

Dear Warren County Public Schools Families,

Warren County Public Schools (WCPS) is committed to *ensuring student achievement* and a significant part of that is creating a culture that focuses on continuous improvement in our approach to implementing state-required procedures. The purpose of this letter is to make you aware of the state-required Individual Learning Plan (ILP) for Kentucky's students in grades 6-12, to explain the overall ILP development process, and finally, to invite you to review this plan annually with your child.

The ILP is a comprehensive framework used for advising students in grades 6-12 and engaging them in coursework and activities that will best prepare them to both realize college and career success and become contributing members of their communities. Initially, students begin learning about their own interests and skills in 6th grade. Based on completed interest and/or skills assessments, students will be connected to suggested careers to explore. These results are included in their school Leadership (Leader in Me) Portfolio site which students are encouraged to review and share with their parents/guardians. The ILP journey only evolves from the initial 6th grade career exploration and conversations about the ILP at home foster this growth.

Beginning last year, all WCPS students in grades 7-12 have access to an online college and career readiness program called Xello which helps students discover the future pathway that's right for them. In today's changing world, students need critical thinking and decision-making skills to manage their futures for the long term. Xello uses an investigative, discovery-based learning process with four key components:

- 1. Build Self-knowledge Each student will define their interests, skills, preferences, and aspirations so they can explore the opportunities right for them.
- 2. Explore Options Students learn about career possibilities and educational pathways by exploring rich, engaging content and lessons.
- 3. Create a Plan Students are able to create dynamic actionable plans that outline the steps needed to achieve school, career, and life goals.
- 4. Learn & Reassess Through a series of interactive lessons, each student will develop the skills and knowledge they need to be successful in school and beyond.

As a student builds their Xello profile, they can share it with parents/guardians for feedback and encouragement. Parents/guardians can be one of the strongest educational influences for a student, so we encourage you to engage your child in a conversation about their ILP. Reviewing the ILP is a great opportunity to have a meaningful discussion with your child about what they are learning in school, their own interests, and their future aspirations.

The ILP is an essential tool to help focus students, parents, and school personnel on the interests, goals, and needs of our students. If you have any questions or would like to provide input regarding the ILP process, please do not hesitate to email our WCPS Secondary Education Director, Mr. Daryl Woods (<u>daryl.woods@warren.kyschools.us</u>). Thank you for supporting our efforts to promote our WCPS students' postsecondary readiness as they progress to the next level!

Respectfully,

Amy Osboe Briarwood Elementary School Counselor