

August 19, 2011

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope this letter finds you in good health and that the summer has been a restful one for you and your family. As always, over the summer, School Administrators are able to schedule for next year and finalize changes in practice and procedures that will help us to improve our school.

The practices that we will continue in September are intended to help every student to be more successful in school. It is important that we create an environment that is welcoming, respectful and provides the best atmosphere for learning. We ask, therefore, that all students and adults in the building know and support the following practices and procedures:

- ❖ **Punctuality:** Getting to school and classes on time is a prerequisite for doing well in school. Students are expected to make every effort to be punctual and attend all classes. As in the past, tardiness, cuts and absences will be verified and communicated by computerized phone calls to your home twice a day. Periodically, a summary of all absences and latenesses will be mailed home. In addition, An attendance committee, chaired by Mr. Noce will meet weekly to address excessive absences and support students and families. **Please remember that student participation in class is a significant part of every grade and that tardiness, cuts, and unexcused absences will influence students' final grades.**
- ❖ **Wearing of ID Cards:** Students and faculty are **required** to wear their ID during the school day. We are confident that this practice will improve safety and increase communication between staff members and students that they do not normally work with. More information will be shared regarding procedures and consequences related to the misplacement or loss of IDs. In addition, as per the enclosed letter from Mr. Grackin, students will also need to use their IDs on the lunch line.
- ❖ **Electronic Devices:** The learning environment needs to remain free of distractions. Because personal use of electronic devices interfere with the learning environment, we will continue to ban them between the hours of 7:25 a.m. and 2:25 p.m. All electronic devices and cell phones must be left home or stored securely in back packs or pocketbooks and must be off during school hours. If any such devices are **shown or used** during the school day, they will be taken from students, labeled and made ready for pick up at the end of the day (first infraction). After an electronic device has been taken away three times, the parent or guardian will be asked to come to the school to pick up the device.

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- ❖ **Dress Code:** All students are expected to give proper attention to personal cleanliness and to dress appropriately for school and school functions. Students and their parents have a primary responsibility for acceptable student dress and appearance. Students who violate the student dress code shall be required to change their attire. Boys can not wear shorts or pants with low waists that expose undergarments. Belts should be worn to hold up large pants or jeans. The hem of girls' shorts or dresses should be no shorter than 3 inches above their knees. Halter tops, spaghetti straps, tube tops, plunging necklines or see through clothing cannot be worn in school at any time. Clothing that is vulgar, obscene, and libelous or denigrates others will not be allowed to be worn nor is any combination of clothing and/or items that law enforcement agencies currently consider gang related.

We believe that if we make the above areas a priority, we will maintain the kind of environment at Huntington High School that you as parents value and require in your own homes. Help us by discussing the above with your son/daughter and providing us with feedback on how we can continue to improve our school.

Please mark your calendars for the following events and review the attached list of important reminders:

Freshmen Orientation	Thursday	September 1st	9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m. Freshman Picnic
Meet the Teacher Night	Thursday	September 22 nd	7:00 p.m.
HHS Homecoming Weekend		October 21 st and October 22 nd	
Friday,	October 21st	6:00 p.m. to 12:00 Midnight - Float Building	
Saturday	October 22 nd	12:00 Noon	Homecoming Parade
		2:00 p.m	Football Game - vs Islip
		8:00 p.m. to 12:00 Midnight	-- Homecoming Dance
Meet the Counselors – Grade 9		October 5 th	7:00 p.m.

I hope that you enjoy the remaining days of summer. I look forward to seeing you soon.

Sincerely,

Carmela Leonardi, Ph.D.
Principal