

Class of 2021: December Update

Hello students and parents/guardians,

With a flash, it is now December and students are halfway through their freshman year! With the busy season we are in and having just SEVEN school days before finals, I have decided to send an email update instead of a Newsletter for December. First and foremost, PSAT testing went very well today; way to go freshman! Scores will be available in about two months.

With seven days left in the semester: students should be working hard to complete and do their very best on all assignments, asking questions, utilizing ARP and Terrier Tutoring, as well as studying for individual finals. Finals are scheduled for Monday, December 18 (periods 1, 2, & 3) as well as Tuesday, December 19 (periods 4, 5, & 6). Students' semester one grade is comprised of $40\%(Q1) + 40\%(Q2) + 20\%(\text{Semester Exam}) = \text{Semester Grade}$. If you know your child will be absent the day(s) of exams, he/she will need to pick up a "Pre-Planned Absence Request" from the Principal's Office. For a pre-arranged absence, the policy is outlined in the Handbook (p. 21). Here is a link to the Handbook: http://www.cchs165.jacksn.k12.il.us/students__parents/student_handbook

Schedule change requests for Semester 2 are due this Friday, December 8. Here are options for requesting a change; please encourage your student to follow one of these options:

1. Email information to me on exactly how you would like your schedule to change, or
2. Visit the Counseling Department and fill out a green Appointment Sheet with details on the schedule change you are requesting, or
3. Come see me during ARP (8:00-8:25 am) to discuss your request change, or
4. Come see me during your lunch hour (I will not give you a late pass to class), or
5. Come see me after school

I will not be sending out passes for students to miss class to change their schedule, please use the above-stated opportunities to make any requested schedule changes. I do not take requests to change lunches and/or teachers. If I am able to make the change, students will have a new schedule sent to them in class. If I am unable to make the change, I will email the student.

Notes and feedback: as I continue to get to know the freshman group, I have reached out to teachers for their thoughts on how the year is going with the Class of 2021. Working on two main academic areas have been expressed by teachers: knowing and following individual course and project expectations as well as staying on task and focused in class. Students, if this is something you feel you struggle with, please see me and I would be happy to assist you with strategies to use in class! Teachers have also reported that the Class of 2021 is a bright, engaging group with a lot of potential!

The biggest piece I want to highlight is that Semester 1 is a big GPA builder for students! I will continue to encourage academic growth and strategies for success. Every student has completed a Quarter 1 GPA Calculation and has set a Semester 1 GPA goal. Ask your student what his/her goal GPA is and help him/her to come up with Action Steps to reach that goal in these last two weeks! Please let me know how I can help and, as always, I invite questions.

Thank you,
Ms. Smith
CCHS Counselor, Class of 2021
Key Club Sponsor

Encourage your student to join the Student Remind Group! Text the message "@2021stu" to 81010

NO QUESTION IS OFF LIMITS, NO THOUGHT TOO SILLY, NO DREAM TOO BIG