



## WELCOME TO 7TH GRADE PATHWAYS

Navigator Team | **Ms. Anna Meissbach**

### Contact Information:

- ◇ **PHONE:** (913) 422-1100 ext. 3210
- ◇ **EMAIL:** [ameissbach@usd232.org](mailto:ameissbach@usd232.org)
- ◇ **ROOM:** 300

### Course Description:

Throughout this Project-Based Learning course, students will create, collaborate, and present projects rooted in real-world problems and questions. This class is all about the student learning WHO they are and their interests all while developing vital 21<sup>st</sup> century skills. Our goal in this classroom is to challenge each student’s critical thinking while exploring the world around us.

With our Career Exploration focus, we will concentrate on your Individual Plan of Study. Your IPS will serve as a guide to help you make decisions for high school, college, and your future career and is considered a “best practice” for districts and can help all Kansas students obtain a suitable vision of their path toward college and career readiness. The IPS is addressed as part of the “Career Awareness and Guidance” criteria in Kansas’ accreditation model (KESA).

### WHY PATHWAYS?

Pathways is not your typical middle school course or any course in general! This class is completely centered on **YOU** as the student. It can be argued that no other class has the potential to prepare you more for what the real world will throw at you than Pathways. Our goal this year is to start to piece together the puzzle that is you, your passion, your purpose, and how you have the power to shape the world around you. Get excited!!!!

#### The 4 C’s of Pathways:

1. Critical Thinking
2. Creativity
3. Collaboration
4. Communication

#### Course Breakdown:

Project-Based Learning – 75%  
Career Exploration – 15%  
Social-Emotional Learning – 10%

### Classroom Expectations:

- #1 – Be kind. **Nothing positive comes from being unkind.**
- #2 – Be open-minded with others & with yourself. Don’t be afraid to take risks!
- #3 – Advocate for yourself. Communicate when the going gets tough.
- #4 – Be prepared. Show up ready to go with all your materials.
- #5 – Always work hard! Quality work & quality effort are where the magic happens.

### 3 Everyday Materials:

MacBook, pencil, & wired earbuds. Always!

## ASSESSMENT & GRADING:

Most of the work in Pathways will be graded using a rubric based on the 4 C's of Pathways – Creativity, Collaboration, Communication, and Critical Thinking. Feedback and reflection are vital components in this course and will be used to assess student progress on a daily, weekly, and monthly basis. Skyward will be “up to date” every **Tuesday & Friday** without exception. Please check the Parent/Student access portal to view current student grades.\*

## TARDY & ABSENCES:

### What is considered a tardy?

1. **Anytime** you are NOT in your seat when the bell rings.
2. The tardy policy will be strictly enforced\*

### What do I do when I am absent?

- Check the weekly agenda in the Agendas Module on Canvas
- Email Ms. Meissbach **or** come see me!

## CELL PHONES & MACBOOKS:

- ◇ Cell phones are prohibited in the classroom. All cell phones **MUST** be in lockers during the school day.\* This policy will be **strictly enforced** unless specific instruction given for students to bring their phones to class for project work.
- ◇ MacBooks are **ONLY** to be used for school-related purposes. Computer games are **NOT** permitted. Technology is a **privilege**. MacBooks should be closed unless asked to use them by Ms. Meissbach!

## MS. MEISSBACH:

I am here to help your student succeed in my classroom here at MTMS. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns you may have. We are in this together!

**Email is the best way to contact me** - [ameissbach@usd232.org](mailto:ameissbach@usd232.org)

## SIGNATURES

*I have read and understand the information given above.*

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

*\*additional questions for tardy, technology, and grading expectations can be found on the school website OR in student agendas in the MTMS Student Handbook*