



Norwell Middle School

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Dear NMS Community,

With the term ending last week and report cards being distributed via the Aspen portal today, I want to let you know that we are off to a positive first half of the year. I am looking forward to working together with the school community in order to continue having a successful and productive school. While this letter is one form of communication, I encourage you to view the website regularly, review emails from the school, and read the School Newsletter.

Report Cards

Report cards are issued to all students. They are published to the Aspen portal. For support in accessing your portal account, please contact Kathy Lynch at kathleen.lynch@norwellschools.org. Parents and students should review the report card together to discuss the student's progress. Grades are a reflection of student achievement in content knowledge and skill development as measured by work accuracy, quality, and timely completion. No matter the grade for the term, students should be reflecting on their strengths and areas for growth. A grade breakdown and/or the grades on various assignments should help the student identify these areas.

Reminder, Math Support is ungraded and is not listed on the report card, it is targeted, supplemental instruction. If you have questions about your child's progress in a support class, please reach out to the teacher.

Independence and Support

As identified in the updated school Mission Statement (see footer below), one goal of the school is to inspire and challenge students to develop independence. At the middle school level, this needs to be done with support, but with varying amounts of support depending on the student's need. One challenge for parents is determining how much support to give (or not give). Regular check-ins about how school and classes are going may be all that is needed as well as letting your student know that you are there for help. A more structured system of support may be needed such that you are sitting with your student as they do homework and study for tests. The key is to take your cue from them regarding what support they want and need. A conversation with their teachers about their level of independence in doing work in school might also be a good guide.

If you have any questions or concerns, or just want to touch base, please contact me by phone (781) 659-8814 or email (james.dupille@norwellschools.org).

Thank you,

James E. Dupille, Principal

