SPARTA HIGH SCHOOL

Home of the Spartans

September 16th, 2016

* **KCTC 1st Session Students**: Due to the significant amount of lost instructional time during 3rd period at Sparta High School, ***starting on Monday, September 19th, our 1st session KCTC students will be dismissed from KCTC just before 9:00 am.***  Students are currently missing almost 30 minutes of 3rd period.  It is simply too much.  In our discussions with KCTC, we have learned that early dismissal happens with other area districts and will not negatively impact our students’ grades at KCTC.    In the model beginning on Monday, September 19th students will miss approximately 10 minutes at KCTC and 10-15 minutes of 3rd period at SHS.  We recognize that this model is not perfect, but we feel strongly that it is the best model given the variables with which we are dealing.
* **Academic Assembly:** Our academic assembly will be held on Wednesday, September 28th, 2016 at 10:30 am in the gymnasium. Students that earn an academic letter, or pin, if they maintain the following grade point averages (GPA):
  + - Sophomores: 3.90 GPA
    - Juniors: 3.75 GPA
    - Seniors: 3.60 GPA

Students that will be recognized in the assembly will be receiving a letter in the mail next week.

* **Attendance:** This following information was shared with us by the Kent Intermediate School district. What a strong and positive message about school attendance!

***Strive for Five! No More Than Five Absences a Year***

*Research reveals that students who miss ten percent (10%) of scheduled school days for* ***any*** *reason (chronically absent), have lower grades and are more likely to drop out than students with better attendance. That means that missing an average of only two days a month hurts learning, lowers grades, and decreases the chances of earning a high school diploma!*

***Building a Culture of Attendance: The Big Five***

1. ***Have regular bedtimes and routines.***

* *Extended vacations put students behind their peers.*

1. ***Attend unless truly sick.*** *Students should not miss school and should not be sent home unless one of the following is present:*

* *Repeated vomiting and/or severe diarrhea.*
* *Fever greater than 100 degrees F, or other acute flu-like symptoms.*
* *Unusual bleeding.*
* *Signs of severe pain, serious injury, or extreme medical conditions.*

1. ***Develop backup plans.***

* *Have a plan to get to school if a pick-up is missed or transportation fails. Neighbor families can help each other.*
* *A traditional alarm clock and a smart phone can both be used.*
* *Anticipate needs the night before school and not in the morning*

***Remember, school is like life, you must be present to win!***

**ENSURING SUCCESS FOR ALL SPARTANS!**