



CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

HOME OF THE REBELS

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Dear Parents:

Central High School's mission is to prepare all students for success in rigorous courses in high school that meet state and local standards, and teaching in such a way as to engage more students in interesting work. This work will take effort on the part of teachers and our students. Learning is the result of effort, and even more effort is required if students are behind. This high school will provide varied opportunities to our students to increase skills, broaden knowledge, enhance application skills and develop work habits necessary to successfully (1) attend an academic college or university, (2) further education through a trade or technical school, (3) seek or maintain employment. In order to make this vision possible, we need to find ways to assist all of our students in meeting the high standards of work necessary to meet this challenge.

One of the biggest changes that may affect your student is that Central High School will no longer accept work that is below standards. We are referring to this initiative as "Failure is Not an Option." "Failure is Not an Option" includes empowering teachers to get more students to complete rigorous assignments and discontinuing the current practice of **giving zeroes** and **allowing failure**. We must find ways to hold all students to high expectations and stop "letting them off the hook" for learning, completing assignments, revising their work and retaking most tests until they have shown that they meet the standards. We must stop allowing students the "option" of not completing work and not passing courses.

How do we fix the problem? Students will have to **revise or redo work** that does not meet the standards or is not complete. **Zeroes will not be allowed.** We will provide extra help (the PASS program) and time for those students who need it so that they can be successful. We know that in the past many students have not completed work on time or not completed it at all, and they have received zeroes. This practice was used in hopes of helping students understand the consequences of not doing acceptable work. This practice has not been successful in getting all students to complete acceptable work, and many students leave having completed few if any challenging assignments and are completely unprepared for the new level. CHS wants all of our students to be successful, and we will need your assistance in requiring students to revise or redo work that does not meet the standards.

It is important for everyone to understand that the bar has been raised here at CHS, but that we are going to assist students in reaching those high expectations. We look forward to working closely with you in an effort to ensure your son/daughter's success.

Sincerely,

Brad Coleman
Principal

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