

ORGANIZATION BRAIN BREAKS

TOOLS FOR SUCCESS

BOOK CLUB BOOK CLUB

BOOK CLUB

INTRO

SKILLS TAUGHT IN TA

ADDITIONAL SUPPORTS

WHO TO REACH OUT TO

BOOK CLUB

BOOK CLUB BOOK CLUB

BOOK CLUB

How Do You Define Success?

Join at: Menti.com and use code 5225 9517





The key to success in middle school is...



Student Services Team Members Introduction



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Natalie Battle

Kim Chisolm

Kate Karns

Liliana Martinez

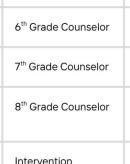
Sarah Morgan

Amy Nemeth

Peggy Sabouni

Name

Susan Russo



Role

Director of

Counseling

Counselor

Counselor

School Social

Worker

Registrar

Counseling Intern

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Mr. Bruno

I teach to encourage intellectual curiosity, help students develop problem solving skills and gain math confidence. I am here to provide a

safe space for ALL students!

Position: Math Teacher

Grade: 7th Grade

College: Pennsylvania State University

& Gannon University

High School: McDowell High School

Hometown: Erie, Pennsylvania

Birthplace: Erie, Pennsylvania

Interests: Running, Playing Sports, Cooking,

Reading, Traveling, Spending Time

with Friends and Family



Tools for Success



Click here to learn more about setting up the Canvas
Observer Account and ParentVue!



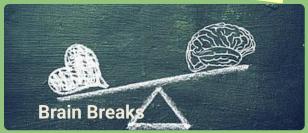
Canvas

ParentVue

















What is Paper?

- Educational Support System provided by APS
- FREE for all students 6-12
- 24/7 unlimited live chat tutoring
- Unlimited review of written work
- Educational and entertaining after-school video content
- Available in English, Spanish,
 French, Mandarin

Paper Tutors



















- Real human tutors support your students
- Paper tutors guide students through the learning process rather than giving away answers.
- Encourage students to become self-advocates and reach out for help whenever they need it.

How can Paper support your students?



Problem Solving

Homework Help

Individualized

Normalize Asking for Help

Strengthen Writing Skills Reading Comprehension

Multi-Step Word Problems

Study Skills

Test Taking Practice

Digital Citizenship



Learn more about the Paper platform & tutors

Explore your student's dashboard & sign up for a free webinar



Get started by building Paper into your homework routine

Canvas App

The app opens to

the "Dashboard."

→ Every class your student is enrolled in has its own Canvas page.



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Courses

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Let's look at Math as our example.

Dashboard

Civics and Economics-Klink-YR-2026

Civics and Economics-Klink-YR-2026

Grade 7 Life Science -Zarro-YR-2026

Mr. Bruno - Math 7 Mr. Bruno - Math 7

Grade 7 Health and Physical Education - Witte-YR-2026 Grade 7 Life Science - Zarro-YR-2026

Calendar

To Do

Notifications

Inbox

Grade 7 Health and Physical Education - Witte-YR-2026

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All Courses

Course Homepage

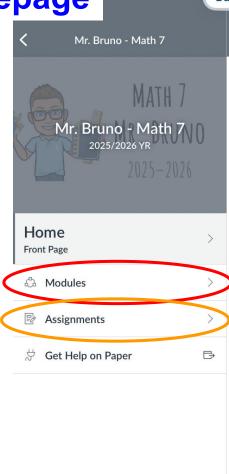
Modules

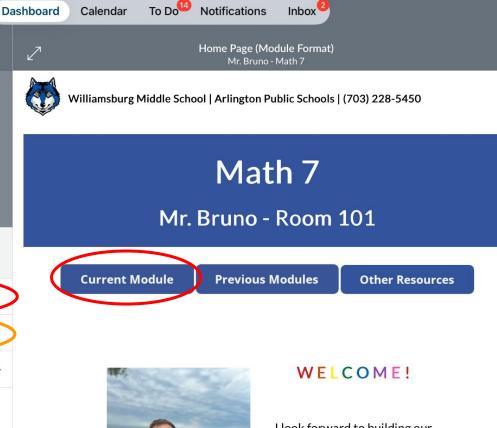
→ Daily breakdown of learning objectives, notes, classwork, extra resources, and homework

2. Assignments

→ View
 course-specific
 assignments &
 directions for
 submission

→ Identify if assignments have been submitted on-time or late and any missing assignments







I look forward to building our community together. Please know that I am here to help you with anything this school year. € 98%

Modules

Modules are organized by Unit, Learning Target, or by Week depending on specific class.

Math Example:

- → Organized by Unit and by Week
- → Each class period has its own page to guide student learning
- → Learning Objective
- → Blank & Completed Notes

Dashboard Modules **〈** Back Mr. Bruno - Math 7 ▲ Unit 1: Data Cycle Thursday (9/11 - A Day) & Friday (9/12 - B Day) - Data Cycle Week At A Glance: 9/15 - 9/19 Monday (9/15 - A Day) & Tuesday (9/16 - B Day) -**Constructing Histograms** Wednesday (9/17 - C Day) -**Analyzing Histograms** Thursday (9/18 - A Day) & Friday (9/19 - B Day) -Histograms Week At A Glance: 9/22 - 9/26 Monday (9/22 - A Day) & Wednesday (9/24 - B Day) -Data Cycle Unit Test Study Guide

Thursday (9/25 - A Day) & Friday (9/26 - B Day) - Data

Cycle Unit Test

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Lesson Resources:

Thursday (9/18 - A Day) & Friday (9/19 - B Day) - Histograms

Mr. Bruno - Math 7

Notifications

Inbox

Today we will how to compare data represented in histograms with the same data represented in line plots, circle graphs, and stem-and-leaf plots.

Blank Histograms & Other Graphs Notes
Completed Histograms & Other Graphs Notes
YouTube Video: Histograms & Other Graphs Lesson





Previous

Calendar

To Do

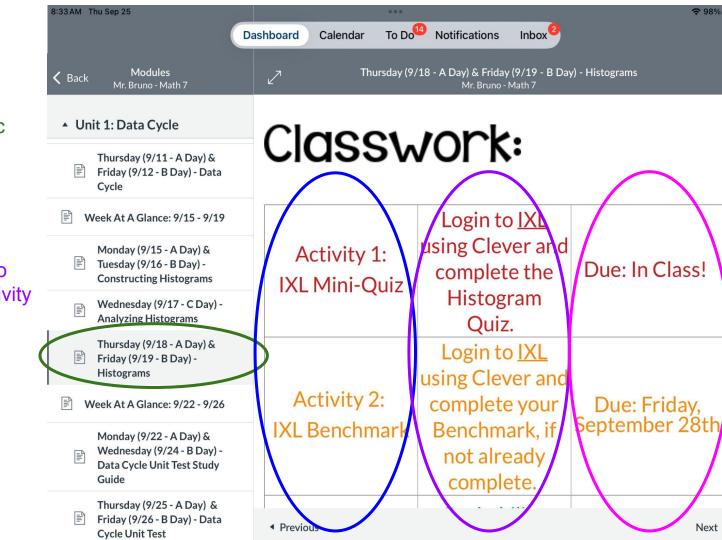
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Modules

Math Example:

- → Still in same specific class period page
- → Type of Classwork Activity
- → Directions for how to access and submit activity
- → Due Date



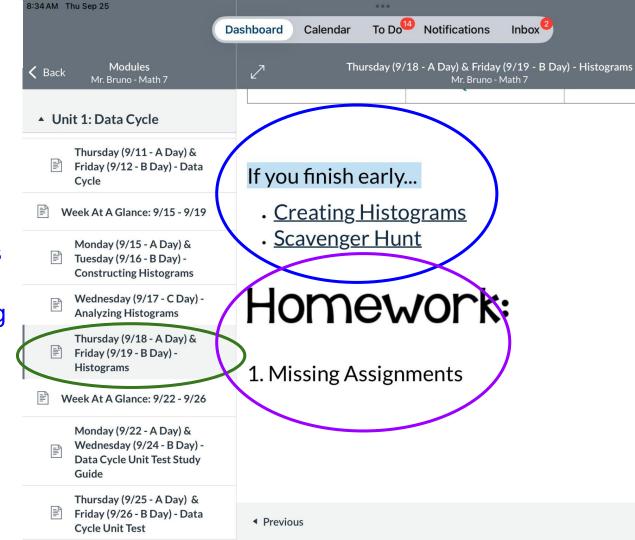
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Modules

Math Example:

- → Still in same specific class period page
- → Early Finisher Activities
 - → These are great resources for studying later
 - → These are great extra practice
- → Homework



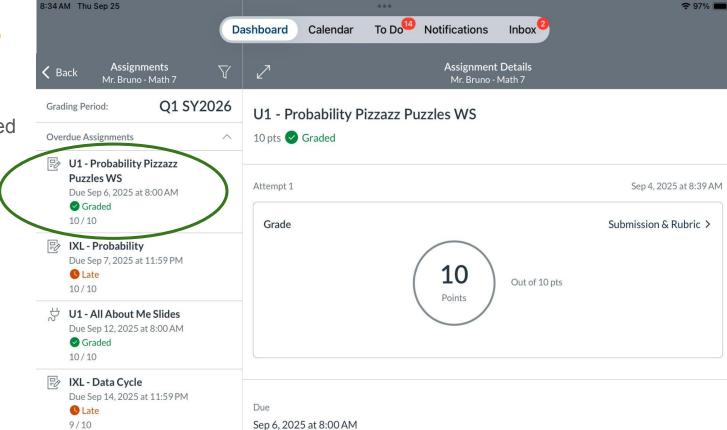
Assignments

A breakdown of:

- →Submitted/Unsubmitted
- → Graded/Ungraded
- → Late Assignments

Click on a specific assignment to see:

- → directions for completion and submission
- → what was submitted by your student if already submitted



Submission Types

File Upload

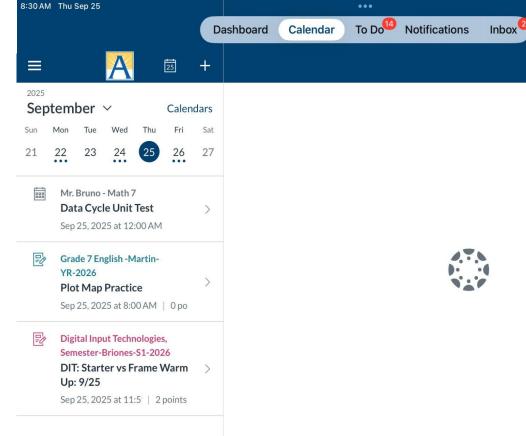
U1 - Histogram Pizzazz Puzzle WS Due Sep 17, 2025 at 8:00 AM Late 9/10

IXL - Creating Histograms

Resubmit Assignment

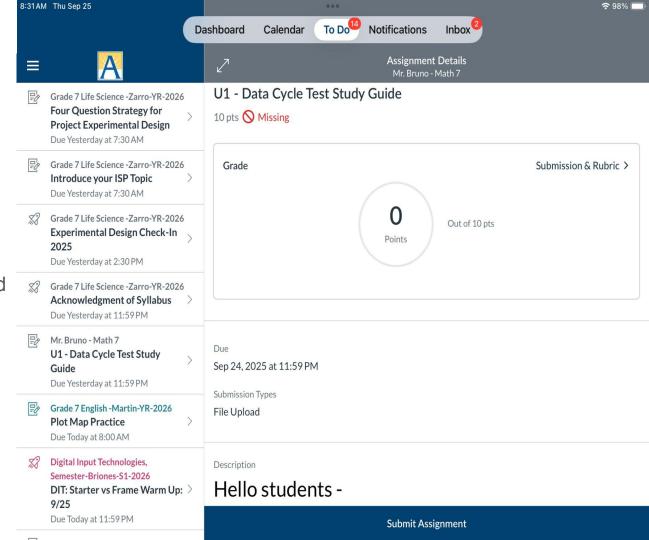
Canvas Calendar

- → Daily, Weekly, or Monthly Views
- → Important Dates:
 - Assignment Due Dates
 - Upcoming Assessment Dates



Canvas To Do

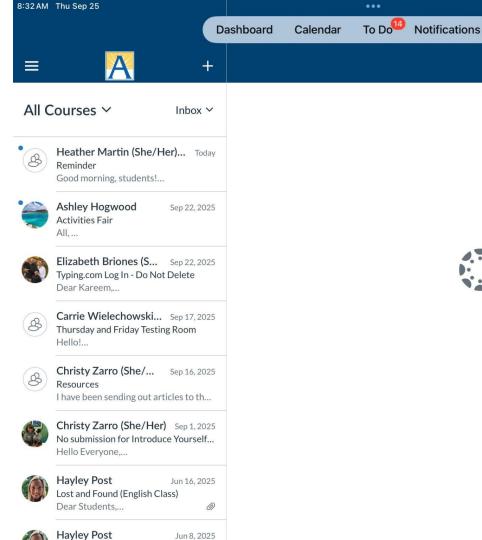
- → Assigned Activities from <u>ALL</u> classes
- → Assigned Activities removed from To Do List once submitted
- → BE CAREFUL: students can accidently delete/remove items from this list, even if not submitted



Canvas Inbox

→ Students and teachers communicate with each other through the Canvas Inbox

→ Parents communicate with teachers using their APS email addresses: first.last@apsva.us

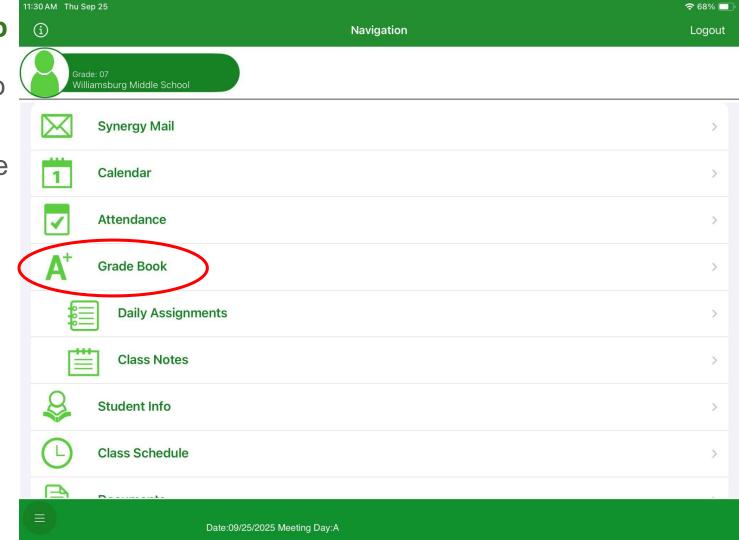


Inbox

StudentVue App

The app opens to "Navigation."

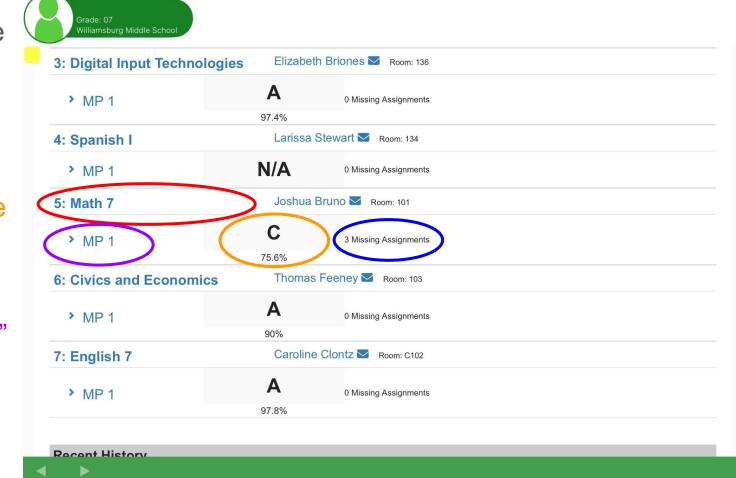
→ Click on Grade Book



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Book view.

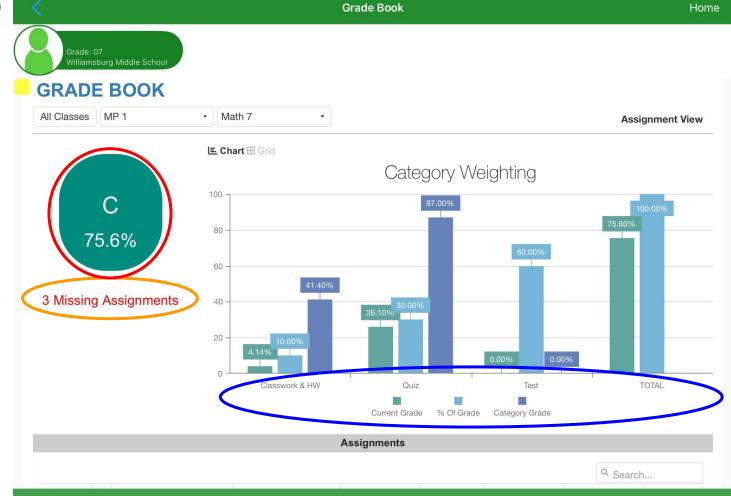
- → Class Name
- → Current Grade
- → MissingAssignments
- → Click on "MP 1" for a detailed breakdown of all assignments for the class



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This is the **Assignment View** you see when you click on "MP 1."

- → Overall Quarter Grade
- → Number of Missing Assignments
- → Grading Categories & Weight of Overall Grade



Scroll Down on **Assignment View** to see individual assignments.

- → Name and Date of Assignment
- → Grading Category
- → Score
- → Late or Missing Notes
 - \rightarrow if no note, it was turned in on-time



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Date T	Assignment	Assignment Type	Resources T	Score	Score Type	Points T	Notes
9/18/25	IXL - Interpreting Histograms	Classwork & HW	0	0 out of 10.0000	Raw Score	0.00/10.0000	Late
9/17/25	IXL - Creating Histograms	Classwork & HW	0	0 out of 10.0000	Raw Score	0.00/10.0000	Missing
9/17/25	U1 - Histogram Pizzazz Puzzle WS	Classwork & HW	0	0 out of 10.0000	Raw Score	0.00/10.0000	Missing
9/14/25	IXL - Data Cycle	Classwork & HW	0	0 out of 10.0000	Raw Score	0.00/10.0000	Missing
9/12/25	U1 - All About Me Slides	Classwork & HW	0	9 out of 10.0000	Raw Score	9.00/10.0000	
9/10/25	U1 Probability Quiz	Quiz	0	87	Percentage	87.00/100.0000	
9/7/25	IXL - Probability	Classwork & HW	0	10 out of 10.0000	Raw Score	10.00/10.0000	
9/6/25	U1 - Probability Pizzazz Puzzles WS	Classwork & HW	0	10 out of 10.0000	Raw Score	10.00/10.0000	

Homework - Why it Matters

- Builds independence, responsibility, and time management
- Reduces stress by providing consistency
- Parent support (without doing it for them)
 helps kids succeed

Despite Different Homework Experiences...

- Step by step: organization, time management, and independence
- Families can help by creating consistent routines, even when homework varies each night.
- Routine (hopefully) does not require as much supervision

IT'S A PROCESS...

6th Grade: Teacher checks agenda daily ('training wheels')

7th Grade: More student ownership, parents can prompt





8th Grade: Independent tracking & organization expected

Setting Up for Success: Space & Supplies

- Consistent location (desk, kitchen table—not bed)
- Well-lit, clutter-free
- Homework basket: pencils, paper, calculator, charger

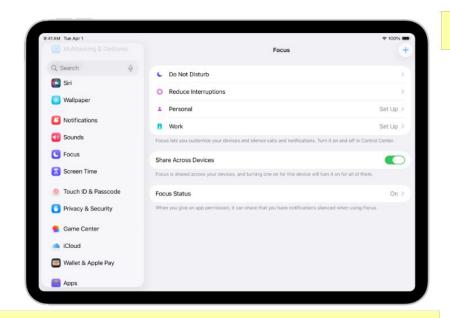


Managing Electronics

- •<u>Phones = #1</u> <u>distraction</u>
- •Use 'Do Not Disturb' or charge outside room
- •Computer/iPad: supervise nearby or use a *Focus mode*

Set up a Focus

1. Go to Settings 🔘 > Focus, then tap a Focus—for example, Do Not Disturb, Personal, or Work.



Talking About Homework

Instead of: "Do you have homework?" try:

- -"What did you practice in class today?"
- "What's coming up later this week?"
- -"Which class felt hardest today?"

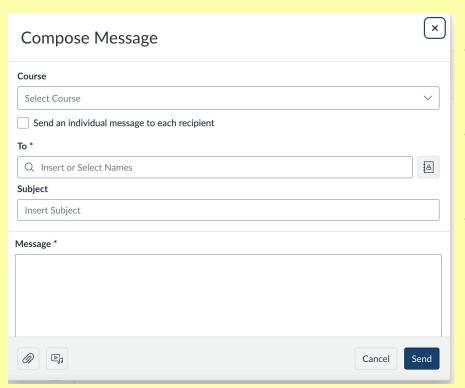


If They Say 'No Homework' try*:

- Reading for fun
- Reviewing notes for quizzes/tests
- Organizing binder or digital files
- Practicing skills (typing, math facts, vocabulary)

^{*}double check StudentVue and Canvas for missing work*

Encourage Self-Advocacy



- Parents guide, but don't do it for them
- Role-play or draft message together
- Example Email: "Hi Mr. Bruno, I was absent yesterday. What should I review?"

Key Takeaways

- Consistent homework routine + workspace
- Limit electronics/distractions
- Check agendas → step back gradually
- Use open-ended questions
- Encourage independence & teacher communications

Let's Get Organized

Organize your materials

- o Assignments/class info. organize by subject
- Put physical paperwork in binders, notebooks or folders.
- If asynchronous, utilize desktop folders and school based apps.
- Reorganize on a routine basis

Organize your space

- Someplace quiet enough to focus
- o Designate a desk/table. Agreed upon work area.

Organize your time

- Write down all your assignments and when they're due
- Break big projects down into smaller parts
- Mark testing dates
- o Enter other activities on your calendar



Focus, then Refocus

Avoid Distractions

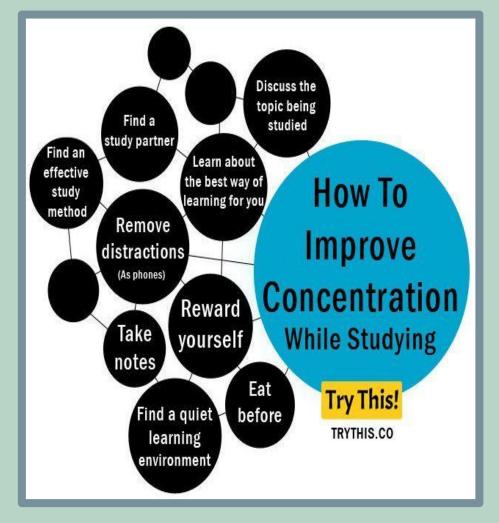
 When you multitask you're less focused, which means you're less likely to do well on that test.
 Park your devices and only retrieve them after your work is done.

Take Breaks

- Taking a short break between assignments can help your mind stay fresh and focused.
- Get up from your desk, move, stretch or walk around to clean your head. Allow your mind to absorb what you've just studied.

Refocus Yourself

SEL-Mindfulness exercises



TIME MANAGEMENT

- 1. Identify Time-Wasters and Set Goals
- 2. Plan Ahead by Creating a To-Do List
- 3. Tackle Small Tasks to Start
- 4. Only Do One Thing at a Time
- 5. Establish Routines
- 6. Use Breaks Wisely
- 7. Take Time Off



In Summary, Organizational DO's and Don'ts

- DO know your deadlines.
- DO make a calendar of stages and final due dates.
- DO include social events on your virtual calendar for time management.
- DO understand the assignment and expectations
- DO give yourself a quiet place to study with all material you need.
- DO give yourself brief breaks.

- DON'T put work off until the last minute; you'll be too frantic to focus
- DON'T do your homework late at night or in bed
- DON'T let yourself be bored. Find the aspect of the project or paper that interest you. Reframe the assignment! If you're dying of boredom, something's not right!

Brain Breaks & Self Care

Adolescents need **brain breaks** because their brains are still developing, especially in areas responsible for focus, decision-making, emotional regulation, and memory.

Goal: Focus on a balance of self-care/ academic demands. They help:

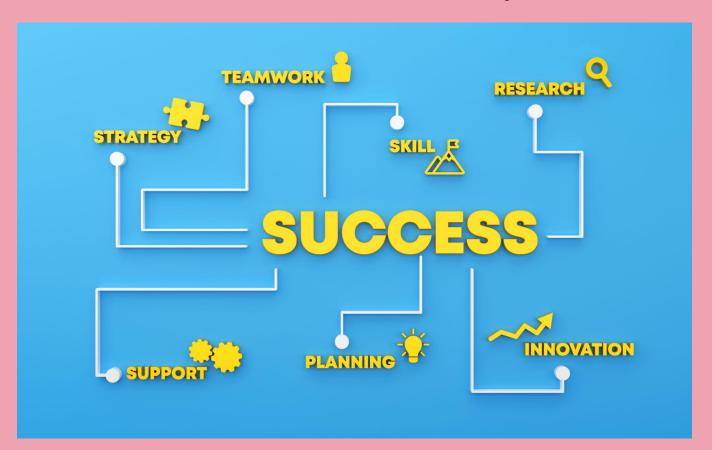
- Improve focus and attention & reduce mental fatigue
- Support learning & memory
- Regulate emotions & stress
- Encourage physical movement
- Boost creativity



Brain Break Ideas:

- Take a walk
- o Go Noodle
- Music
- Visualization/ Breathing
- Body Scanner
- 5 Senses
- Would you Rather
- Quick physical breaks:

Universal Time Devoted to Supporting Student Success = Teacher Advisory



Additional Supports

- Wolf Time Intervention
- Counseling Small Groups
- Referrals to/ Information about Community Resources
 - Hazel Health
 - Tutoring
 - Links on the APS/WMS Website
- Student Support Team Referral

Pop Quiz!

Please scan & provide your feedback



Thank you for attending today's Parent Coffee!