

**Thriving in the Middle Years**  
**Denny International PTSA Meeting**  
**8 October 2013 – by Patricia Rangel**

What do you do to help your children thrive in school? (Reflect and share)

*Some roles you can play toward your child's success:*

**Think Architecture**

- Sort out your tools: The Planner- help them organize their deadlines & assignments
- Build a structure: Have a set time and place to do homework.

**Think Research**

The Source: There is a wealth of information available to you. You and your child both have access to Source accounts. Within your Source account you can learn:

- Current grades of your child
- What missing assignments they have outstanding
- What days and period they were absent or tardy and if they are excused or unexcused
- MSP (Measurement of Student Progress- State Tests that is administered once a year) Scores and MAP (Measurement of Academic Progress- State Test that are computerized and administered up to 3 times a year)
- Teachers name, telephone numbers and email addresses

**Think Communication**

- Email your child's teachers: make reference to information that you see and have questions about from The Source or from your child's assessments/tests.
- Call Ms McClain, the Attendance Secretary at 206.252.9004 when your child is going to out
- Call the academic counselors to help set up parent meetings and ask questions:
  - Mr Haessly, 8<sup>th</sup> grade and 6<sup>th</sup> graders with last names starting with A-L 206.252.9010
  - Mr Bolma, 7<sup>th</sup> grade and 6<sup>th</sup> graders with last names starting with M-Z 206.252.9011

**Think Resources**

- It Takes a Village: You do not need to be a Math Genius or Literary Expert. But it helps if you know where resources are and partner with them.
  - Seattle Public Libraries: In Person Homework Help Offered
  - Denny's Community Learning Center: The Learning Center is an academic work center offered multiple days a week
  - Teacher's Availability: Lunch times and after school

**Think Big Picture**

- Get them involved and think with the end in mind: What are colleges looking for?
- Keep them busy with sports, music, art and clubs- it helps with learning time management and developing all sides of their brain.