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NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 19, 2020 – Special Edition

From the Principal's Desk...

Greetings Olmsted Community!

With the close of Marking Period 1 and a move to the orange zone in Western New York, there is a need to share very important updates with everyone. This special edition will address Grading Procedures, Revised Grading Timeline, BPS Calendar Change, "Tech Break" and updates to upcoming events.

We thank everyone for their patience, understanding and flexibility as we navigate these unprecedented times. Please stay safe, wear your masks and continue to follow social distancing guidelines. We are anxious to see you in school but understand your safety comes first!



We miss our students!

ADMINISTRATION:

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"TECH BREAK"

November 23-29

No Homework will be assigned.

No work will be assigned over the Thanksgiving Break.

THANKSGIVING BREAK: WEDS 11/25-SUNDAY 11/29

UPDATED GRADING PROCEDURES, BOARD POLICY 7210R

BPS Board Regulation 7210R has been amended to address concerns that have risen due to virtual instruction and the COVID-19 pandemic. Updates to the policy ensure that Olmsted ensures the following:

ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY:

- Provide technical and academic support to families.
- Provide alternative means to submit work and assess learning. Although we are using Schoology as our platform for work submission, when necessary, alternate modes of submission are acceptable.

SUBMISSION OF WORK:

- Provide specified time extensions and support as needed to help all students be successful.

DEMONSTRATING THE LEARNING PROCESS:

- Maximize asynchronous time to provide supports, make-up missing assignments, reteach skills and standards being assessed, and provide meaningful feedback.
- Provide opportunities for work revision and resubmission to meet the learning objective of the lesson.
 - This includes scheduling students for one-on-one or small group sessions during asynchronous time.

COMMUNICATION & OUTREACH:

- Communicate frequently and consistently about academic needs.
 - Communication must be two-way, timely and in the preferred language.
 - At Olmsted, teachers are provided time to update Infinite Campus grades weekly, every Friday.
 - At Olmsted, teachers are provided time to reach out to parents weekly.
 - At Olmsted, Family Liaisons provide an additional link to the school to address social-emotional and technology needs.

INCOMPLETE LEARNING: Students with an average below 65% will receive an INCOMPLETE for the marking period.

It is Olmsted's responsibility to...

- Develop a plan to support the student's learning.
 - We will do this by:
 - conducting one-on-one Student/Teacher Conferences for students failing 1 course
 - conducting one-on-one Student/Teacher/Parent Report Card Conferences for students failing 2 or more courses.
 - All conferences will be held the week of November 30th.
- Extension of Work:
 - One full marking period extension to submit missing assignments:
 - ALL students will have the opportunity to submit missing assignments, including resubmitting or revising assignments from Marking Period 1.
 - No student will be penalized for turning in late work. If a student was previously penalized for late work, those points will be credited to them.
 - At the end of the second marking period, once students have completed their missing assignments, or resubmitted/revised their work, and teachers have updated their gradebooks, teachers will submit a Grade Change form to the Guidance Department.
 - During the marking period, any missing work will be marked as "incomplete" therefore a student will not be penalized. Their in-progress grade will not take these assignments into account.
 - At the end of the marking period, any incomplete assignments will be turned to missing, therefore if a student does not complete the work, they will receive a 0. It is important that ALL STUDENTS complete all of their assignments.
 - Updated Marking Period 1 grades will be posted with Marking Period 2 grades.

CALENDAR UPDATES

POSTPONED
until further notice

**Picture
DAY**

SCHEDULED NOVEMBER 23-25 & DECEMBER 14

RESCHEDULED
NEW DATE ANNOUNCED

**VIRTUAL
REPORT CARD
CONFERENCE**

Conferences will be scheduled the week of November 30th. Parents and students will receive an email invite with a Teams link and a pre-conference questionnaire.

Conferences will be held the week of December 7th

**GRADE LEVEL
ASSEMBLIES**

Scheduled November 24 & 25:

The format will be revised. Information on the new grading policy, academic achievement and student feedback on virtual learning will be presented to students during health and physical education classes.

Marking Period 1 Awards will be announced starting November 24th and the Week of November 30th during homeroom via Schoology.