

Teacher Expectations

Best practices suggest that the power of positive modeling is an important force in shaping student behavior. The staff at Hinsdale Central recognize the key to being an outstanding school is focusing on the student-parent-teacher triad in order to promote and encourage learning.

Our Goals for your child are....

to provide an engaged learning classroom with clearly stated expectations, and to be readily available for student questions and assistance.

What can this look like?

- * Ensuring a fair and safe environment for learning
- * Presenting clear and concise course outlines with student academic expectations and standards
- * Communicating classroom behavioral expectations in a direct, concrete manner
- * Providing flexible opportunities for additional student help



Academic Resource Assistance

Teachers are available throughout the day in order to provide academic assistance for students seeking to maximize their potential. Students in all grades and of all ability levels are encouraged to take full responsibility for their learning and to advocate for themselves when they need assistance.

BEFORE OR AFTER SCHOOL, students should seek out their classroom teachers. Have your child ask his/her teachers where they can be found during these times.

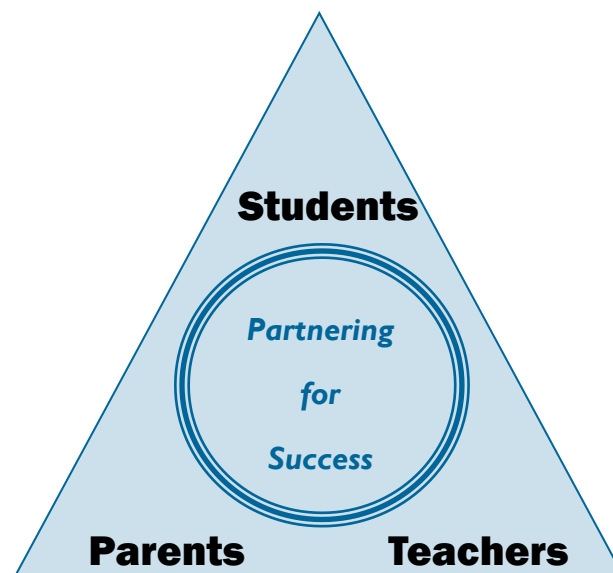
DURING THE SCHOOL DAY, each department has teachers available to support students who come for help. Remind your child that academic resource help is available every period of the day for English, Foreign Language, Math, Science, Social Studies, and Physical Education. To determine the periods when resource help is available for all other departments, a student can e-mail the department chair or secretary or they can stop by that office for assistance.

Encourage your student to ask for a pass during study hall when he/she discovers a need for academic resource help. If he/she needs help during lunch, remind your child that passes are available from the Academic Center for students wanting to go for departmental help. All your child needs to do is ask!

WHILE AT HOME, suggest that your child go to his/her teachers' SharePoint sites or webpages for clarification on assignments and for supplemental materials.

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Steps to Success : Hinsdale Central's Guide to Maximizing Student Responsibility for Learning



Student Study Habits

As students, you have an outstanding faculty and staff who are dedicated to your success. In the event that you are having difficulty in class, take a look at what you can do to improve your situation. Check all boxes that apply to you:

Attendance

- Do you come to class regularly? Have you missed fewer than 3 or 4 days of class this quarter?
- Do you connect with your teacher to obtain make-up work?

In class behaviors:

- Do you take notes? Are they complete and organized?
- Are you engaged in your classes...raise hand, ask questions, and offer responses?
- Is homework completed on time?
- Did you invest quality time studying for tests? Did you prepare 2 to 3 days in advance and follow the study guide?

Seeking Assistance:

- Have you gone for departmental academic resource help during your study hall or lunch?
- Do you study with your classmates or in a study group?

Checking off all of the boxes above demonstrates your ability to strive for academic excellence. Any boxes left unchecked indicates an area in which you could work toward improvement. After you have completed this questionnaire and reviewed your study habits, bring this pamphlet to your classroom teacher for additional help.

Parent Tools

As parents, you play a vital role in your child's education. In order to increase independence and self-advocacy skills in your child, take some time and investigate the availability of resources at Hinsdale Central.

1. Examine your child's responses to the "Student Study Habits" questionnaire at left. Discuss and help the student understand the following concepts:
 - * Explain how being on time and in class on a regular basis is important.
 - * Discuss that learning and retaining knowledge occurs when students participate, take notes, complete homework, ask questions and offer opinions. This is an engaged learner!
 - * Point out how important it is to prepare for quizzes and tests in advance.
2. Discuss time management with your child.
 - * Class load
 - * Extra curricular activities
 - * Outside/after school employment

Parent Communications

When parents encounter a problem with their child's academics, it is important to follow the series of steps below in order to find a quick and productive resolution. To help your child be successful....

Step One:

- Have you reviewed with your child his/her responses to the Student Questionnaire?
- Has your child met with his or her teacher?
- Has your child sought out departmental academic assistance during study hall or lunch?
- Have you talked about healthy choices with your child?
- Does your child hold a balanced schedule that allows time for extra-curricular activities and after-school responsibilities?

Step Two:

Taking all of this information into account, set up an appointment for you and your child to meet with the teacher to further problem solve in order to best ensure your child's continued success.