

# EIGHTH GRADE

## ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS

2018-2019

The eighth grade team is excited for the new school year. This year will be a great opportunity for your son/daughter to grow academically, socially, and emotionally. We believe that all students can learn and have the ability to excel in eighth grade. To continually challenge your child to perform at their highest capabilities, we have outlined some procedures that our team will adhere to this academic school year.

### POWER FOCUS AREAS

Part of the curriculum for content area classes found on the platform (PLP) will be Power Focus Areas (PFAs). PFAs allow students to build background knowledge on a given subject area and will be 21% of the student's overall grade. PFAs are required pieces of content knowledge. Students must answer 8/10 content assessment questions correctly to pass. Students should target passing the content assessment within 2 attempts and must pass all PFAs to pass a course.

### CONTENT ASSESSMENTS

#### 1ST ATTEMPT

- Take diagnostic
- Piece of evidence: one page for ELA, study guide for SS, note card for math and science

#### 2ND ATTEMPT

- 1 additional piece of evidence
- CA opened by content teacher
- Assessment ticket initialed by teacher

#### 3RD ATTEMPT

- One-on-one and new assessment ticket

### TAKING ASSESSMENTS



In core PLP Classes

Block classes as scheduled

In Basic Skills Classes

### OFFICE HOURS

#### FRIDAY BEFORE SCHOOL

By invitation for students in need of extra assistance.

Contact mentor teacher if you are interested in your student attending an upcoming session.

### MENTORING



WEEKLY EMAIL



ONE-ON-ONE CONFERENCES



SDL TIME



GOAL SETTING



SILENT READING

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### PROJECTS

Projects are the main part of the PLP courses. The majority of class time and your student's grade (70%) will be spent on project work. This is where students will apply their content knowledge and build their cognitive skills. Checkpoints are used throughout the projects to assess student learning and to build to a final product.

In order for a project to be considered complete, all checkpoints must be green and the final product must be submitted. Due dates for final products will be adhered to and an Action Plan will need to be formed by teacher/student and signed by a parent.

### CHECKPOINT COLORS

#### RED

- Checkpoint is not complete
- Should be completed as soon as possible

#### YELLOW

- Revisions are needed
- Should be revised as soon as possible

#### GREEN

- Student demonstrated grade level cognitive skill level or higher
- No further action is required

### HOMEWORK



### NEED HELP

#### CONTACT

If you or your student have questions, contact the content area teacher or your student's mentor teacher.

We look forward to a great year!

### TIPS FOR SUCCESS

