

Principal Newsletter

September 2017

Dear Parents / Families,

The 2017-18 school year is off and rolling along at a rapid pace. We are excited to see what our students can achieve this year in and out of the classroom. We want our students to be successful now and in their future. Parents and families you CAN help your student be more successful if you follow the tips below. Thanks in advance for supporting your student and for supporting West High School.

Top Tips for Student Success:

- **Attendance-** Students who miss school miss out. There is no substitute for being in school and in class learning from our excellent teachers. When a student misses school, even two days per month, the statistics indicate the chances for passing classes and graduating on time go DOWN. Parents and families CAN help their student be more successful by ensuring students attend school ON TIME every day. If your student is absent, please contact our attendance office at 973-3616.
- **Academics-** Families CAN help their student be more successful by assisting the student in making academics their first priority while in high school. Work, dating, cars, activities etc. can tend to crowd out the number one reason for high school...academic preparation. Help your student by establishing a quiet and consistent place and time to study and do school work each evening.
- **Cell Phones and Social Media-** One area that seems to create major distractions, drama and significant disruption to student learning and success is the use of cell phones and social media. Cell phones, texting, Facebook, snap chat etc.etc.etc. used during class and school time prevent students from learning, cause disruption to the learning of others and can lead to drama and conflict at school that disrupts the school day. Parents, please coach your student to shut it off during class time and monitor use of social media. If you need help with social media issues that occur outside of school. Contact WPD and turn it off for your student. Parents please do not text or call your student to get your student out of class / school. If you need to pick up your student or have your student released early for an appointment, please contact us and we can get your student an appropriate pass to leave school
- **Get Connected-** Years of data and experience show that when a student is involved in at least one school activity, club, organization, athletics or other extra-curricular activity they will do better in school and after high school. Is your student involved or connected? West offers lots of choices for your student to be involved. Contact your administrator, counselor or our athletic director if you have questions. Get involved.
- **Communication-** Parents, your high school student needs you now more than ever to stay connected with their teachers and school. Parents can access grades and attendance instantly via smart phone or computer by connecting with our Parent-View application. In addition, please contact our office if you have a change in address or phone numbers etc. Contact us at 973-3602.

Again, thanks for supporting your student and West High School!

Joel T. Hudson

Principal