7th Grade Team

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Welcome to 7th Grade at YPA! We are very excited to be working with you!! Please review the following information on 7th grade procedures, policies, and expectations. We do set very high expectations for our students, and we will do our best to help you be successful. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email us. We are looking forward to a great year!!

**Classroom Syllabus**

On Monday, students will receive a syllabus for each of our classes. We will review the syllabus in class and ask that students and parents review the syllabi together at home. Please then complete the Student/Family Form and have your student return the form to his or her Homeroom teacher by Friday, August 19.

**ParentPortal and eChalk**

Class information, assignments, events, and homework will be posted on eChalk. To access the page for your student’s class, visit the York Prep website – [www.yorkprepsc.org](http://www.yorkprepsc.org). Select “Patriot Resources” and then “Faculty and Staff Directory.” Search for and select the teacher’s name and then your student’s class. Assignments and grades will be posted weekly on Parent Portal. Instructions for accessing Parent Portal will be sent home within the first few weeks of school. We expect parents to regularly check both eChalk and ParentPortal in order to stay informed on their student’s classroom performance and activities.

**Student Handbook**

The Student Handbook is available on the school’s website. Please review the handbook at home with your student. The Student Handbook covers important rules and expectations, including policies on behavior, attendance, and dress code. Being unaware of the rules and expectations is not an excuse.

**Absences and Tardies**

The Student Handbook further addresses policies regarding absences and tardies. As a team, we want our students and parents to realize the importance of attendance and the role it plays in the academic success of each student. School starts at 8am; therefore, students should be on campus, prepared for class, and in their homeroom before 8am. If a student must miss school, it is the student’s responsibility to meet with his or her teachers for missed information and make-up work.

**Being Prepared**

In addition to being present in class, students need to come to school prepared each day. Every day, students should have their textbooks, notebook, paper, pencils, and pens, in addition to specific materials discussed by individual teachers. Coming to school unprepared will hinder a student’s ability to learn, and repeated unpreparedness will result in consequences.

To be prepared for school, students should also be getting enough sleep, nutritional food, and water. Please do NOT send your student to school with sugary or caffeinated beverages. Students should plan to bring water in a closable container to drink during class.

**Homework and Reading**

Each class will review specific homework policies. 7th grade YPA students should expect an average of one hour of homework per night. Homework is an important tool for reinforcing and practicing learned skills and concepts, as well as developing strong study habits. Students will receive consequences for repeated refusal to complete or turn in homework. We encourage parents to stay engaged with their student’s homework – ask questions, review their work, ask them to demonstrate a problem.

Reading is another important factor in your student’s education. Research regularly shows that reading at home improves a student’s skills in reading, vocabulary, and writing, in addition to raising test scores in all subject areas. Students should be reading at least 15-20 minutes a day. Help keep your student engaged by asking them about what they are reading:

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| * What did you notice?
* Were there any tricky parts? How did you get through them?
* Does this book remind you of anything?
* What have you been wondering as you read?
* Does this book make you think of anything else you’ve read?
 | * What was your favorite part? Why?
* Was there a part of the book that surprised you? Why?
* Why do you think the author wrote this book?
* What are you going to read next? How did you decide?
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**Lockers**

Students who did not receive their locker assignment during Open House will receive their locker within the first week of school. Students are not allowed to change or swap lockers and must have a regular-size combination lock for their locker.

Students will be allowed to visit their lockers before school, before and after lunch, and after 6th period. Students should plan to retrieve their materials for their first three classes before Homeroom and their last three classes after lunch.

**Electronics and Communication**

The Student Handbook further addresses the school’s cellphone and electronics policy. Students should expect to turn off their cellphone before arriving at school and place it either in their locker or book bag. Students are not allowed to use cellphones on campus during school hours for personal use. If a parent needs to communicate with a student, the parent should call the Middle School Front Office, 803-324-4400 x 3100. Please do NOT attempt to call or text your student directly.

**Behavior**

We set very high expectations for student behavior at YPA. Students will not be allowed to disrupt class and prevent other students from learning. Additionally, we will expect students to treat their teachers, fellow students, and our campus with respect.

**Additional Included Information**

* Profile of a SC Graduate – All students in SC will be working towards these goals.
* Movie Permission Form – Please review, sign, and return to Homeroom Teacher.
* Student/Family Form – Please complete and return to Homeroom Teacher after reviewing class syllabi.
* White Enrollment Card – Please complete and return to Homeroom Teacher by Friday, August 19.
* Yellow Nurse Card – Please complete and return to Homeroom Teacher by Friday, August 19.
* Car Rider Tag – If your student is a car rider, please take one for each vehicle used to pick up your student. Cars without a current YPA tag will be asked to park and pick up students at the front office.