

HAMPDEN CHARTER SCHOOL OF SCIENCE

Hampden Charter School of Science
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Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students:

As Hampden Charter School of Science (HCSS) continues to strive for excellence for all students, we know that parents, guardians, and students are our most valuable partners. Maintaining good attendance and meeting course expectations are crucial factors for a student's academic success at HCSS.

Many integral learning activities, such as class discussions, group experiences, labs, and direct instruction, cannot be simulated or replicated with written work. Therefore, with the goal of promoting student achievement and increasing the likelihood of success, Hampden Charter School of Science has updated two of our policies, the Denial of Credit/Grade Retention and Homework policies. These policies will be in effect starting Quarter 3 - Monday, January 30, 2017.

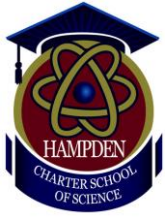
I. MIDDLE SCHOOL

A. Denial of Credit/Grade Retention - Due to Absenteeism

- Any student having 20% or higher absenteeism (excused or unexcused) in a School Quarter in a Core Course is required to show proficiency on the Quarter Final Assessment / HCSS Proficiency Test. The student's final grade for that School Quarter in that Core Course will be the Quarter Final score, the maximum grade being 80 (B-).
- Any student having 20% or higher absenteeism (excused or unexcused) in a School Year in a Core Course shall earn *no credit* for the course.
- Any student who reaches ten (10) unexcused absences in a School Year will not be promoted to the next grade level.

B. Denial of Credit/Grade Retention - Due to Academic Performance

- The middle school student who fails a Core Course for the School Year is required to take a Proficiency Test to be administered prior to the start of the upcoming school year.
- The student's final grade-of-record for the course will be equal to the average of the exact numerical course grade and the Proficiency Test score. *For example, a student who earns 30% for a Core Course grade will need to earn 100% on the Proficiency Test to achieve 65%, a passing grade for the course.*
- If the resulting grade is below 65%, the student will have failed the Core Course and will be required to repeat the Grade in the upcoming school year.



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II. HIGH SCHOOL

A. Denial of Credit/Grade Retention - Due to Absenteeism

- Any student having 20% or higher absenteeism (excused or unexcused) in a School Quarter in a Core Course is required to show proficiency on the Quarter Final Assessment / HCSS Proficiency Test. The student's final grade for that School Quarter in that Core Course will be the Quarter Final score, the maximum grade being 80 (B-).
- Any student having 20% or higher absenteeism (excused or unexcused) in a School Year in a Core Course shall earn *no credit* for the course.
- Any student who reaches ten (10) unexcused absences in a School Year will not be promoted to the next grade level.

B. Denial of Credit/Grade Retention - Due to Academic Performance

- The high school student who fails a Core Course for the School Year is required to take a Proficiency Test, to be administered prior to the start of the upcoming school year.
- The student's final grade-of-record for the course will be equal to the average of the exact numerical course grade and the Proficiency Test score. *For example, a student who earns 30% for a Core Course grade will need to earn 100% on the Proficiency Test to achieve 65%, a passing grade for the course.*
- If the resulting grade is below 65%, the student will have failed the Core Course *and* will be required to retake the Core Course.

Note:

1. *Measuring the Proficiency Level for students who have a verified medical condition with a Physician's Statement for Temporary Home or Hospital Education will be at the Director's discretion.*
2. *Although HCSS highly recommends that a student attend summer school for any failed Core Course(s) prior to taking the Proficiency Test, the student receives no HCSS credit for summer school attendance.*