

Memorandum

ATTACHMENT TO POLICY IHCA

To: Armand LaSelva
CC: High School Administrators and Guidance Counselors
From: Eric D. Ely
Date: 9/9/2015
Re: Summer School Thoughts

School Board Policy IHCA was adopted on June 9, 2003 and requires attendance at summer school for any freshman that fails English or Social Studies, with English being the priority. This begs the question, “what do we do if they don’t attend summer school?”

I believe there are a myriad of reasons why a student may not be able to attend summer school. For example, if there is a custodial order which requires the student to reside with an estranged parent out of town during the summer, or a student’s parents are taking a family vacation during the summer school time frame. These two situations are undoubtedly going to occur and there are probably a hundred practical, and acceptable reasons why summer school will not be an option for these students. I have no magic answer for finding a way to making mandatory summer school work. However, I believe the board policy is clear that our responsibility is to work with the parents and the students to identify strategies and formulate a plan to help the student catch up and complete high school in four years.

We will be taking several steps to insure that this policy is enforced as directed by the school board.

1. We will notify students and their parents no later than May 15th each year that failure is a possibility and summer school is required for their child.
2. Guidance counselors will meet with the parents and child to formulate a plan to recover the failed credits and make full use of the following available options:
 - a. Plato Learning Credit Recovery Program
 - b. Virtual High School
 - c. Dover Adult Learning
 - d. Creative Student Scheduling in subsequent years.
3. Guidance counselors will monitor the students more closely in subsequent years and revisit the student’s plan as appropriate.