

TRANSITIONS: GRADE 8

Teacher: Mrs. Kate Greene Estefan, 7/8 School Counselor

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Welcome to Transitions! During the 22 day rotation, we will discuss the following topics:

- **CHARACTER:** What is character? What does your character say about you? Why is character important?
- **GOALS:** Explore goal setting and the importance of having short term and long term goals.
- **HIGH SCHOOL TRANSITION:** Learn about the expectations and the daily schedule of BHS, the role of the transcript during the next four years, and planning for life beyond high school. NHHEAF's "Are You Smarter Than A 12th Grader" will be played by students to highlight information about high school, college readiness and career exploration.
- **CAREER EXPLORATION:** Take a career inventory and research a specific career (education, training, salary, etc). The chosen career will be used when attending the CU4 Reality Fair in May. This activity combines information from FACS and Transitions Class and is a Career and Financial Literacy Program that is sponsored through the credit union.
- **PRESENTATIONS:** The following individuals will visit during the rotation to present important information on the above topics:
 - Mrs. Romano, BMS REACH coordinator, presents information on high school transcripts.
 - BHS counselor introduces students to the high school schedule, offers information on high school requirements, clubs, etc.
 - Sgt. Lougee, School Resource Officer, discusses her role at the high school, reviews the importance of making responsible decisions, and addresses the importance of drug and alcohol resistance.

What to expect:

As with every class, there are a few **RULES:**

- One person talks at a time
- It is ok to disagree with a comment or opinion but it is not ok to make fun of a person's comment or opinion
- Ugly words are not allowed - words that would hurt another person, make fun of another person (name calling, swears, etc)
- When discussing real experiences, please do not use names. We want to protect the privacy of individuals involved in such situations. (You might say, "Someone I know....This person....")
- If you absent from school and work has not been sent home, it is your responsibility to speak with me or a peer to determine what work was missed.
- Please use the sign in/out form when using the restroom, going to the nurse, office, etc.
- Listen to one another & participate!

Grading and Assignments

Class Participation & Daily Responses (25%)

There will be a lot of activities, discussion and group work. It is important that you contribute to the lessons. Throughout the rotation, you may be given a question or

statement to respond to in class. You will be given 5-10 minutes at the beginning of class to complete.

Responses will be handed in daily. Remember these “rules”:

- I expect your responses to answer the question. Your response should be as long as it needs to be to answer the question.
- I will not accept one word answers, such as “Yes” or “No”.
- Responses are graded on a \checkmark system.
 - \checkmark = 100% (answered question fully)
 - \checkmark^- = 70% (missing components of question)

Remember, your daily responses will be read by me. You may choose to include your personal reflections/experiences. If your writing is of a concerning nature, I will address it with you.

Projects (45%)

There is one project during the rotation. You will be given two-three choices. Some choices may allow you to work with a partner. A rubric will be given at the time the project is assigned. The project is out of 100 points. Time will be given in class to those students who wish to present their project. Grade is not based on presentation.

Quests (30%)

You will have 2 quests (longer quizzes) during the rotation, one on CHARACTER and the other on GOALS. Students are expected to review the material prior to the quest. The quests are out of 100 points. If you have a question on the material, please ask!