



KENMORE MIDDLE SCHOOL

“NEW YORK STATE SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE”

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Miss Elaine M. Thomas, Principal

OR HIGHER!

Strive for 85!

January 29, 2016

Dear Parents and Guardians:

We are halfway through our academic year, and students are working hard daily at achieving our building-wide goal of 85% or higher in all classes! First quarter grades showed 67% of our students had a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 85% or higher. We aimed for 75% of students reaching a GPA of 85% or higher for second quarter, which officially ends today.

After reviewing current student achievement data, we have decided to enhance our support structures for students by reconfiguring our Academic Support period (9th period daily, 2:58-3:29 PM), as well as after-school support time, 3:30-4:00 PM. Teachers and Counselors looked closely at individual student performance and areas of need, and have re-organized themselves and students to provide a greater level of academic support daily. This means your child may be assigned to a different teacher(s) or room for Academic Support.

Students who work with Mrs. Conde, Miss George, Miss Pielich, Mrs. Struckmann, Ms. Tocke, and Miss Lewis during Academic Support will continue in those rooms with those teachers during 9th period. Most other students will be re-assigned in order to receive a level of support that best suits their individual needs, and students with the highest need may be assigned to an area with multiple teachers present to provide an intensive level of support. *All students* will still have opportunities to visit our library or a particular teacher during Academic Support by obtaining a pass from the library or teacher *ahead of time*.

We will continue to encourage and expect that students who have not yet reached at least proficiency (70%) in a core class will stay until 4:00 PM on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays for extended academic support, and a late bus is available at 4:00 PM for bus riders on those three days. Parents, please encourage your students to take advantage of the extended support time by staying after school with their teachers!

We had an assembly on January 15th during which we explored Growth Mindset and reminded students about our academic goals as a school. Presentation and other resource links on Growth Mindset follow: (electronic version may be found on our KMS home page)

<https://docs.google.com/a/ktufsd.org/presentation/d/1bQuPlAn-VzRw8n4yvv1J1Xg-KGO5io3knxMpcTaTUzc/edit?usp=sharing>

<http://mindsetonline.com/changeyourmindset/firststeps/index.html>

http://community.mindsetworks.com/my-mindset?quiz_id=8&force=1

Thank you for your ongoing support of Kenmore Middle School, and our updated plan for Academic Support period. You are a valued partner in your child's education, and we appreciate your trust in our plan for increased academic support for our students.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to notify your child's grade-level counselor:

Counseling Office Staff

Mrs. Ann Milazzo, Secretary (Ext. 32520)

Mrs. Cindy Backlund, Counselor, Grade 7 (Ext. 32509)

Mrs. Amie Zimmer, Counselor, Grade 8 (Ext. 32522)

We look forward to sharing our Quarter 2, 3 and 4 student achievement results with you!

Sincerely,

Miss Elaine M. Thomas

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Principal