

“For middle schools to be successful, their students must be successful; for students to be successful, the school’s organization, curriculum, pedagogy, and programs must be based upon the developmental readiness, needs, and interests of young adolescents.”

National Middle School Association

Fairfax County Public School’s 3 Strategic Goals for 07-08 school year:

1. Academic Achievement
2. Essential Life Skills
3. Responsibility to the Community

#### Academic Achievement

- Students will be taught how to set goals and create a plan to achieve those goals – Revisit goals 4x per year
- Academic Day – one late-bus day per week students must spend it with one of their team teachers.
- Team Meetings – Mr. Thomas will visit team meetings with a list of names of after-school program participants on their team and ask about student’s behavior, grades, and attendance/tardiness.
- Each student in the ASP will have a folder in the After-School Program Specialist’s office with all of their information about grades, behavior, goals, character guides, registration forms, contracts, etc.

#### Essential Life Skills

- Monthly Character Themes for After-School Program – The theme will be mentioned on the announcements and teachers, staff, administrators can report students who are exemplifying the character trait of the month. Catch them doing something good and report it to the After-School Program Specialist.
- Students in the after-school program will have character worksheets to complete, group discussions about character and emotional intelligence, role-playing, and opportunities to practice the character traits being discussed. Mr. Thomas will go around to all of the different clubs and present the character discussion to the students for the first ten to fifteen minutes of their activity (absent students must make up the character guide once they return) at least one time per month.
- As a whole after-school group we would like to show a video series about Character to our students. The video series is located in our library.
- DJ Club/Prevention program
- Guest speakers

## Responsibility To The Community

- Bike Club/ Recycling Club/ etc.
- Peer Tutoring – In connection with the HMS Honor Society Students
- Peer Mediation
- Our after-school program's goal is to provide the community with 1000 hours of community service during the school year.

\*4 parent nights per year where we will provide food, team building challenges, education for parents and their children

\*Tell the town newspapers exactly what they can do to help us with our After-School Programs – Volunteers, Donations, Publicity