

October 31, 2023

Dear High School Parents and Guardians,

As we approach the end of our first quarter of the year, I want you to know that we are watching the academic progress of each student carefully and that we want to ensure academic success for all of our students as they pursue their South Wasco County High School Diploma or a South Wasco County Honors Diploma.

We see this as a team effort between the student, their guardians and the school district. In order for all students to find success, we all need to do our part.

Daily, we ask students to give their best effort and to take responsibility for their own learning. We have implemented a program called AVID that teaches students organization and study skills as well as challenges them to reach higher in their educational endeavors. Part of their responsibility is to ask for help if they are struggling. Students can approach a teacher with concerns and arrange to work with them in their after school office hours (3:15 until 4:00pm) and they may also connect with our new Dean of Academics, Marni Malefyt.

Marni will be overseeing academic progress and offering support to struggling students. Marni can help students problem solve obstacles they may be encountering to success and also serve as a liaison with the teachers to schedule time with them for support in certain areas.

The District has added this position to ensure that any student who is in jeopardy of failing a course has the opportunity to get extra help before it is too late and to ensure that parents are aware that their student is struggling.

As part of this new program, you will also be notified by Marni should your student have a failing grade at the quarter or as we near the end of a semester, so that there is time to support and encourage your student to do what is necessary to turn their trajectory around and earn a passing grade.

We are also adding after school study time on Tuesdays and Thursdays that will allow them to have teacher support until 4 and work time until the activity bus leaves to take students home. If your student is failing a class, Ms. Malefyt may contact you to let you know that she is recommending your student attend one or more of these after school sessions.

But we need your support and involvement too. We need your participation in making sure that your student gets to school every day possible. Attendance has a huge correlation with academic success. We also hope you will log into your students PowerSchool account to see current grades and regularly ask your students to show you their assignments and grades in Google Classroom. Just checking these regularly lets your student know that you take their success in school seriously and that they have your support. Should you need assistance logging into these programs, you may contact Tonya Duling, our Data Secretary for help.

Thank you for being a part of our team to ensure success for your student. We are excited to be a part of offering your student a springboard to lifelong success.

Mark Endsley - Principal