

Pittsford Schools

Calkins Road Middle School
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Josh Walker, *Principal*

Welcome Blue Team Parents!

The Blue Team teachers are looking forward to a great 2021-2022 school year! Our team motto is *We are family*. Our plan is to work together as a “family” to ensure each student feels connected and supported, so students are able to thrive during their 7th or 8th grade school year. As teachers, we are determined to revisit this theme throughout the year.

In addition to completing the required curriculum on the Blue Team, our goal is to help students develop and refine skills essential for success in high school and beyond. The Blue Team teachers believe a strong connection between home and school provides students with the essential support needed to be successful in the classroom. To maximize student learning, we are asking parents and guardians for assistance.

Below are some tips and suggestions on how you can help us ensure that your child has a successful year.

- ★ **Stay Connected!** We will be sending out team e-mails throughout the year with team and subject area updates. If you have any questions, comments or concerns, do not hesitate to contact us!
- ★ **Homework-** Encourage your child to put forth their best effort on homework assignments. Helping your child find a quiet place free from distractions is also helpful. Expect homework nightly from most core classes which includes homework completion, studying, lab work, and reading (**60-75 minutes** of homework will be about the average). We make an effort to ensure homework is not “busy work.” With the exception of seeking a quick clarification from a classmate regarding directions, or a helpful hint to get started, it is recommended that homework be completed individually to provide students with the opportunity to practice essential skills, to review daily material, or to build a foundation for upcoming tasks.
- ★ **Agenda-** Encourage your child to record important due dates in their agenda. This will help your child stay organized and meet upcoming deadlines!
- ★ **Self-Advocacy** is a skill best learned by practice. Encourage your child to be a **self-advocate**. If your child is struggling with an assignment, is not happy with a grade, or wants further clarification on an assignment, please encourage him/her to send an email or reach out. We are often free during 7A, 7B and after school by appointment.

Please carefully review the attached documents, and do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions. We look forward to a great year of collaboration together!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Dermody, Mrs. Hayward, Mrs. Christopher, Mrs. McPherson, Mrs. Northrup & Mrs. Sullivan



The Blue Team Teachers & Counselor