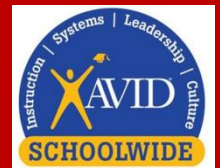




Central  
Middle  
School  
Newsletter

# Eagles are AVID

Central Middle School's vision is to empower students by promoting leadership through AVID practices.



January  
2023

02

**ADMIN Contact:**

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*Ms. Turey - Eagle or Avid*

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**Attendance/**

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**FAST**  
FLORIDA'S ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT THINKING

FLORIDA IS THE **1<sup>ST</sup>** state in the nation TO FULLY TRANSITION TO PROGRESS MONITORING

**NEW PROGRESS MONITORING**

- Hours rather than days to administer
- 3 opportunities to check-in on growth
- 75% less testing time = more time for learning
- Informs teachers so they can better help students
- Based on new B.E.S.T. standards
- Customizable, unique to each student
- Timely data during the school year
- Gives schools 2 opportunities to improve

**75% LESS TIME TESTING, therefore increased time for LEARNING.**

**OUTDATED STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT**

- Takes days to administer, and means less learning time
- High stakes test
- Encourages narrow focus on tests
- Based in Common Core
- Not customizable to each student
- Fails to give parents timely information to support their children at home
- Too late for meaningful conversations between parents, students, and teachers to modify instruction

Progress Monitoring will minimize the stress of testing and change to three much shorter tests in the Fall, Winter and Spring. These tests will provide real-time data that will inform students, teachers and parents about individual student growth, rather than providing feedback at the end of the year after a single lengthy end-of-year assessment.

**FAST** testing has now taken the place of the old *FSA* model. In stead of testing student progress once a year, at the end of the year, students will now demonstrate growth 3 times per year.

**Tuesday and Wednesday, 1/10 and 1/11, are designated for their Reading and Math assessments. Attendance is key.** Please make sure your child understands the basics of the test itself, they are measuring their annual growth. It's not a Pass or Fail test, but a growth assessment. Students who aren't "growing" may have interventions designed in school to help them further this year. The test will adapt to the learner and become more, or less difficult depending on the progress students make. Time is not an issue! Each student will receive the time required to finish.

For more info please visit [www.FLFAST.org](http://www.FLFAST.org)



BPS Mentoring Website

Central Middle is now beginning a **mentoring program** at our school! We have lots of kiddos who would love to have another adult to meet with who can help them sort out issues, prioritize things in their life, practice conflict management, gain self-respect, and make wise choices. If you are interested in becoming a mentor to a student, please see the attachment and follow the quick steps to get signed up. Then, we can match you with a student!

Thank you so much to our **Eagle community** for always being so eager to lend a helping hand! If you have any questions this wonderful opportunity, please email Mrs. Thomas @ [Thomas.JessicaR@brevardschools.org](mailto:Thomas.JessicaR@brevardschools.org). or see the emailed/texted update which includes the [Mentor Process handout.pdf](#)



## What in the WICOR?

AVID's proven learning support structure known as WICOR, incorporates teaching/learning methodologies in the critical areas of **Writing to Learn, Inquiry, Collaboration, Organization, and Reading to Learn.**

Now in our language here at CMS, this translates into strategies that teachers and staff members can use and share to support all students of varying talents and abilities alike, as one school community. Using common language, through WICOR, and engaging students in reciprocal teaching allow them to take some control of their school day. They begin to use the language and communicate more effectively about their goals, their struggles, and their ideas for support systems that we must build together and maintain support them. Language is powerful and if we can include each member of the child's academic world, including themselves and their parents, their growing confidence and achievement levels won't depend on test scores alone.

Take time to familiarize yourselves with WICOR and discuss the power of these learning tools at home because these students are becoming who they are going to be right now. **Let us engage and empower them with life skills and strategies that allow them to achieve their dreams, manage conflict, and form lasting relationships that will cement our community here at Central Middle School for decades to come.**

|          |                      |   |
|----------|----------------------|---|
| <b>R</b> | <b>Reading</b>       | Deep Reading Strategies<br>Vocabulary Building<br>Summarizing<br>Note-taking      |
| <b>O</b> | <b>Organization</b>  | Planners<br>Graphic Organizers<br>Cornell-note taking<br>Project Planning & Goals |
| <b>C</b> | <b>Collaboration</b> | Group Projects<br>Study Groups<br>Peer Editing<br>Class Discussions               |
| <b>I</b> | <b>Inquiry</b>       | Socratic Seminars<br>Tutorials<br>Essential Questions<br>Research                 |
| <b>W</b> | <b>Writing</b>       | Reflections<br>Quick Writes<br>Peer Evaluations<br>Annotations                    |

## Why AVID Binders?






|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Less Wasted Time</b>                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Everything is in place</li> <li>No more digging in backpacks</li> </ul> |
| <b>Less Lost Work</b>                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nothing is loose</li> <li>Backpacks are clean</li> </ul>                |
| <b>Less Stress</b>                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students know where everything is</li> </ul>                            |
| <b>All students with the same system</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>They can help each other</li> </ul>                                     |
| <b>Life Skills</b>                       |  |

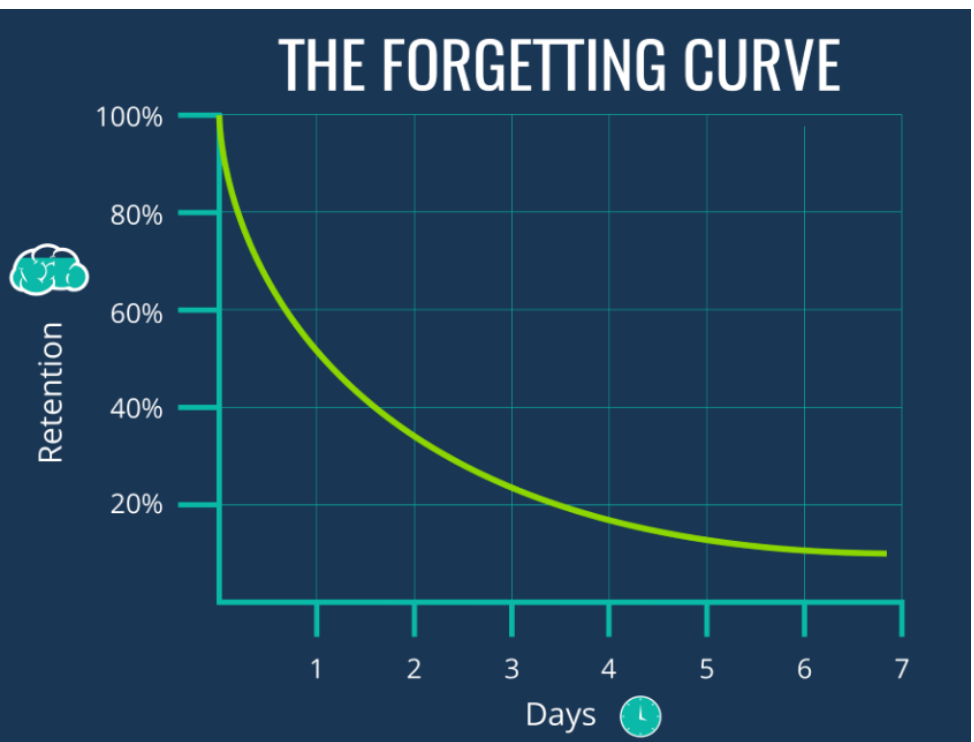
## How do I help my child study?

The Greatest Benefit of AVID Binders is that everything is found inside of it. All of your students' materials, classwork, homework, notes, important papers, you name it... it should be there. This is "Student Accountability 101". You can be their best advocate and check their binders once a week. Make it a habit even. Pick a night when you schedule a block of time to examine their progress for the week. Help them manage the loose papers and organize their materials so that they may be at their very best the following day. This way they can ask all the right questions the following day and begin to solve problems before the weekend begins. Use FOCUS to reach out to teachers and view the resources they share.

Students are also able to help one another. They can collaborate and share their successes and failures openly. Failure can be a wonderful teacher if students learn that they are able to fix their mistakes and solve their own problems. Often, they work better together and aren't afraid of admitting mistakes with their own peers who share the same experience. Encourage them to have a Homework Buddy. Using technology to bridge the gap works for distances as well. Peers who hold one another accountable begin building trustworthy relationships in which more students accomplish great tasks with pride and feel good about it. Trust me, as a parent, watching your child solve their own problems is life changing!

Finally, learning the language of Focused Note-taking may help you communicate with children at home and teachers at school. The more often we share the language from their day, the more likely they are to use it and understand it. Review the 5 Steps with students and ask them what some of those steps look like in class. Perhaps they can show you examples in their binder from the week's discovery in a specific class.

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Taking Notes</b><br>                            | <b>Create the notes.</b> Select a note-taking format, set up the notes, and take notes based on an information source (lecture, book, website, article, video, etc.), selecting, paraphrasing, and arranging the information in a manner that meets your note-taking objective.                 |
| <b>Processing Notes</b><br>                        | <b>Think about the notes.</b> Revise notes—by underlining, highlighting, circling, chunking, questioning, adding, deleting—to identify, select, sort, organize, and classify main ideas and details. Evaluate the relative importance of information and ideas in the notes.                    |
| <b>Connecting Thinking</b><br>                     | <b>Think beyond the notes.</b> Analyze the notes using inquiry to make connections and deepen content knowledge by asking questions and adding your own thinking to create greater understanding, identify gaps or points of confusion, and connect your new learning to what you already know. |
| <b>Summarizing and Reflecting on Learning</b><br> | <b>Think about the notes as a whole.</b> Pull together the most important aspects of your notes and your thinking about them to craft a summary that captures the meaning and importance of the content and reflects on how the learning helps you meet the note-taking objective.              |
| <b>Applying Learning</b><br>                     | <b>Use the notes.</b> Save and revisit your notes as a resource or learning tool to help you apply or demonstrate what you have learned.  |





# Space Coast Art Festival

This was a ribbon and monetary recognition art show. We came to win, and win we did! We swept the 3D category! So, if you see these kiddos, please give them a congrats.

## **Central Soccer Intramural '23**

**Soccer is back at CMS! You must have a completed a 22-23 CMS Athletic Packet found on our school website before you participate.**

**All may attend a meeting on Tuesday, Jan 17<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 in the gym.**

**Girls begin Wednesday the 18<sup>th</sup> and will play Mondays and Wednesdays from 8 – 9am. Boys will begin the 19<sup>th</sup> and run Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8 – 9am.**

**This is a 5 week, no-cut, soccer intramural where play is encouraged at all skill levels. All are welcome and to come and learn, play, and compete with their peers.**



1<sup>st</sup>: Felting by Maya Wheeler-Chong (Jones) \$75



2<sup>nd</sup>: Mixed Media by Jonas Feldmeier (Asby) \$50



3<sup>rd</sup>: Alebrijes Butterfly by Aubrey Smith (Asby) \$40



Central Middle School

attendance  
**MATTERS**

LayoutReady

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