communicate with the teachers at Surprise Lake Middle School and to monitor their student's progress. There are several strategies parents may try:

1. Parents may mark dates on the calendar for mid-term progress reports and end of term dates.
2. Parents may leave phone messages with teachers at 517-1300. Teachers generally are able to return messages within 24 to 48 hours. Teachers appreciate parents calling ahead to make conference appointments.
3. Parents may use the Fife School District web site to email teachers and to access "Grade Checker." Using the student ID number, parents are able to view "Grade Checker" that provides current grade information and missing assignments per class.
www.fifeschools.com
4. Weekly grade "Tracking Sheets" are available to pick up in the office. Many students use these forms on a weekly basis, presenting the form to each teacher and then bringing the form home to parents. The SLMS "Agenda" may also be used for this purpose.
5. Parents may contact the counselor if they would like to have one meeting with all their child's teachers.
6. On the second day of a child's absence, parents may call Ms. McCormick, Attendance Secretary at 517-1310 to request homework.

Tips for Student Success

- Use a planner/school agenda
- Choose at least two evenings per week to go through your binder.
- Ask teachers when they may be available to provide extra help.
- Structure time at home for homework. Some students study best after dinner while others prefer to finish homework as soon as they arrive home from school. We recommend trying a routine and being consistent.
- A consistent sleep routine can be very helpful. Teens and pre-teens may find they need more sleep now than they did several years ago. However, a busier lifestyle that includes social time, school activities, and homework can cut into precious sleep hours. We encourage students to set a goal of 8 to 10 hours per night.

We hope these ideas are helpful. Please give us a call if we can be of assistance.

