

PAWS for the West Mercer Community

PAWS is the description of the basic expectations our community holds for the behavior of every member of our community from students to staff to parents to volunteers. PAWS describes how we work together as a school community to make West Mercer a great place to learn and grow. We have specific PAWS descriptions for the classroom, common areas, and the staff. Below is the general PAWS description for the whole school community including parents and volunteers. Please consider these values as you participate as part of the West Mercer school community.

<p>Practice Kindness</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assume Best Intentions: remember we all want the best for our children • Encourage Each Other: notice, praise & celebrate accomplishments, acknowledge the whole person • Use Appropriate & Respectful Communication: courtesy, manners and respect go a long way to making a positive school climate
<p>Act Responsibly</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read School Communications Completely: then mark your calendars • Take Ownership: follow and take ownership of school decisions, procedures and rules • Seek Balance: seek to keep healthy balance in life and learn other points of view
<p>Welcome Challenges</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep an Open Mind & Positive Attitude: especially when we have a disagreement • Take Risks: whether offering ideas or going along with the ideas of others • Get to Know and Understand Each Other: then we can learn from each other
<p>Show Respect</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appreciate Other's Work, Questions & Needs: we are all part of this community together and so we need to meet diverse needs and appreciate everyone's role in our community • Resolve Conflict Directly: try to work out disagreements or issues directly at the source, avoid gossip or spreading issues • Avoid Personal Attacks: focus on observations and facts rather than assign blame when encountering problems