



ROANOKE VALLEY EARLY COLLEGE
Eric N. Pullen, Principal

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Date: January 18th, 2017

Dear Parents and Guardians:

First of all, I would like to begin by celebrating our successes during first semester. Our test scores, in general, are looking very good, and I am pleased with the progress that our students continue to make. Unfortunately, we were forced to delay the release of our report cards because of an issue with PowerSchools and our college courses. We have now resolved that, and report cards are going home with this letter. Please review your child's grades and contact us here at the school if you have any questions.

Next, we are starting a new schedule and rewards system next week. On Monday, January 23rd, 2017 our new schedule will be:

1st Period- 8:00-9:20
2nd Period- 9:25-10:45
3rd Period- 10:50-12:10
Seminar 12:10-1:20
 1st Lunch- 12:10-12:40
 2nd Lunch- 12:50-1:20
4th Period- 1:25-2:50

Seminar will also be changed to serve as a reward system for our kids. Students who have an 80 or above in all of their high school and college classes will not be required to attend seminar. This allows teachers to work with our students who are in need of extra support while giving a little extra time to our students who do not need that help. Teachers can require students to stay if they are habitually late, or just need extra help.

Finally, we are adopting a new policy to address our students who are not performing as well as we would like them to be in their courses. As a school, we have established ourselves as a rigorous environment, with challenging courses on both the high school and college level. Unfortunately, some of our students struggle to succeed in this challenging environment, and we want to make sure we have a system in place to help them succeed.

In the attached policy titled Academic Probation and Contracts, we have created such a plan. For our students who struggle with high school courses, we will provide them periodic check-ins with a staff member, required tutoring, and anything else needed for the student to be successful. If a student does not maintain a C or Better, or they are withdrawn from a college course, then they will not be allowed to take any new college courses the following semester. This is to give them a chance to recover, fix whatever the issue is that caused them to not succeed, and then get back in good standing when their grades improve.

Another important part is the financial responsibility piece of retaking these college courses. Our school will continue to pay tuition for these classes, however, if a textbook, access code, or other required course material must be purchased, it will be the student's responsibility to secure those materials.

Finally, it is important to state that sometimes life happens, and something is going on that prevents a student from being successful. If a student has an extenuating circumstance, and has been in communication with the school about that issue, Mr. Pullen may waive this policy in that instance. The intent of the policy is to make sure that our students can earn their high school and college credits, and ultimately their diplomas and associate's degrees. This policy will take effect starting with this semester, and the first academic probations will be issued when final grades arrive in May.

While I understand this is a lot of information to come home in one letter, all of this information will be placed on the school website for further review. This information has also been communicated with students, and a parent night will be scheduled soon to address any parental concerns. As always, my door is always open to each of you to discuss your student at any time.

Thank you,

Eric N. Pullen, MSA
Principal
Roanoke Valley Early College