

You can do this!

We know that making the transition to being a middle school parent is a challenge! Just remember, you are not doing this alone. We are here with all our training and passion to help your child move towards becoming the best version of themselves. We cannot do this without you and **YOU** are the expert on your child. All the research, training, and education in the world can never replace you. We appreciate the job you're doing and look forward to working with you to help your child become the best they can be.

Bush Middle School
2120 83rd Avenue SW
Tumwater, WA 98512

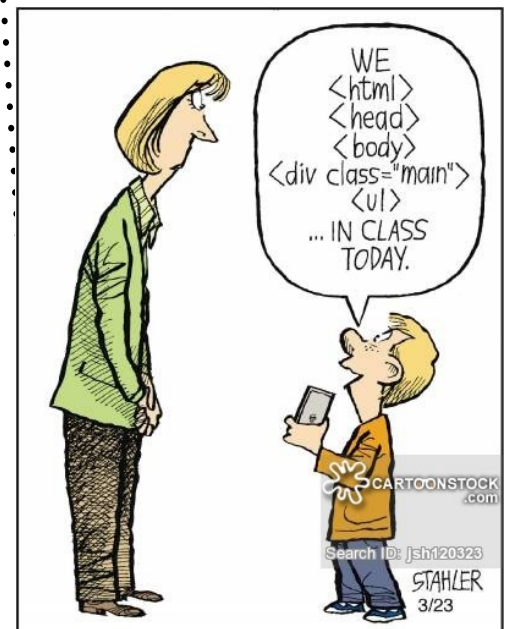
Phone: 360.709.7400

You can find staff email addresses at
www.bms.tumwater.k12.wa.us

BUSH MIDDLE SCHOOL PRESENTS...

Welcome to being...

The parent of a middle school student.



F.A.Q.s

Over the years, many meetings, emails, and phone calls that we've had, there are times it feels like déjà vu. *Haven't we had this meeting before?*

So... here are some things that come up over and over again throughout the year. We hope that having this information at the beginning of the year will help you to get started with your new middle school student well. While it can be a really challenging time (and you might feel like your child has changed personality types overnight), there are strategies to approach the constantly changing young person you have the great privilege and responsibility of raising.

Skyward

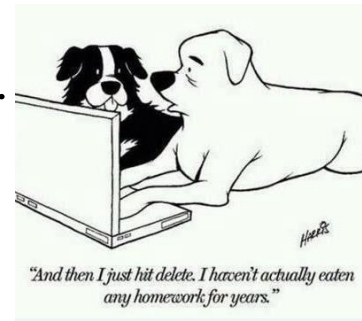
If you haven't gotten your Skyward access set up, you'll want to do this right away!

Q: HOW OFTEN SHOULD I CHECK IT?

A: At least once a week to max of 3 times a week

Q: WHAT IS ATP? AND WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "90% weight"?

A: ATP=Assessments, Tests, Projects (aka Summative Assessments). Anything in this category is weighted at 90%. If it's missing or your child earned a poor grade on it, they'll want to finish, fix, or retake ASAP.



Q: MY CHILD SAYS THEIR MISSING WORK IS TURNED IN. WHY ISN'T IT SHOWING IN SKYWARD YET?

A: That's wonderful they finished it! Late work is graded after on-time work. This means it may take a while for it to show up in Skyward. Things like projects or essays take even more time because the feedback necessary requires more time for review. If you're wondering whether it's actually in, feel free to email the teacher to check.

Homework

Q: DO THEY HAVE HOMEWORK?

A: YES!! Anything they don't finish in class becomes homework. While it varies by class, all students will have Moby Max Language online HW to do. Check Google classroom, Skyward, teacher webpages, and your child's planner for what they should be doing. You can also email the teacher directly.

Q: HOW DO I KNOW WHAT THEY NEED TO DO?

A: Good question! Unfortunately, it's not enough to ask, "Do you have homework?" They generally say, "No."

Here's some things you can say *instead*:

- * Let's check your Skyward/Google Classroom/planner
- * Show me your binder—open all your folders and let's see what you have
- * No homework, huh? You have an hour of homework time everyday so let's do Moby Max!

They're not doing as well as I thought...

It happens! There are lots of ways to help them get back on track.

- * Homework help club

- * Setting grade contracts with your child
- * Daily monitored homework time
- * Email teachers
- * Check Google Classroom *with* your child. Many teachers include the lesson materials there and instructions for the work
- * Moby Max! It has individualized practice in all academic areas and it's free to you.

Connecting with Teachers

Q: HOW DO I CONTACT THE TEACHERS? I HAVE A QUESTION OR WANT TO SCHEDULE A MEETING.

A: Email generally works the best. You can find our email addresses on the school webpage.

If you don't have access to email, call the school line (709-7400) or classroom number to leave a message. Please note that we are limited in the amount of time we can make phone calls so if it's urgent, you'll want to let one of the office secretaries know when you leave a message with them.

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CALL ANYTIME!