



Cameron Springs Middle School

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Happy (Almost) Fall,

It's that time of the year when the rubber meets the road and students realize they're there in it for the long haul. For some students, Progress Reports going home was a nice reminder about how important school is and that nothing replaces being in class for instruction.

We love that our families are involved in their student's education. *ALMA has been a great resource as families check student grades and missing assignments. As an IB World School we are working hard to teach students how to advocate for themselves and their learning. This **Approaches to Learning Skill (ATL)** is called out in both **Social: Collaboration Skills** and in **Communication Skills**, it's that important.*

When work is missing or a grade is less than desirable, here are the steps we are encouraging **students to take** when advocating for themselves:

1. Check the "No-Name" pile in the classroom, you'd be surprised how many papers don't have names
2. Check your backpack/binder
3. Check your Google Drive, was the assignment actually submitted
4. Email your teacher; include your full name and class period along with your question/concern
5. Speak to your teacher during AR or your class time
6. If all of the above has not clarified the issue, **NOW Parents can step in**
7. **Note:** When emailing your child's teacher directly from ALMA, you **MUST** include your student's name and class period. *ALMA does not do this for you.*

So, how can you support your student at home?

- Check ALMA **WITH** your student
- Any assignment in the gradebook marked with a red circle means your student did not submit the work.
- Look at the "To Do" tab in ALMA, *this will tell you specifically what is missing*
- Help your student check his/her backpack...sounds silly, but the bottom of a backpack is where missing papers are often found
- Encourage the use of a planner (either in their phone, on a calendar, or in their school planner). We think we'll remember until we don't.
- Check Google Classroom with your student. Teachers use this platform to post examples of work, assignments and notes.
- Help your student craft an email to his/her teacher with specifics about the concern.

Supporting your student in advocating for him/herself goes a long way. Middle School is a great time to start putting the responsibility on them, with a helpful guide on the side (yourself).

Please let us know how we can support you.


Douglas Shupe, Principal


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