

Parenting a Pioneer

Parenting Tips and Resources for Academic Success



Fun fact:

\$83,144- Average annual earnings of workers age 18 and older with an advanced degree. This compares with \$58,613 a year for those with bachelor's degrees, \$31,283 for those with a high school diploma only and \$21,023 for those without a high school diploma.

The "No Homework" Myth:

How many times has your child come home from school and said they have no homework? With six classes a day, how is that possible? The answer: it isn't. Students often think of homework as only the unfinished assignments from class. However, homework is really the assignments *AND* practice necessary to master the content of a course. In other words, even when assignments are finished, a student may need to do extra review or practice to really understand and remember the material.

So, what does this mean for your student? If they have anything less than an A in a course, they have work to do! If all assignments are complete, including any late assignments, students should spend 15-20 minutes per class reviewing what was learned recently in class or reorganizing notes. If there was a subject or concept that was particularly difficult or confusing, extra time should be spent finding help.

Connect to Your School:

Dearborn High School Main Office: 313-827-1600

Dearborn Public Schools website (important news and policies): <http://dearbornschools.org/>

ParentConnect website: <https://lmc.dearbornschools.org/parentconnect/>

Find a teacher's e-mail (by last name): <http://dearbornschools.org/email-search>

The Importance of Regular School Attendance:

It's a fact that students who attend school regularly learn more and are more successful in school than students who do not. Parents who make regular school attendance a priority also are helping their children learn to accept responsibility, and that's an important lesson for a successful life.

Regular attendance is critically important, because students who miss school miss out on carefully planned sequences of instruction. They miss out on active learning experiences and class participation. They miss out on the opportunity to ask questions. As a result, they are more likely to fall behind, and they are more likely to drop out.

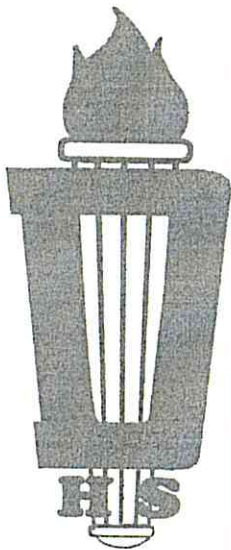


When failures pile up, when the bag of unlearned skills gets too large, students succumb to despair and look outside of the school for acceptance, success, and a sense of importance. - Dufour

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Things you can do to help reduce attendance issues...

- Schedule doctor and dental appointments so that your child can attend at least part of each school day. This will allow your student to check in with the teacher(s) to turn in assignments as well as pick up new assignments for that day.
- Schedule family vacations whenever possible during school breaks. Missing even a few days of school can make it difficult for a student to catch up in their classes.
- Avoid travel arrangements that would cause you to miss the beginning or ending of a school year. These are critical times for students and the impact on a student's grade is usually significant.
- Communicate the importance of regular school attendance to your child so they are hearing the same thing we are saying at school.
- Provide a quiet place for your student to do homework and check in on him/her. Many students that do not get homework completed may say they are ill so they do not have to attend school.
- Make sure students are regularly eating nutritious meals and drinking plenty of fluids.
- If your student does miss school, please contact the office alerting them to the reason for the absence.
- Take care of any school fines or fees immediately. Overdue fines and fees result in students having their schedules withheld. Students will then miss classes until the financial obligations are settled.



On time Graduation: Get it done in four years!

The pinnacle of high school, graduation, is an exciting time for parents and students alike. At DHS, we want nothing more than for all students to accomplish their goals in four years and hear their names called at graduation. However, when credit is lost in a class, that goal is in jeopardy. Additionally, students may be reclassified in a previous grade, show up in the wrong section of the yearbook, and possibly be delayed in taking the Michigan Merit Exam, a graduation requirement. It is important that students make up lost credits as soon as possible to stay on track for graduation and avoid any other complications.

Per Dearborn Public Schools' policy, a student must earn 6 credits to be classified as a sophomore, 12 credits to be classified as a junior, and 17 credits to be classified as a senior.

Home Study Tips:

1. Create a routine for your child to complete homework each day.
2. Avoid letting your child hide in their room- homework is a family activity!
3. Check ParentConnect each week and address issues as they arise.
4. Ask your child questions about what they are studying.



Top two reasons for dropping out of high school:

1. Failing classes
2. Too much free time and not enough rules (Josten's Renaissance Program)