

September 10, 2007

Parents,

There are a couple of items about which I need to inform you:

Passwords for the Parent Portal have arrived. You will have to come to the school to acquire this information. I am not allowed to mail them or give the information over the telephone. As we have discussed for some time, this website gives you weekly information on daily attendance, daily and test grades, and direct contact with your student's teachers. We will be distributing these passwords on Thursday night. I expect long lines and time lost for your visit that night, so come to the school any day this week if you can.

Grades go out on Friday of this week, the grading period ends on Tuesday, Sept. 11. We will distribute this first report to the students during their first block class.

Open house is scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 13. It will give everyone the opportunity to meet their teachers and run through their schedule. As always, this is an opportunity to meet and greet and attempt to determine if there is a need to schedule a more formal conference. The Open house will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria and last until 8:00 pm.

Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held after school on Thursday, September 27<sup>th</sup>. These are scheduled by appointment only so as to provide you with 15 minutes of conference time with teachers. Call the school office to begin making your appointments. The allotted time for this is 4:00 until 6:00.

The late-start Wednesday's are still working out the kinks. I have seen more students getting tutoring help or working on missed assignments than I have ever seen when we conducted this type of thing after school hours. The kids are beginning to handle the concept as well. As I've said from the onset, I like the opportunities that this allows both the faculty and the students but we will continue to evaluate the situation throughout this semester. I do have an update on our Wednesday schedule. We will not be conducting late-starts during the month of December. Gateway exams, EOC exams, and state exams are all given throughout the month of December and I don't want to interfere with those at all. We will not do a late-start on a ½ day, such as Wednesday, November 21<sup>st</sup>, the day before Thanksgiving.

There will be no school for students on Friday, September 21. It is an in-service day for teachers.

I hope to see you on Thursday night.

M A Duff