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DISCIPLINE

Citizenship Grades for DHS

- Citizenship grades will be required for participation in the DHS graduation ceremony and eligibility for school athletics, team events, student government, and all other activities in which students represent DHS in any way.
- Each quarter the classroom teacher will assign a citizenship grade. This is a pass/fail grade that is separate from their academic grades.
- **If a student accumulates more than three failed citizenship grades at any point throughout their time in high school (9th-12th grades) they will be ineligible for the DHS graduation ceremony and school athletics/activities.**

Citizenship grades can be redeemed by attendance in Youth Court and completing the court's recommended restitution. After successful restitution has been made the student's citizenship grade will be restored to a pass.

Citizenship Grade Requirements

Attendance Requirements:

-No more than 5 absences (parent excused (P's) or unexcused (U's) per class per quarter. School activity excused absences (A's) will not count. In extreme situations where a student has to miss class for extended time the student/parents can get an exemption from school administration. **The 6th absence from class in a quarter would result in the student failing the citizenship grade for that class that quarter.**

-No more than 3 tardies per class per quarter. **The 4th tardy from class in a quarter would result in the student failing the citizenship grade for that class that quarter.**

Classroom Behavior

-A classroom teacher can also revoke a student's citizenship credit due to poor classroom behavior. Examples of classroom behavior that may warrant the loss of citizenship credit includes, but is not limited to: disrespect, defiance, vulgarity, profanity, disobedience of school/classroom rules and policies, fighting, and theft or destruction of property.

Common Questions and Answers:

Question: Does the citizenship grade factor into a student's G.P.A.?

Answer: No, citizenship grades are not factored into a student's G.P.A. They are completely separate from a student's academic grades.

Question: Will citizenship grades show up on a student's official transcript?

Answer: No, citizenship grades will not be on an official transcript.

Question: If a student fails the citizenship grade for one quarter in a class do they have to go to youth court?

Answer: No, failing one quarter of citizenship grade will not make a student ineligible for activities at DHS. It takes more than three failed quarters to make a student ineligible. However, a student may elect to attend the youth court to make restitution for that citizenship credit and have the grade restored to a pass.

Question: What if a student has to be absent from school due to: a sickness, funeral, vacation, family event, mental health, etc.? Will these absences count against his/her attendance?

Answer: In extreme situations where a student has to miss class for extended time the student/parents can get an exemption from school administration. If you know you will be absent from school, you can get an extended absence form from the office and fill it out prior to leaving. This lets the teachers and administration know that you will be absent from school and your absences will be excused and not counted. School administration will work with students during these extreme situations.

Question: What does "ineligible" mean? Can I still attend practices if I am ineligible due to citizenship grades?

Answer: If a student is ineligible due to having more than three failed citizenship grades, he/she can still go to practice, but they will not be allowed to compete or travel with the team/club/group representing DHS. The student will also not be allowed to participate in the DHS graduation ceremony.

Question: Can a student still get a high school diploma if they are ineligible due to citizenship grades?

Answer: Yes, the student will still receive their diploma but they will not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony.

Question: What is a youth court, and is it part of the criminal justice system?

Answer: A youth court is a diversion program set up to keep students (18 and younger) out of the criminal justice system. Attendance in youth court will not be recorded in a person's criminal record. Youth court is meant to be an intervention step before a juvenile is sent to the criminal justice system. The youth court is made up of students 18 years of age and younger who are trained to handle court proceedings and hand out sentencing options to offenders.

Question: If a student has 5 absences and 3 tardies in a class during 1st quarter will these absences/tardies count for 2nd, 3rd, and 4th quarter too?

Answer: No, the absences and tardies will be reset back to zero at the beginning of each quarter. So, if a student has 5 absences in a class at the end of 1st quarter the count will reset and go back to zero at the beginning of each new quarter.

Question: If a student knows before the end of the quarter that they have failed the citizenship grade for a class can they choose to attend youth court and get that credit restored before the end of the quarter?

Answer: Yes, a student may attend youth court before the end of the quarter to make restitution for that failed citizenship grade and have their grade restored to a pass. This would be a great option for students who would face ineligibility due to having more than three failed citizenship grades. They could restore that citizenship grade before ineligibility started.

Question: Does a student have to attend youth court?

Answer: No, attendance in youth court is not required. Youth court is a voluntary option for students who want to redeem their citizenship grade and restore it to a "pass".

Question: If a student fails a citizenship grade for a class as a freshman (9th grade) will that still count as the student progresses into their sophomore, junior, and senior years?

Answer: Yes, in determining eligibility the citizenship grades are cumulative, meaning that they will be counted from each year in a student's high school career. For example, if a student earned one failing citizenship grade as a freshman, and one as a sophomore, and one as a junior that would be a total of three failed citizenship grades. If this student failed one more citizenship grade as a senior that would be a total of four failed citizenship grades and ineligibility would start unless that student chose to attend youth court and make restitution for that failed citizenship grade.

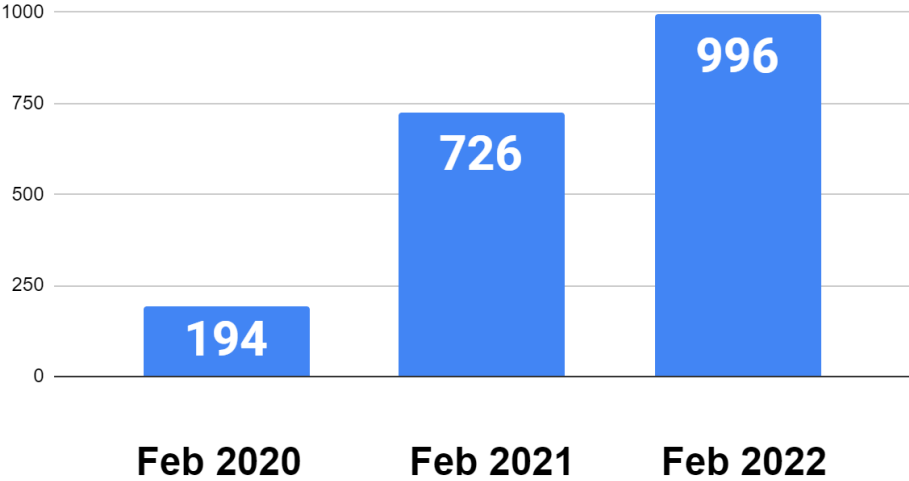
Question: Does "eligibility" only matter for athletes?

Answer: No, it matters for all students at DHS. Students must be eligible to participate in any school activities, groups, clubs, where students represent DHS in any way, including the graduation ceremony.

Question: Why start a new attendance policy?

Answer: We want to do everything we can to encourage students to be in class and to get to class on time. Student learning is directly related to school attendance. Here is the attendance data for unexcused absences and tardies during the month of February for the previous three years:

Total Unexcused Absences: Feb 2020, 21, 22



Tardies for: Feb 2020, 21, 22

