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Zeroes Aren't Permitted

Zeros Aren't Permitted (ZAP) is an initiative designed to increase expectations of students who habitually, or occasionally, fail to complete and turn in assignments on time. Students who have zeros are likely to continue not handing in assignments, and therefore are at greater risk of failure and dropping out. ZAP, which involves the entire staff, clearly emphasizes the belief that assignments/projects/homework are important and must be completed. This initiative will direct students to use their abilities to acquire self-discipline and establish work-habits that will serve them in an educational or work setting.

When the belief is expressed and maintained that a student can and will be successful, in most cases the student will meet the level of expectations. He/she will take pride in completing an assignment and doing it to the best of his/her ability. Students usually adopt the same value, which translates to success in all areas. We realize that for many students a zero is not an immediate consequence since most students who repeatedly receive zeros are students who are struggling in school anyway. This is just one more strategy to help a child experience more success in school. Preparing a student for high school and for life requires teachers to ensure each child knows the curriculum, and if he/she is not completing assignments a teacher cannot possibly provide an accurate measure of that student's knowledge.

The ZAP program is not a form of punishment rather an initiative to send a message that failure is not acceptable. For this initiative to be effective all staff must adopt the following policy: assignments must be completed in a timely manner. Failure to do so will result in a student being assigned a lunch session because "Zeroes Aren't Permitted" (ZAP).

ZAP is not, however, meant to take the place of our make-up policy. If a student has an unexcused absence, they will still be expected to make-up any work missed upon their return to school.

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Main Objectives:

- Improved academic performance by students
- Increased sense of responsibility for academic success
- Development of better study habits and higher quality work
- Increased communication between school and home

How this will be done:

- Provide students a "second chance" to turn in their work
- Provide a supervised study time during lunch/recess
- Not allow students to "do nothing"
- Placing a higher expectation on student success

How the program works:

Before ZAP: Student fails to turn in or complete an assignment, project, or homework on time. "On time" means the assignment is submitted on the day and period it is due. The teacher will notify the student that he or she must complete the assignment during ZAP time the following day. The teacher will fill out the ZAP form on the school webpage. This is a Google doc form and will be sent automatically to the duty teacher for ZAP. The student should be told what materials to bring to ZAP. If the student requires a laptop, test, or other item that cannot be transported by the student, you can send the item(s) directly to the ZAP duty teacher.

After ZAP: The teacher will review the assignment for completeness and quality of work. If a student fails to complete an assignment he/she will remain in ZAP until the assignment has been completed.

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ZAP (Zeros Aren't Permitted) ZAP is a program where students are given extra time to finish homework or assignments they did not complete and turn in to their teacher. The goal is for all students to build the habit of completing and turning in homework and all assignments everyday. ZAP is a school-wide intervention that allows the school to track student success.

When the belief is expressed and maintained that a student **can** and **will** be successful, that student must meet the level of expectations. He/she will take pride in completing an assignment and doing it to the best of his/her ability. This value will translate to success in all areas. We realize that for many students a zero is not an immediate consequence since most students who repeatedly receive zeros are students who are struggling in school anyway. This is just one more strategy to help a child experience more success in school. Preparing a student for high school and for life requires teachers to ensure each child knows the curriculum, and if he/she is not completing assignments a teacher cannot possibly provide an accurate measure of that student's knowledge.

For this program to be effective, **all staff** must adopt the following policy: *"All assignments must be completed in a timely manner. Failure to do so will result in the student being assigned to ZAP because Zeros Aren't Permitted."*

THE STUDENT who does not complete work as assigned receives ZAP from a school administrator or the Dean of Students...

1. The student informs their parent or guardian that he/she has been "ZAP"ed and will have ZAP time during lunch the next day. It will also be noted in Jupiter or the ZAP calendar.
2. The student has an opportunity to complete the assignment that evening.
3. If the student has completed the ZAP! assignment at home that evening, he/she can hand in the assignment in to the teacher and does not have to serve their ZAP time during lunch that day (the teacher must verify).
4. If the student has not completed their assignment at home, he/she still will be required to serve the ZAP time during lunch.
5. During lunch, the student goes to the front of the lunch line, picks up their lunch and reports immediately to the ZAP area.
6. Once the student has reported to the ZAP area the student will not be allowed to go to another classroom, outside, etc. to get their work.
7. The student works on the assignment that has not been turned in while eating lunch. All work completed in ZAP is turned in to the appropriate teacher.

8. If the student finishes the assignment, the ZAP supervisor checks for completion and crosses the student's name off of the list; no further action is required by the student.
9. If the student does not finish, the student will return to ZAP the following day and each subsequent day until the assignment has been completed (a ZAP administrator may contact the student's parent/guardian).
10. If a student is present at school and misses ZAP, he/she will receive a disciplinary referral.
11. If a student is absent the day that he/she is supposed to have ZAP, the student will be expected to complete the time when he/she returns to school.

THE **ZAP SUPERVISOR** ...

1. Compiles the list of "ZAP"ed students for each lunch from Jupiter (grades).
2. Will monitor the need for assigning additional days for students who do not finish.
3. Will compile a list of students who do not show up so they can receive a call home and a disciplinary referral.
4. Will call parents as needed and follow-up checking student grades in Jupiter.
5. Will provide reports to the administration monthly about the ZAP program during Leadership Team meeting.