

Hi Everyone,

Welcome to the 2011-12 school year at Middlesex. Once again, we anticipate a very productive fast year. Every year, our Middlesex community offers plenty of opportunities for everyone to get involved. You must choose to open your mind to new ideas and make a commitment to get the most out of your time here at Middlesex. Whether you are a sixth grader, seventh grader, or eighth grader, I encourage you to get involved, then stay involved!

Opportunities bring responsibilities! Your responsibility is to know what opportunities and expectations lay ahead for you. The next few pages highlight some of the expectations for your behavior and learning. The full handbook can be found on the Middlesex website: www.darienps.org/middlesex. This student handbook has a wealth of information at your fingertips.

Our *Five Beliefs* have been embedded into our Middlesex community. Throughout the year we refer to the *Five Beliefs* in our grade level and team meetings, throughout our developmental guidance program, and in individual meetings between the adults and the students. They are designed to make Middlesex a more caring, learning community. We have listed them here so that everyone becomes very familiar with them and we will refer to them throughout the year.

Five Beliefs

- ☺ **We believe in treating others the way we want to be treated.**
- ☺ **We believe in being honest and taking responsibility for our actions.**
- ☺ **We believe in taking pride in our school and work.**
- ☺ **We believe we have the right to a safe, orderly and respectful environment.**
- ☺ **We believe in contributing positively to the Middlesex community and beyond.**

I encourage you to make a commitment to follow these *Five Beliefs* every day and seek opportunities on a regular basis to become fully invested in your years here at Middlesex. I look forward to a great year working and learning together! Your personal challenge is to enjoy your experience at MMS and to learn something new every day!

I truly hope you have a wonderful and productive year!!

Dr. Debi Baccanfusa