

# Life skills in school

Is what we learn in school really helping us?

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The closer we are getting to graduation the more skills need to be taught. As kids go away from their homes and to college they need guidance. Sure, their guardians are there for them but eventually, they need to spread their wings and fly away. That is why schools need to teach kids more life skills.

In school, the subjects we learn are covered exceptionally well. Each teacher has a traditional way of teaching the class. Though these subjects cover almost all the information since way back when, they lack the basic life skills for which students struggle with even after marriage or getting a job. One of the life skills that should be taught is personal hygiene. Teens play lots of sports or have a gym class and come out of practice sweaty or stinky. Some teens take showers in the school and some don't. Then they go to the next class and people have to smell that. Teachers should teach about personal hygiene, but without insulting some of the students. So teachers should cover hygiene but something else that they should cover is cars.

A lot of students in high school are just getting their first car. With a car comes a couple of car troubles. They have to change oil, apply the heat in their car, and change the tires. That is going to be a big problem if you don't know how to change one. You're going to be stuck on the side of the road calling for road assistance to help you. You're going to take money from your wallet and spend it on getting help with your car. You had big plans but that bill just washed it down the drain. High schools should apply themselves to getting a class that teaches kids how to work on cars.

Money is a crucial necessity in the world. We use it and give it away. Money is never truly

ours. We own it for a short amount of time then we pass it on. It's like a cycle. But we do need it to survive. If you don't have any then it is going to be hard to survive without it. Schools like to teach finance, accounting, etc but they fail to emphasize the importance of saving, how to keep your own budget, how to manage your own money, and how our tax system works. Not only that coming out of college many people don't know what credit cards are all about. We need to teach what a good interest rate is, how your credit score is affected, and where credit card points and rewards come from. We also need to learn what a good credit score is, or/and what a credit score is. What we need to teach in school is how to manage it. We need to teach how to open up a bank account and put money in a bank etc.

Teens get older and want more space. They stray away from everyone except their friends and they need guidance. We need to help them and give them that guidance. That is why schools need to step in and help them with their future decisions.



Alex Mota, freshman, is practicing school work that will most likely not help him in real life down the road.

## Green bandana: red flags?

By: Antonio Cayler  
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We have all heard of a club at Marion called The Green Bandana, but what is it exactly? The Green Bandana is a group of students that came together to create a safe and supportive space at school. Whenever you see someone with a green bandana on their backpack, water bottle, or even on themselves, that means they are someone you can approach, and talk to if you need help. The group ranges in students from different grades, different backgrounds, and students that all have different lives.

Everyone struggles with something of their own, and they all have

different ways to deal with them. The obstacles we have to overcome, the problems we have to solve and the overall things we all have to go through, have lasting effects during the school day and in everyday life. As someone who suffers from mental illness, I know that having someone to talk to can be a great thing and feeling supported is very helpful, but I also know that it's not always easy to open up to people. Talking to others about the things happening in your life can be pretty scary because there are

many things that could go wrong. For example, the person could misunderstand what you're saying, and then the situation could escalate, or maybe you could confide in someone and then they could go and spread that information to others.

I feel as though the group is not 100% full of students who actually want to help or listen to your problems. The Green Bandana, in my opinion, is just a way for some students to say "Oh I was in this club in high school, and use it as an advantage in the future. The program as a whole is an amazing idea, but I feel like the motives for some members participating in the group aren't fully genuine. There

should be more "requirements" or "standards" to get into the group. Adding anything extra would help ensure that everyone is in the group for the right reasons

With that said, the group is a great way for those in need, to have an easy way

to find someone to talk to. Having a support system so close to you, every day, could really help the students who need that. Being able to find people that are willing to listen and help you with whatever you need can prevent things from getting worse.

Overall the green bandana is a really helpful and effective way to help, but once the motives and the intentions of the members get sorted out, the Green Bandana would be even more beneficial.



Dane Carstensen, senior, walks down the hall, green bandana tied to his backpack behind him.