



Transition Smoothly to 6th Grade

Middle school prepares students for more challenging academics and greater personal responsibility by taking an active participation in monitoring grades, completing missing assignments, and communicating with teachers. The tips below will help your child successfully transition into 6th grade.

- **Preparing students** - To assume responsibility for their own education. It's during this time that parents should consider adjusting their role to actively helping their student log onto FOCUS and check their grades and any missing assignments regularly.
- **Student Focus account** - All students are assigned a student Focus account. The student id number is the username. A new password is generated each school year and is typically given out by 1st time block teacher.
- **Planbook** - Teachers at WBMS use Planbook. Planbook contains daily objectives, Florida course standards, class presentations, worksheets, and upcoming assessments. Planbook is accessed through our school website.
- **Guidance** - While it is important that 6th graders begin to transition to self-directed learners, it's also vital to remember they still need guidance. Consider scheduling regular meetings with your child to hold your child accountable for completing assignments.
- **Visual Aids** - Consider using a calendar to help your student plan his/her schedule for the week. Break down weekly assignments into manageable daily tasks and plan for completion of long-term projects.
- **Study Habits** - Middle school is an excellent time to help your student develop good study skills. Encourage reading over class notes, creating flashcards to help remember important facts and details, or check Quizlet to see if flashcards have already been made and can be reviewed or printed.
- **Sleep** - Regularly encourage good sleeping habits. Teenagers need 8-10 hours of sleep per night. However, most teens get 7 hours or fewer. Not getting enough sleep and affect cognitive function such as, attention, memory, and processing speed. (www.childmindinstitute.com)



Remember we are here to help. Please use your student's teacher as the first point of contact regarding classroom and content questions. All staff email addresses can be found on the WBMS website under the Contact/Planbook tab.