



Date: Wednesday, 08.09.2022

Dear Families of Great Oaks High School,

We truly hope that you are having a wonderful summer and that you are excited for the upcoming year. We know that coming out of a two year disruption of the educational process has had a major impact on our student population. One of our main goals as a community is a recommitment to the value of excellence. In order for us to ensure we are preparing all of our students for a college and career of their choice, we need to exceed expectations for attendance and academic performance and continue to build Great Oaks into a positive learning community. Our main priorities this year are:

1. **Attendance:** There are no more days off. The expectation is that we are in school everyday. Academic success is contingent upon students being in class and taking advantage of all of the supports available at Great Oaks. The goal is for all of our students to miss no more than 6 days a Trimester, and no more than 18 days for the year. Missing more than 6 days in a Trimester could lead to a loss of credit, and put you off track towards meeting necessary graduation requirements.
2. **Climate and Community:** Through a restorative approach and a focus on progressive discipline, we want to ensure that all students are contributing to a positive, safe, and compassionate learning community. A community where students hold themselves accountable to excellence, while learning to develop their emotional intelligence, their self awareness, how they self-manage, their social awareness, and how they manage their relationships. School culture has a profound impact on student's academic progress and their relationships with peers and adults.
3. **Academic Support:** We recognize that there has been serious learning loss with the COVID-19 pandemic and we are building in multiple supports to ensure that all students have the skills to succeed at a 4 -year university. Menu of academic supports available:
 - a. Embedded academic intervention with Specialists and AmeriCorps Fellows
 - b. Bridge Classes
 - c. 24/7 tutoring through our new partners *Paper*
 - d. Incentive Based Study Hall
 - e. After-School Tutoring with AmeriCorps Fellows
 - f. After-After School Academic Support

As part of our plan to improve family communication in the 2022-2023 school year we offer some tips on how you can keep informed:

1. Please make sure you are regularly checking our website, <https://bridgeport.greatoakscharter.org/>, our Facebook page, <https://m.facebook.com/GreatOaksCharterBridgeport/>, or our Instagram, @greatoakscharterbpt, for updates regarding all school information and for important documents and updates.



2. Log into PowerSchool and Schoology in order to have up to date information on your student's attendance, academic performance, schedule and all upcoming coursework and course information.
3. Please make sure that the school has your up to date address, email, and phone number or update if necessary.

There are also some key changes as we reopen for the 2022 - 2023 school year:

1. Launching High School Academy in partnership with Post University.
2. Tuesdays will have an optional lunch from 12:00 - 12:30 pm. Students that want to eat lunch can stay and students that do not will dismiss at 12:00 pm.
3. Students are expected to prioritize school over employment as we return to school full-time. We cannot adjust school schedules or attendance to fit work schedules.
4. Transitioning back from the pandemic, dress code will be in effect when we return. Please review dress code guidelines that are attached with this letter. Tuesday and Friday will be dress down days for students.
5. School hours will be 7:25 am arrival to 2:40 pm dismissal. We will offer an incentive based Study Hall last period. Students who are not completing work or are failing classes will be required to stay in study hall from 2:45 - 3:30 pm until work is completed and they are in good academic standing.

We are very excited to welcome back all of our students for the upcoming school year. Our hope is that we all have a safe, memorable, and full school year! Remember, if you need any support logging into PowerSchool, Schoology or need to update your contact information, please reach out to Ms. Romero, cromero@greatoakscharter.org, and Mrs. Charles, acharles@greatoakscharter.org. For any questions or updates you can always contact the main office at 203-870-8188. Of course, if you ever have any concerns or questions please feel free to email me at cpellegrino@greatoakscharter.org.

Respectfully,

Christopher Pellegrino

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High School Principal

Great Oaks Charter School Bridgeport

Approved by: John Scalice, Executive Director