

September 18, 2012

Dear parent s and students,

As previously discussed at our Parent Curriculum Night on September 13, lateness has become an issue among certain students here at Menihek. At that meeting, we indicated that we would be looking into possibilities to attempt to address the problem.

Lateness and absenteeism causing a loss of time in class are shown by research to be associated with lowered academic performance. Multiple students being late also is a disruption to teachers and students who have started class on time.

Therefore, we have implemented on a trial basis the following policy, which was explained to all students on Friday, September 14. *If a student arrives at school late first period in the morning, after recess or first period after lunch, unable to give a valid reason for his or her lateness, s/he will not be permitted to enter that class. They will attend supervised study hall for the remainder of that period, and are responsible for the work missed in their class. If there are students who continue to be late after a reasonable period of time, other consequences will be put into place for these students. Valid reasons include such things as doctor's appointments; reasons that are not valid include such things as went home for lunch and had to walk back, my ride was late, had to wait for a friend, and went out for lunch and the service was slow. This is the case even if parents are aware of their son's or daughter's lateness.*

We appreciate your cooperation as we attempt to make students responsible for their behavior and ensure that students spend the maximum time in class.

Sincerely

*Ramona Roseworthy, Principal*

