



Newton North High School

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NEWTONVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS 02460

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Dear students and families of the class of 2022,

I hope your summer is going well!

I look forward to the start of our new year together. As you navigate the new challenges of your sophomore year at Newton North, we will support you academically, socially and emotionally.

Sophomore year brings the potential for increased freedom and responsibility. At the start of the second semester, tenth graders in good academic and behavioral standing will be eligible to earn open campus privileges. These privileges give students more choices for how to use their study hall blocks. Instead of being placed into study halls, sophomores *with open campus privileges* may go to the library, the cafeteria, or may leave the building.

To earn open campus privileges, a student must meet the criteria:

- Earn grades of C- or higher in all courses
- Have no attendance grades of N (including homeroom)
- Have no grades of I (incomplete)
- Be enrolled in a minimum of 24 blocks of structured learning time
- Be approved for open campus by the Dean

Students who are **not eligible** for open campus privileges must attend their assigned study hall(s).

Students who are not eligible after second term, but improve their grades term 3 may earn open campus for term 4. Parents/guardians may choose to deny open campus privileges for a student, if they contact the Dean and make that request.

On a different topic, please note: There will be one change to school policy regarding excused absences. In order for an absence from one block in the middle of the school day to be excused, families must provide proper documentation (i.e., from a health provider). We have seen an increased pattern the last few years when students felt unprepared for a test or wanted to work on assignments for other classes and have asked their parents/guardians to excuse them from school. The school does not consider those legitimate reasons to be excused from school. When students are dismissed from school, the expectation is that they have left the building. If students are seen in the building during a period when they have been excused from school, their absence will be considered unexcused. Thank you for your understanding.

We believe communication between families and school is essential, so please contact Ms. Castellano or me with questions or concerns. We look forward to welcoming you back to school on September 3rd! Enjoy the rest of your summer!

Sincerely,

Michelle Stauss