



Woodlawn Middle School

ORIENTATION 2023-2024

2023-2024

We are so glad that you will
be attending Woodlawn
Middle School!



Administrative Team

- ▶ Principal Raquel Brown
- ▶ Assistant Principal Donna Redmond Jackson
- ▶ Assistant Principal Darryl Davis
- ▶ Assistant Principal Leslie Tate
- ▶ Dean of Students Dallas Rogers
- ▶ Literacy Coach Myra Looney
- ▶ Instructional Specialist Maura Lewis
- ▶ Magnet Site Coordinator Raina Spurlock
- ▶ Gifted & Talented Site Coordinator Heidi Miles
- ▶ School Counselor Tara Washington
- ▶ School Counselor Lisa Armstead
- ▶ School Counselor Kamryn Bossom



Awards for the 2022-2023 School Year

Kailyn Lebrun was selected as a finalist for the EBR Middle School Student of the Year

Hannah Veade won the District Social Studies Fair.

We were named Magnet Schools of the Mid-South Best STEM/STEAM Program
EBR STEM Challenge Winner for the District

Robotics Club Participated in Several Competitions Winning 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th place.

Mrs. Lashaunda Gordon was selected for Mentoring Matters Induction Leader of the Year

WMS Orchestra received Sweepstakes at District Festival (Superior Ratings from All 4 Judges.)

Mr. Breaux selected as a finalist for Fine Arts Teacher of the Year



Awards for the 2022-2023 School Year

Ms. Taylor Jacob – was a New Teacher of the Year Nominee for the District
Girls' Basketball Team were District Winners and Parish Runner Up
Girls' Softball Team was a District Winner

15 Students selected for Middle School Honor Choir

11 Students selected for Multi District Honor Orchestra

8 Students selected for EBR Honor Band

2 Students selected for District Honor Band

1 Student selected for EBR Honor Jazz Band



Safety is our top priority.

- ▶ The safety of our students and staff is a top priority every day. We will all need to do our part to keep each other safe this school year.



Safety

It is vital that students practice safety drills each school year. It is also essential that they take the safety drills seriously.

Crisis planning is necessary to ensure the safety of everyone.

Lockdown Drill

Shelter in Place

Fire Drill

Bus Safety Drills



WMS Motto

Excellence is Never an Accident!

Excellence is a Choice.



Habits of Successful Middle Schoolers

- ▶ Have good attendance
- ▶ Be organized
- ▶ Set Goals
- ▶ Participate in class
- ▶ Do all of your classwork and homework
- ▶ Study smart
- ▶ Make the right friends
- ▶ Be smart with technology
- ▶ Have a growth mindset.



Attendance

- ▶ “Attendance is a critical factor in any child’s school success. Children should attend school every day, except in cases of illness or emergency. It is impossible to replace the learning that happens on any school day with make-up work. Regular attendance and promptness are good habits that are expected and appreciated at all levels of schooling and in the workplace. This year, make school a priority in your household. Commit to excellence in attendance. Your child’s future depends on it.”

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Attendance

- ▶ Please send a parent note or doctor's note when your child is absent from school.
- ▶ Students may only be absent 5 days each semester.
- ▶ Being absent 2 days each month is considered chronic absenteeism. (Students end up being absent 18-20 days from school.)
- ▶ There is no substitute for lost instructional time.



Social Media

Consider waiting to get social media until high school. If you are already on social media do the following:

- Post responsibly.
- Pause before you post. Think twice before posting.
- Consider the consequences.
- Be your best self online.
- Be safe.
- Know your privacy settings.
- Be positive.



Social Media

- Exposure to harmful or inappropriate content (drugs, violence etc.)
- Exposure to dangerous people
- Cyberbullying, a risk factor for depression and suicide
- Oversharing personal information
- Exposure to excessive advertisements
- Privacy concerns including the collection of data about teen users.
- Identity theft or being hacked
- Interference with sleep, exercise, homework, or family activities



Vaping

Vaping puts nicotine into the body.

Nicotine is highly addictive.

Nicotine can slow brain development in teens and affect memory, concentration, learning, self-control, attention and mood.

Nicotine can increase the risk of other types of addiction later in life.



Skipping/Showing up late to class



If a student is 4 or more minutes late to class they are considered skipping.

Students have a responsibility to arrive to class on time.

Students are to walk directly to their next class when the bell rings.

Students who are late to class miss valuable information.

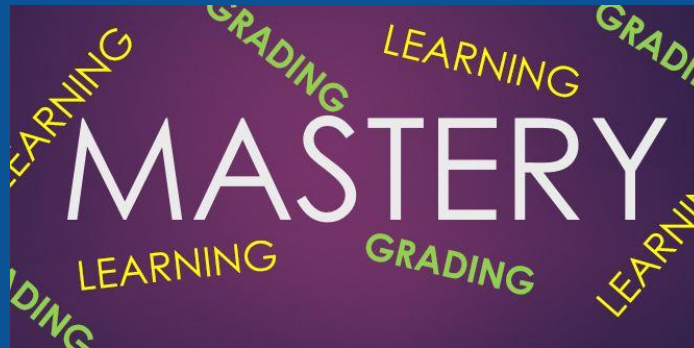
Student Academic Goals

- ▶ Students will grow at least one to two reading levels each school year.
- ▶ Students will give their best effort at all times and complete assigned tasks on time.
- ▶ Students will score Mastery or Advanced or meet their Growth to Mastery Target on the LEAP test.



Mastery or Growth to Mastery

- ▶ 5 Advanced – Exceeded Expectations
- ▶ 4 Mastery – Met Expectations
- ▶ 3 Basic – Nearly Met Expectations
- ▶ 2 Approaching Basic - Partially Met Expectations
- ▶ 1 Unsatisfactory – Expectations Not Yet Met



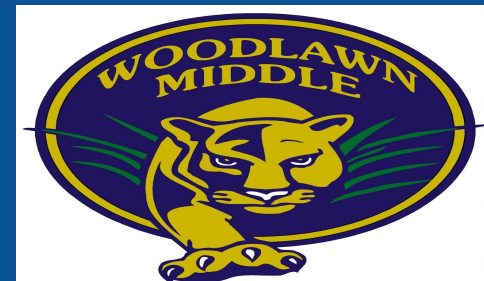
Student Behavior Goals

- ▶ Students will participate in restorative practices.
- ▶ Students will demonstrate respect for people and property.
- ▶ Students will keep their hands to themselves.
- ▶ Students will treat each other with kindness at all times.
- ▶ Students will only touch other people's property with permission.
- ▶ Students will make good choices on the bus, in the classrooms, in the halls, on social media, etc.



5 Core Values

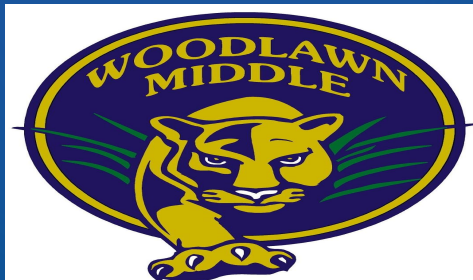
- ▶ *Respect (Do you treat people with dignity?)*
- ▶ *Responsibility (Do you accept the consequences for your words and actions?)*
- ▶ *Courage (Do you have the strength to do what is right even when it is not popular or comfortable?)*
- ▶ *Sacrifice (What are you willing to give up to go up?)*
- ▶ *Perseverance (Are you able to complete tasks even when they become boring, difficult and discouraging?)*



Personal Responsibility

Responsibility is being dependable, organized, and punctual, as well as being accountable for your words and actions.

Students demonstrate the trait of responsibility by taking ownership of their lives and acknowledging their power to choose what they think (including their attitudes and mindsets), say and do, and their accountability for the consequences of their choices.



<https://charactercounts.org/c4/>

Key Beliefs

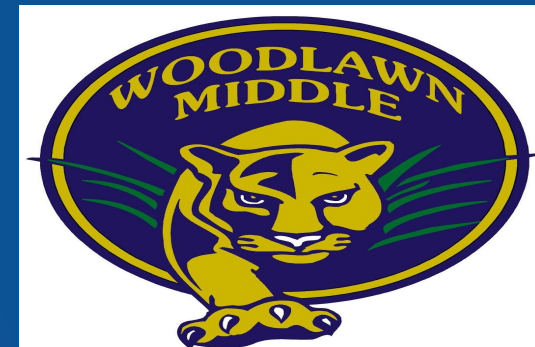
I will be a better student if I act on the following beliefs:

- It is an obligation that I do my best work and be my best self.
- By my choices, I determine what kind of person I am and how others will view me.
- I am responsible for my actions and their consequences.
- It's up to me to have a positive attitude, which is more likely to have positive results.
- I should do what I have to do without whining or giving excuses.



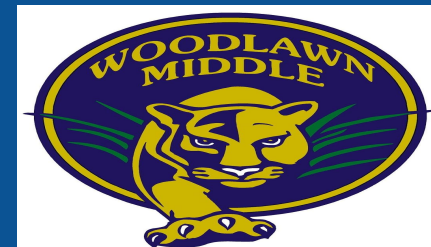
Everyone is welcome! Everyone belongs!

- ▶ Promoting a positive and healthy school culture. Respect yourself. Respect others. Respect your school. We are all welcome. We all have worth. We are all important.
- ▶ Ensure students' sense of belonging.
- ▶ Work to address social and emotional learning.



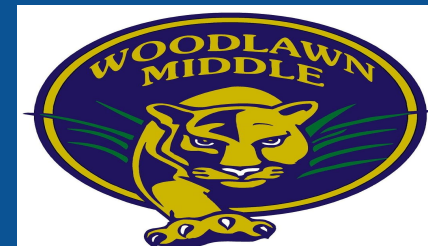
Dress Code

- ✓ Standard uniform khaki pants, capris or shorts not more than 3" above the knee must be worn.
- ✓ A traditional collared navy blue shirt/blouse, no more than 4 buttons, with no visible logo must be worn.
- ✓ SOLID white undershirts with sleeves that should not be longer than sleeves of uniform shirt must be worn.
- ✓ Woodlawn Middle School's Official Purple Sweatshirt or Other Official Woodlawn Middle School Sweatshirt may be worn.
- ✓ Plain brown, black, blue, navy blue, white or khaki belts must be worn. NO DESIGNS/DECORATIONS, rivets, holes, jewels/stones, or embroidery is allowed on belts.



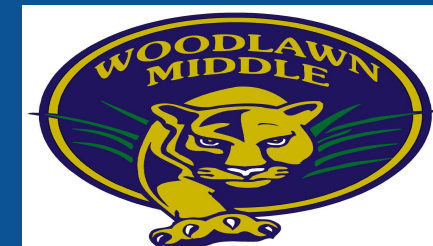
Dress Code

- ✓ Traditional matching tennis shoes (shoes must be the same color) with closed toes and closed backs that can be secured with matching colored shoe laces that are tied must be worn in all school facilities and on school grounds.
- ✓ Only 1(one) pair of solid black, navy, or white matching socks is acceptable. Socks that come above the calf are unacceptable. Ankle or no show socks may be any color.
- ✓ Profane/obscene language, mature themes, cults, whether direct or inferred, on t-shirts, masks or other clothing is prohibited at all school functions. Reference to drugs, alcohol or tobacco products on clothing is prohibited.



Parent-Teacher Conferences

- ▶ It is always best to contact your child's teacher first.
- ▶ It is better to email the teacher with your concerns.
- ▶ You may set up a phone conference or a face-to-face conference.
- ▶ Should you want to set up a face to face conference, you would contact one of the School Counselors to set up the conference. Please email the school counselor for face-to-face conferences.
- ▶ Teachers have conferences during their planning period.



Book sacks

- ▶ Students will not use lockers this school year. Students will be allowed to use their book sack to transport their materials from class to class.



School Fees

- ▶ Logistical Fee \$25.00
- ▶ Technology Fee \$30.00
- ▶ Enrichment Fee \$ 35.00

Parents & Guardians are able to pay fees online beginning Monday, August 1st.

Online School Management Systems

<https://osp.osmsinc.com/EastBatonRouge/>

P.E. Uniform, Woodlawn Sweatshirt, Woodlawn Spirit Shirt

- ▶ P.E. Shorts \$15.00
- ▶ P.E. Shirt \$10.00

- ▶ Woodlawn Sweatshirt (S, M, L, XL - \$20.00)
- ▶ Woodlawn Sweatshirt (XXL, & XXXL - \$22.00)
- ▶ Woodlawn Spirit Shirt (S,M, L - \$15.00)
- ▶ Woodlawn Spirit Shirt (XL, XXL & XXXL \$18.00)

Magnet Spirit Shirts & Magnet Sweatshirts

Magnet spirit and sweatshirts are for magnet students only. Please speak with Ms. Spurlock in the cafeteria regarding magnet items for purchase.

- ▶ Magnet Spirit Shirts \$20.00
- ▶ Magnet Sweatshirts \$25.00

