

EXTRA, EXTRA, READ ALL ABOUT IT!

WELCOME BACK!!

Dear Parents and Friends,

Gary Middle College began the year with learning and partnership with our students and parents. We are committed and dedicated to helping every student succeed. We would like to take this time and share some important focus areas we will be addressing during this school year. Gary Middle College wants to clearly communicate our beliefs about partnering with families and how important this is for your child to be successful.

At Gary Middle College, we believe it is vital for families and schools to work together and share responsibility for student success both at school as well as at home. It is also important that our students know the importance of attending school every day for continued academic success. Gary Middle College conforms with all laws, rules, and regulations relating to attendance as prescribed by Indiana Board of Education. Gary Middle College takes student attendance very seriously. Students are expected to attend every day of instruction.

During the school year, it is our hope that we will work together to provide all students the best possible opportunities in preparing them to be world class citizens ready to master the challenges of the 21st Century with a solid foundation created here at our school. Our doors are always open, and we welcome your input. Please feel free to stop in or call to make an appointment to discuss any concerns, suggestions, or ideas to help make this the best year yet! We look forward to working with you and your child.

Yours in Education,
GMC Academic Team

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

“Education is not just about going to school and getting a degree. It’s about widening your knowledge and absorbing the truth about life.”

- Shakuntala Devi

IMPORTANT DATES

August 9- First Day of School
August 18- Ivy Tech Fall Classes Begin
September 6- Labor Day (No School)

INSIDE THE ISSUE

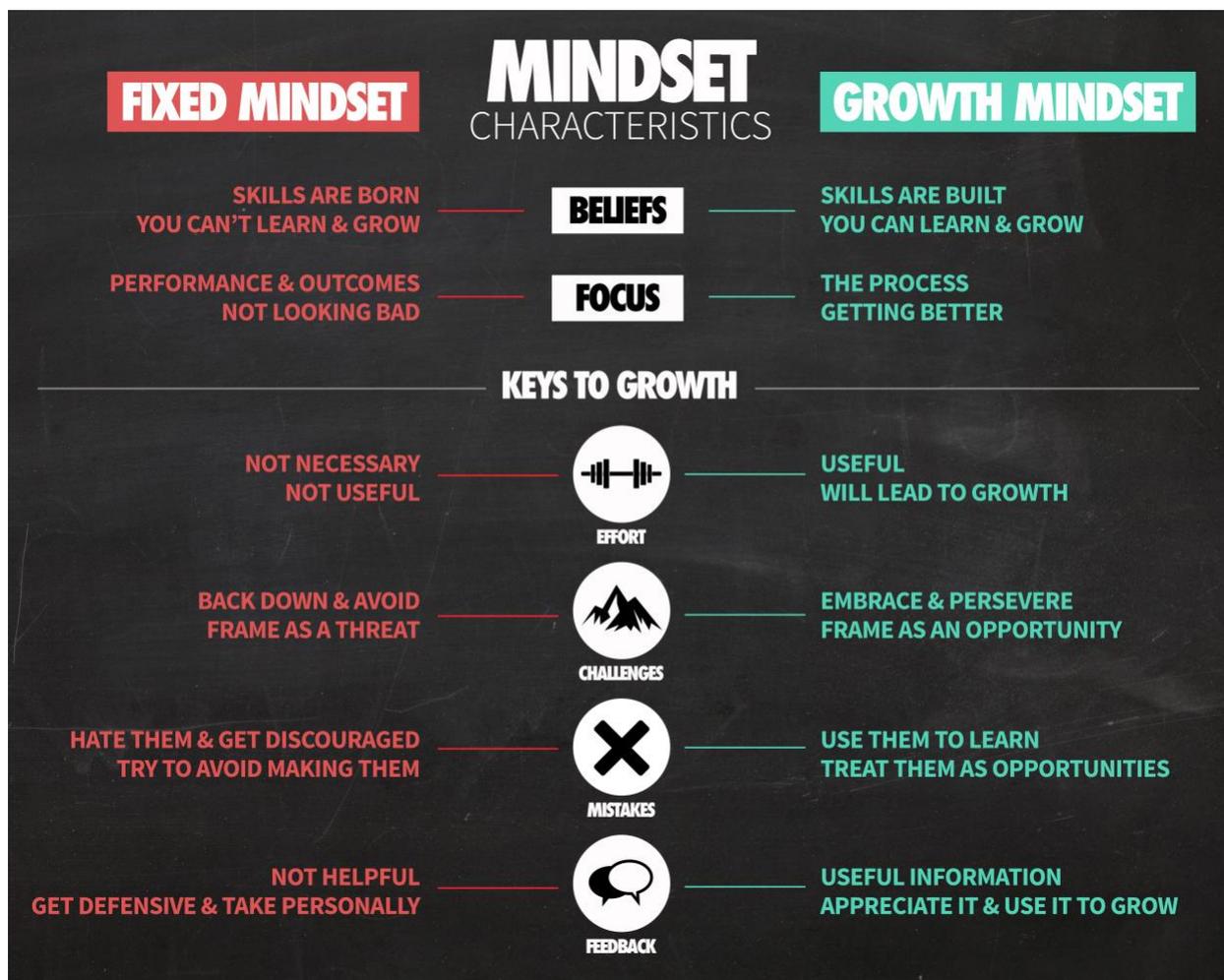
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SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

AUGUST THEME

Reaching for Greatness: Growth Mindset

At Gary Middle College our educators aim to build a sense of community and promote a value of resilience. Resilience is an important value that is essential for every individual to have to accomplish goals and reach milestones in personal success.



SCHOLAR SPOTLIGHT

Starting in September, Gary Middle College would like to recognize students who have demonstrated resilience in their journey towards academic success this quarter. These students are embodying our norms and values and evolving into leaders around our campus.

GMC Monthly Writing Contest

To encourage writing and recognize its importance, GMC is holding monthly writing contests. Each month's contest revolves around a different type of writing: poetry, narrative, expository, and argumentative. Winners will be announced in school as well as posted on the writing contest board on both campuses. Writing contest will begin in September. Happy Writing!

ACADEMIC BLURBS

ENGLISH

English Department is eager to bring the overflowing joy of reading and writing to our students, as well as to support their growth in critical reading skills that will allow them to excel in high-stakes tests that will prepare them for future opportunities.

This school year, students will perform writing reflections to encourage students to build a positive learning environment in the classroom. We are excited to use this positive learning environment to push students to expand their vocabulary, sharpen next-level critical reading skills, and build professional writing skills.

Our goal for students is to have them develop comprehension and analytical skills of language to increase their understanding of a variety of the four types of passages: Fiction and Literary, Narrative, Social Sciences, Humanities and Natural Sciences.

MATHEMATICS

Happy New School Year from the Math Department! This year, our math teacher has a wealth of experience with the Gary Middle College family. Ms. Edmond has returned, and she is very excited to build students into independent thinkers and build their mathematical minds. All our students come to us with a lot of experiences, and we want to make sure they leave with all the necessary skills to achieve success in the real world after they graduate. Gary Middle College strives to make sure we meet the diverse needs of all our students to increase their growth as exponentially as possible! This school year math students (depending on academic level) will learn the following:

- Create and solve equations
- Build an understanding of rational numbers
- Use the structure of an expression to identify ways to rewrite it
- Add, subtract, and multiply polynomials
- Interpret the slope of a line
- Build and Analyze functions
- Represent and perform operations with complex numbers
- Understand the rules of probability
- Distinguish between correlation and causation
- Interpret data
- Understand and prove geometric theorems
- Use algebraic reasoning
- Apply geometric concepts

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

This school year our students will have the opportunity to participate in our newly student government club. Our Student Government will consist of students who demonstrate exemplary and model the highest standards of attendance, academics, and behavior. They not only model this for other students, but actively take leadership and create positive change in the school.

“180 DAYS - 100 PERCENT!”

It is our goal for you to earn the maximum credits allowable per year so that you will give yourself the best possible opportunity to graduate. This will not be an easy task, but with hard work, effort, and determination, you will be successful. You will graduate with post-secondary goals such as college, trade school, military services, or employment. Gary Middle College provides a rigorous and purposeful learning experience by helping students enhance their academic and social skills. Educating our youth is not only our job, but also our passion and your success is paramount.

Parents' Resources

Starting and Maintaining a Successful School Year

Talk and listen to your teen daily about school and personal relationships. Set clear grade expectations that include consequences for poor grades and rewards for good grades. Help your child establish goals to teach independence, one of the things your teen needs to learn to become a successful adult. Make sure that you have academic resources and supplies at home or a way to obtain them, such as, ways to access the internet for homework. Stay involved by participating in your child's school activities or functions. Always remember to set a good example by showing your child your love of learning such as reading or taking classes to gain more knowledge. It is imperative to discuss key topics with your teen such as career and college possibilities, managing money and time, and managing stress. Encourage them to do their best on all assessments and finally reinforce the importance of healthy friendships and romances.

Helpful Teen Books

[Majoring in High School: Survival Tips for Students](#)

[Countdown to College: A Student's Guide to Getting the Most Out of High School](#)

[Uncommon Sense for Parents with Teenagers](#)

GMC Welcomes New Staff

Ms. Johnson- Gary Middle College Custodian @ West

Ms. Lillie- Special Education Teacher

Ms. Ordaz- College Counselor

Ms. Ortiz- Social Worker

Ms. Strong- Dean of Students

Mr. Wilshire- Part-time Mathematics Teacher

Mrs. Singleton- Assistant Principal of Instruction

Mrs. Singleton began her educational career as a high school English teacher in 2006. She taught for six years in Chicago and Indiana before accepting her first Assistant Principal position at LEAD College Prep in Gary, Indiana. Her most recent position in administration was with Chicago Excel Academy, where she held the position of principal for five years. Under her leadership at Chicago Excel Academy, she maintained a rating of 1 on the SQRP for Chicago Public Schools for the last four years.

Her educational philosophy is based on her uncompromising belief that all students can learn, given a positive learning environment, a strong and knowledgeable leadership, and a committed and focused educational team. Mrs. Singleton believes that teamwork is the ultimate way a school can be successful in reaching the goal of helping every student reach his or her full potential.

She is honored to have the opportunity to continue reaching, teaching, and inspiring all students at Gary Middle College. Her passion for education involves providing an exciting, rigorous, and safe learning environment for all students. She is committed to building positive relationships with all stakeholders. She believes that keeping the atmosphere positive is the key to success as well as keeping the lines of communication open among staff, students, and parents.

Mrs. Singleton's educational credentials include her Bachelor's degree, as well as her Master's degree, in Secondary Education and a Master's degree in Educational

Administration and Leadership. She is currently in a Doctoral program for Educational Leadership. Mrs. Singleton received the Educator of the Year award in 2015.

Outside of school time Mrs. Singleton is a life-long learner, who enjoys traveling and spending time with her husband and three children.