

Welcome to



# Team Navigator



Dear parents and students,  
Welcome back to school! We are looking forward to a successful year!

## Getting Started

To help us have a great year together, we have put together this informative guide for you and your student. Please review and keep this for future reference.

## Communication

To enhance your student's organization and achievement throughout the year, we have found the following to be most helpful:

- **WRITE ASSIGNMENTS IN PLANNER**  
As we know from life and work, keeping track of what needs to get done is important. We expect your student to develop this habit by recording assignments listed on the board in every class into his/her planner, calendar, or organizer.
- **CHECK TEACHER WEBSITES**  
If a teacher has a website, you can see a listing of the homework and often obtain downloadable handouts which is helpful when absent or work is forgotten at school. You can access teacher websites by visiting the CMS Staff link on the Cresthill Middle School website ([www.cresthillms.org](http://www.cresthillms.org)).
- **CHECK GRADES ONLINE**  
Detailed assignment scores are available online through the parent portal. There is even an Infinite Campus app that streamlines the process. Your student should be an active part of keeping you informed on his/her progress using this system every week.
- **KEEP YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS CURRENT**  
Email is our preferred way of contact. Please make sure your account in parent portal has a valid email address so that we may send you missing work reports and communicate team information in a manner convenient to your schedule. *Make sure that email from @dcsdk12.org is not flagged as spam.*

## Cresthill's Values

- **RESPECT**  
Navigator students are expected to be leaders academically, socially, and behaviorally. They will be a productive and positive member of our community of learners.
- **ACCOUNTABILITY**  
Navigator students will be ready to learn by bringing needed materials, assignments, and be on time.



As a school, cell phones must be stowed in lockers for the duration of the school day. Furthermore, Navigator teachers do not allow spinners, slime, fidgets or other toys to be used in class. We have found that instead of helping students focus on learning, they become their only focus and undermine the learning environment of others. Use of these items may result in the temporary loss of such items and may impact work habit grades.

When absent, a student is generally given one day for every day he/she is absent to complete missing work. It is the student's responsibility to see his/her teacher to obtain and complete any assignment(s). Students are encouraged to check with a friend or the teachers' website during any absence to avoid falling behind.

## Assignments & Homework

In most instances, students are given class time to begin assignments. Productive use of this time will reduce the amount of work taken home. We strongly encourage students and parents to set a consistent daily study time. Conditions should be quiet and free of distractions. When homework assignments are completed, the remainder of the study time should be spent reviewing, working on long-term projects and/or reading.



**Grading**

Students will receive two separate grades for most classes, *content knowledge* and *work habits*. *Content knowledge* grades shows a student’s understanding and progress on District’s Guaranteed and Viable Curriculum (GVC). Examples of *content knowledge* grades include: assessments, projects, tests, performances, labs, etc. that demonstrate an application of knowledge and learning. Students will be graded using a four point grading system. In a four point grading system, each assignment will receive a whole number between 0-4 with 4 being the highest and 0 being the lowest.



Quarter Grade	Assignment Score	Descriptors for “CONTENT KNOWLEDGE” GRADES
<b>A</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>EXCEEDS</b> grade level learning expectations
<b>B</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Meets</b> grade level learning expectations
<b>C</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Is progressing toward</b> grade level learning expectations
<b>D</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Does not meet</b> grade level learning expectations
<b>I</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Insufficient evidence</b> submitted

In addition to the academic content knowledge grade, students will also receive a separate *work habits* grade. The *work habits* grade reflects a student’s performance on work given for practice, coming to class prepared, classroom observations and behaviors, assignment neatness, and turning work in on time. It is also based on a four point grading system.

Quarter Grade	Assignment Score	Descriptors for “WORK HABITS” GRADES
<b>A</b>	<b>4</b>	Work habits consistently <b>EXCEED</b> expectations
<b>B</b>	<b>3</b>	Work habits consistently <b>meet</b> expectations
<b>C</b>	<b>2</b>	Work habits <b>inconsistently meet</b> expectations
<b>U</b>	<b>1</b>	Work habits <b>consistently do not meet</b> expectations

**Email address – email contact preferred**

Team Navigators	email – preferred method of contact
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