



**CHICAGO
ACADEMY
HIGH SCHOOL**

3400 N AUSTIN AVE, CHICAGO, IL 60634 | T: 773-534-0146 | F: 773-534-0192 | CAHS.AUSLCHICAGO.ORG

Hello, CAHS families!

I hope this message finds everyone well, and that your child has had a terrific start to the 2018-19 school year! We believe the first few weeks of school have been a huge success. Below are some updates for the month of October. Please review and reach out to the school if you have any questions. We look forward to an incredible school year!

Early Dismissals

We have had a number of early dismissals already this school year. Early dismissals are for emergency situations only. Students should NOT be pulled from school to attend doctor or dentist appointments. Please make those appointments for after school, the weekends, or during school breaks. Early dismissals for these reasons are NOT excused absences. They will also impact students' overall attendance rates and could disqualify students from participating in school events and activities. (See below.)

Ripped Jeans Policy

As most of you heard, CAHS has adopted a "no ripped jeans" policy for the 2018-19 school year. This decision was made for a few reasons. First, school is the most professional setting most young people will attend, and we believe it is part of our role to educate young people on appropriate attire for various settings. Code switching is an important aspect of being successful in one's professional life. Second, many of the jeans students were wearing had rips in very inappropriate places making them unacceptable for school. Allowing some ripped jeans and not others would be extremely challenging for our school to monitor and would open the door for "unfairness". We have heard your feedback on wanting more notice of this policy, and in the future, we will be sure we communicate any policy changes of this nature with ample time to prepare for the change.



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Requirements for School Events

An important part of high school life is participating in school events and activities. We are fortunate to be able to offer many exciting student events throughout the school year. We are adding minimum requirements for participation in these events this year. The vast majority of students already meet these expectations. We hope to motivate those who are not yet meeting these minimum requirements, and parental support is always important. Students must meet the following requirements in order to participate in school events and activities:

1. 90% attendance or better
2. Bs or better: no Fs in any course, graduation requirement or otherwise
3. Minimal Referrals: no level 3 or higher Student Code of Conduct violations

Progress Report Grades

Progress report grades will be submitted on Friday, September 28th. Progress reports will be mailed out to families the week of October 1st. Parents can also check student grades on Parent Portal in Impact after 4PM on Friday the 28th. Please call the main office if you do not receive your student's progress report by Monday, October 8th.

Homecoming 2018

The students have spoken and they have voted to move homecoming from the first week in October to October 15th-20th. Spirit Week will run from Monday, October 15th through Friday, October 19th. Our football team will face Harper High School at 4:30 PM on Friday, October 19th, and our annual Homecoming Dance will occur on Saturday, October 20th from 6-10 PM.

If you are interested in supporting at the football game on Friday evening, please call the school and ask for Ms. DeLuna. We could use a few parent volunteers!

CPS policy states that if a student is NOT in attendance during the school day, he/she cannot participate in events or activities after school hours. Therefore, if your child is not in attendance on Friday, October 19th, he/she is not eligible to attend the pep rally, football game or



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homecoming dance. This policy applies to early dismissals as well; early dismissal disqualify students from participation in homecoming festivities.

Fall PSAT Testing

Fall PSAT testing will occur on Wednesday, October 10th and Thursday, October 11th. Attendance is MANDATORY for PSAT testing. Because PSAT testing is such an important aspect of preparing students for life after high school, if your child is not in attendance, he/she will not be eligible to attend the homecoming dance. This policy applies to 12th grade students as well. Seniors will have the opportunity to "Choose Your Own Adventure" and they will tackle various senior to do list items and school-wide initiatives. We sincerely thank you in advance for your support in ensuring every child sits for the fall PSAT.

Off-Campus Lunch Privileges for 11th & 12th Graders

Off-campus lunch privileges have started for 11th and 12th graders who have earned it. Students received the privilege if they had 90%+ attendance, minimal referrals, and a returned and confirmed parental consent form. Check your student's ID for the big blue sticker to see if they have earned the privilege. As a reminder, if your student is late to school, he/she loses the off-campus privilege for the day. If he/she is late returning from lunch, he/she loses the privilege for two weeks. If you have questions or concerns, reach out to Dean Striegel or Assistant Dean Tate.

Thank you, and enjoy the school year!

Ms. Ryan