



**Richards Middle School**  
An International Baccalaureate School



Sunday, March 05, 2018

**Richards Middle School Warrior Weekly**

<http://richardsmcsdga.com> (706) 569-3697



**REPPIN' RICHARDS**

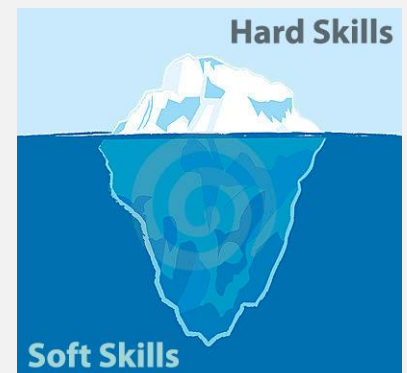
**R**esponsibility  
**E**xcellence  
**P**rofessionalism

Over the next six weeks, we will be reviewing 6 soft skills that students need to focus on learning to be successful. Below is a listing of the six soft skills that will be reviewed.

1. Mono-tasking
2. **Find how YOU study best**
3. How to use metacognition
4. How to prioritize
5. How to play to your strengths
6. How to read AND write for pleasure



Congratulations to **Kelly Tran** and **Adrian Villegas-Riedel**, seventh graders, who competed against high school students in the Optimist Oratorical Contest last night. Adrian placed fourth overall for boys, and Kelly won first for girls! Kelly will go on to represent Muscogee County Girls for Regionals. Great job!



Richards is a PBIS and IB World School where we strive to emphasize growth of the whole person: intellectual, personal, emotional and social.

“Success is no accident. It is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice and most of all, love of what you are doing or learning to do.”

- Pele



Hello Parents,

It's time to send in the Box Tops! Please look through your cabinets, pantries and even your refrigerator and freezer for the items you know have Box Tops on them and send the box tops in with your student TOMORROW, March 5.

Please make sure you put your student's name and 6th period teacher on the bag/envelope you send in. Thank you for all you do!

Debbie Mayhew  
PTSA Box Top Coordinator

## Upcoming Events

Monday, March 5 – 4:15 – 5:00 pm – Chess Club

Tuesday, March 6 – 8:00 am – Warriors for Christ

8:00 am Model UN— Rm 100

4:15-5:30 - Orchestra rehearsal for all 7th and 8th grade students

Wednesday, March 7 – 7:15 – 8:20 am  
Advanced/Intermediate Band Full Morning Rehearsal

4:15 – 6:00 pm – Debate Team Rm 225

4:15 – 5:00 pm – NJHS Meeting – Media Center

Thursday, March 8– 7:15 – 8:20 am  
Advanced/Intermediate Band Full Morning Rehearsal - Dr. Matthews from CSU will be here to critique

Math Team Meeting - 4:00-5:00 pm, Room 217  
(Last Math Team meeting for the school year)

4:15 – 5:30 pm – Debate Team Rm 225

4:00 – 5:00 pm - Percussion Sectional

Friday, March 9 – 8:00 am - Flute Master Class with CSU instructors

4:10 – 6:10 pm - Friday Evening School  
**\$5 for Honor Band Due Today**



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## Soft Skills for Student Success

### 2. How your student studies best

We tell kids to study all the time, but do they know how to study effectively? The process may look different for different people. Some people have to write things down to remember them. Others need to say them out loud. For most middle school students, “study” means “look at your notes for a predetermined period of time.” No focus necessary.

When teachers need kids to study, they talk about ways to retain information, and kids come up with a plan for how they’ll spend their study time. After they take an assessment, teachers ask them to reflect on the effectiveness of their study strategies.

Find out what study habits you need to improve on at:

<http://www.educationplanner.org/students/self-assessments/improving-study-habits.shtml>

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## 10 Steps to Ace Your Next Test

*We promise your teacher isn’t out to get you. As unpleasant as taking a test can often be, it actually does more than just show your teacher what you know: it can actually help you learn.*

*Studies have shown that students who are tested regularly actually learn more content and retain it longer than students who have not been tested.*

### 1. Get informed

*Don’t walk into your test unprepared for what you will face. Before you start studying, find out: textbook chapters and topics the test will cover, test format, Will there be multiple-choice questions or short answers, Will you write an in-class essay - The goals and layout of the test will determine how you tackle learning the material.*

### 2. Think like your teacher

*Your homework assignments, quizzes, handouts, daily notes, and classwork are all indicators of what your teacher thinks is important about the information and what might appear on the test.*

### 3. Make your own study aids

*When it comes to learning, a 2013 study showed that practice tests work BETTER than simply highlighting or re-reading your notes. So, turn your notes into flashcards or use a flashcard app for memorizing Spanish vocab. Ask your friends to quiz you or write your own practice test.*

### 4. Practice for the inevitable

*Outline essays ahead of time. For math tests, do plenty of practice problems similar to ones that you KNOW will appear. Make a list of questions that you think might show up on the test (and then make sure you can answer them!).*

### 5. Study every day

*If you have a test in a week, studying a little each day will help you identify tough concepts or weak areas in your knowledge in advance. Can't figure out factoring? Log on to Homework Help and get your questions answered.*

### 6. Cut out the distractions

*Studying for a test*



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Distractions make it difficult to pay attention to what you're doing, which in turn makes it harder to commit facts to memory. Give yourself a leg up by turning off the notifications on your phone, temporarily blocking your favorite websites, or sticking to instrumental music while you study (so you're not tempted to sing along!). Taking a break every 45 minutes or so will also help you stay focused.

#### **7. Divide big concepts from smaller details**

If you're studying a big topic—like the Civil War for history or cellular processes for biology—try breaking the material you need to study into chunks. Study one battle at a time or one chapter section at a time—and then quiz yourself. Ask yourself questions about what you've just studied, and even write your answers down.

#### **8. Don't neglect the "easy" stuff**

Even if you've been doing well in a certain subject or on a concept all year and think the test will be a breeze, you should still give it a review before the big day. You don't want to lose points for careless errors or forget to memorize a key geometry formula.

#### **9. Don't skip school**

Missing classes automatically puts you at a disadvantage. Make sure you go to class (especially during the week leading up to the test) and attend any review sessions your teacher holds. Did you have to miss an important class? You can always ask your teacher or one of our tutors for help catching up.

#### **10. Review the day of the test**

Before you take the test, give yourself time for a quick review. Shuffle through those flashcards a couple of times or re-read your chapter outline. This will ensure the material is fresh in your mind.



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