

November 2, 2012

Dear Parents,

As we begin the second quarter, I feel it is important to report on the status of the “raising the bar” initiative at the high school level. Attendance has greatly improved and I thank you, on behalf of all the staff, for your cooperation. Writing is a daily point of emphasis and the students are slowly adjusting to hearing “Yes, in sentences,” for all their major work. One area, however, that we thought had been addressed thoroughly was submission standards. After nine weeks of school, however, submission of late or vacation make-up work is still an area that needs much improvement, and we have found that our current consequences are ineffective.

What follows is an addendum to the Points of Emphasis sheet that was explained at the Parent Information nights in August. These new submission standards will go into effect on November 13, providing ample time for explanations both at school and at home. This change will also be incorporated into the Parent/Student Handbook located in a link on the ECCSS homepage.

Makeup tests/homework/assignments as designated by each teacher, must be finished within 5 school days of returning. If REGULAR work or VACATION make-up work is late – regardless of point value - the following rules will be applied by all teachers:

- ***1 day late = no “A”***
- ***2 days late = no “B”***
- ***3 days late = no more than 50 % credit***
- ***4 days late = an “NC” (NO credit) will be given as the grade***

Once an NC is entered in GradeQuick and uploaded to Edline, the student needs to recognize that it will be viewed as the designation “NC”, but will be factored in as a zero for the purpose of determining the current grade.

It is the student’s responsibility to find out what he needs to do to convert the NC to a grade. He must also realize that the grade given for the late work (Day3 and beyond) will not be more than 50% of the original point value.

NOTE: IF an NC is not removed from the student’s transcript by five school days prior to the end of the course, he will NOT receive any credit for taking the course – regardless if he has a passing grade.

Continuing with the update, compliance with the dress code for the first quarter was also much improved over last year. As a point of clarification, however, polos are NOT part of any version of either the guys' or the girls' guidelines for the cold weather dress code. For any event that is occurring during the school day, whether it is a relaxed dress day or a field trip, jeans with any size hole(s) are NOT acceptable.

With regard to the dress code for the girls, the high school uniform committee has relaxed the mandate regarding Flynn and O'Hara pants only. We realize that the style of these pants does not fit all the girls equally well so what follows is the new **trial** girls' pants policy for the rest of this year. We, in turn, want the ladies to realize that a difference exists between day-time professional wear and social and/or casual wear.

Any pants other than the current uniform Flynn and O'Hara style, must be pre-approved before wearing. As in the past, the pants must be a dress style - loose fitting, natural waist, not predominantly spandex, with no outside pockets, flaps, or rivets. The slacks should be brought to the office and will be reviewed by two female staff members and myself. (Please note that your daughter may be asked to try the pants on for the three of us.) After the review, your daughter will bring home a form signed by me stating the outcome. Please do not allow your daughter to wear the slacks unless you have received this form. If approved, your daughter's name will go on a list issued to the teachers.

If your daughter is interested in this option, I have received a sample slack from the Old Navy Uniform department that meets all the criteria. The SKU # number is 6754930020004; women's lightweight in Black Jack. They are currently on sale for \$27.50 with S & H charge of \$7.50. This is about \$5.00 less than those from Flynn & O'Hara. This is just a suggestion, but a very good option because Old Navy participates in our Scrip program!

One final topic that I ask your help with is updating our records. Whenever you would have any changes in address, phone numbers, etc. please contact the office immediately. We are also hoping to begin family-wide communication via emails, so if you are willing, please provide your preferred email address to Mrs. Schneider at schneiderc@eccss.org.

As always, thank you for continued support of the ECCSS! We truly are blessed with a wonderful community of family, friends, and staff.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Sandy Florig