

Mr. Nixon's Words of Wisdom

Overview: These "Words of Wisdom" are aimed at providing thoughtful guidance to middle school students. They are provided in written and audio form and address the issues of growing up.

"Mr Nixon's Words of Wisdom" grew out of a combination of my two career paths—25 years in the radio business and 13 years as a middle school teacher. Upon the tragic death of an eighth-grader at Churchville-Chili Middle School, where I was teaching French, I was asked to write and read to the school community words of comfort and hope. That message began a nearly nine-year history of providing twice-weekly messages aimed at making the middle-school experience more manageable.

Middle School can be a particularly challenging transition for many young people. They are really leaving childhood behind and trying to make sense out of becoming a teenager and, eventually, an adult. My messages were aimed at smoothing that transition. Peers become the most important source of advice and approval. My messages address that fact and offer ways to be a good friend, how to react to bullying and building self-worth and many other subjects.

During the pandemic, like everyone else, I had a lot of time on my hands and I decided to resurrect my "Words of Wisdom" in the form of a website: mrxixonwordsofwisdom.com. It contains samples of my work as well as new material generated by the current challenging situation brought on by Covid-19. I invite you to listen to some of my messages. I am offering an ongoing service of my new/existing material to any middle schools who are interested in it.

- **Ted Nixon**
- Time zone: Eastern
- Email: tnixon0929@gmail.com
- Phone:
- Best time to contact: any time