

Westlake Middle School | An IB World School

Mt. Pleasant Central School District



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Middle school is a critical time for self-discovery, developing confidence, and understanding why education is relevant to one's future. The Westlake Middle School Guidance Department is pleased to introduce *Naviance* to our middle school students! *Naviance* is a college and career readiness solution that helps students discover their strengths and interests, and how that can help them reach their goals. *Naviance* is a web-based service designed specifically to assist students in becoming college and career ready through self-exploration.

Last year, all 6th, 7th, and 8th graders were provided access to *Naviance* online. All middle school students entering 6th grade will work with their counselors to establish their own accounts. Grade 6 students will receive account information and be introduced to *Naviance* in the coming months. These accounts will be accessible throughout middle school and will help with the transition to high school where *Naviance* is being used for college and career planning. The results of the assessments and activities completed in middle school will travel with students to Westlake High School via an electronic portfolio, allowing their high school counselors to become familiar with the career interests and goals they have already identified.

The career planning and awareness tools in *Naviance* help students realize their strengths, goals, and values, and develop interests in future careers. *Naviance* helps students explore different careers, connect interests to career clusters, hear from leaders in their field, and begin to imagine their own future. College success begins with college awareness, so it is important for students in middle school to know that college will one day be an option for them and to ensure that high school is a productive time for college preparation. *Naviance* helps middle school students gain college awareness, explore college majors, learn about admission requirements, and get excited about postsecondary education. We hope you find this resource helpful and encourage you to contact your child's counselor with any questions.

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Attached is a Quickguide to Naviance, as well as slides with more helpful information about this useful tool. If you have any questions you can reach out directly to your child's counselor. Thank you to Mr. Keogh and Ms. Greco for preparing the supporting materials and sharing this information. Thank you to the counseling staff and teachers who are dedicated to having students explore their futures in a meaningful way in Middle School. Focusing on strengths, setting goals, establishing values, and developing interests in future careers based on current learning experiences is an important approach in middle school. We look forward to sharing more as the year progresses.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signatures of Anthony Mungiol and Christine Parrottino. The signature for Anthony Mungiol is on the left, and the signature for Christine Parrottino is on the right.

Anthony Mungiol
Principal

Christine Parrottino
Assistant Principal