

# Grades and Organization

How to be a GO Middle School Student: What matters and why

Mini Seminar #2

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# SURPRISE!



Good Surprise



Bad Surprise





# Examples of Surprises

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- Good Surprises

- Finding \$\$\$ in your pocket
- Favorite food stocked in the pantry
- Annoying sibling staying the night with someone else
- Cancelled test
- Higher grade than expected

- Bad Surprises

- Losing money
- Sold out movie
- Sibling having an annoying friend spend the night
- Unexpected test
- Lower grade than expected



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Life is full of surprises, but you can still prepare to help cut back  
on the unpleasant surprises

# Let's Talk About Grades

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## The Meaning Behind the Number

Grades tell us...

- You are responsible
- You are organized
- You know yourself
- You know how to prepare
- You know what is expected
- You can manage time and balancing priorities
- You are focused
- You are improving
- You are learning how to adapt
- You are learning the material
- You have come to class consistently



# Why Should You Check/Be Concerned About Your Grades

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- Teachers are human...we can make mistakes
- Reminds you of what assignments you may need to make up
- Grades are often the standard used by admissions personnel and the like to help predict future success
- Make a good habit of checking on progress...in the future it may not be grades, but a bank account, or credit card statement
- Cuts back on surprises

# How Do I Check My Grades?

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- Ren Web- Online or App
  - You must know your user name and password
- [Ren Web](#)
- Or you can go to the main [Brook Hill](#) page



# Organization

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ORGANIZED



DISORGANIZED





# Our Lives Are Hectic and It Will Only Increase



## After school Activities



# Driver's License



The more responsibility you get, the more people expect of you.

# Organization 101

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- Step 1- Declutter
  - The more stuff you have, the harder it is to find what you really need
  - The less stuff you have, the easier it is to keep up with everything
- Step 2- Planner
  - Take the guess work out of it
    - Smartphone/Digital Planners at [appcrawler](#)
    - Hard copy planners at [Success by Design](#)



# Organization 101

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- Step 3- Take a look ahead every Sunday night
  - Log in to [Ren Web/Moodle](#) and take a look at the upcoming week
  - Make notes in your calendar
  - Clean out your backpack and set it out for the next day
- Step 4- Folders
  - Homework folders (to be completed, completed, long term assignments)

# Organization 101

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- Step 5- Desk/Work area
  - Have one
  - Make sure it is organized
  - Check your supplies (pencils, paper, etc. and make a note for your parents of items you need to replace)
- Step 6- Daily Tasks
  - Go through folders
  - Have backpack and other supplies set out for the next morning
  - Check off completed tasks



# Reward Yourself

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- It is important to have something to look forward to in order to get you through tough moments
  - Ice cream
  - Video game
  - Free reading
- Reward yourself for progress
  - If I make ---- grade or above on my next test, I can have a friend over/get a new shirt/etc
  - If I do all of the check list steps for 4 weeks, I can get ---- or I can go---

# Are You An Organized Student?

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- Now what?
  - You are going to take a short quiz to identify areas you might need to address in your life as a student
- You will receive a handout with information you need to help you on your organizational journey
- Ask questions and find what works for you!



# Quiz Time

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Are you organized quiz