

The background is a dense, colorful mosaic of 3D squares and rectangles in various shades of blue, green, yellow, orange, and purple. A diagonal line splits the image from the top right to the bottom left, with the area above the line being a lighter, more vibrant green and yellow, and the area below being a darker, more muted blue and purple. The text is white and bold, positioned on the left side of the image.

GUIDING YOUR STUDENT TO SUCCESS IN CGS CORE CLASSES

2022-2023

THURGOOD
MARSHALL
FUNDAMENTAL
MIDDLE SCHOOL



ATTENDANCE



<https://tinyurl.com/tmsuccesstips>

INTRODUCTIONS

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TIPS FOR CORE CONTENT SUCCESS

PURPOSE OF MEETING

- **Provide parents with Success Tips for each teachers' class.**
 - **To help Middle School CGS students be successful in their content areas as demonstrated by As, Bs, and Cs on their report cards.**
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Where to Find Key Information:



Focus: gradebook program where teachers record grades



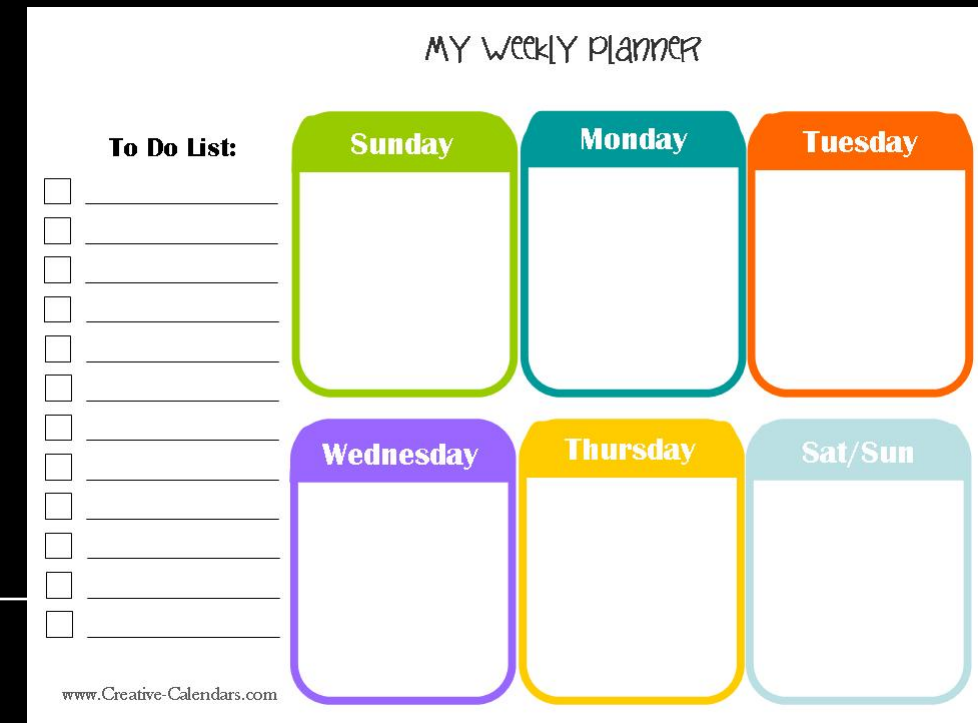
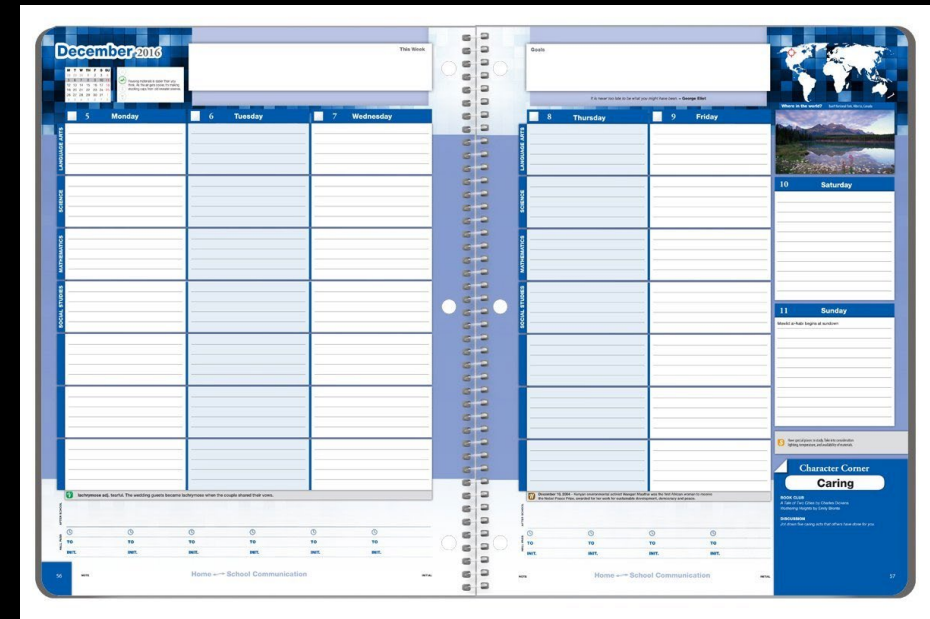
Canvas: teacher websites

Ways to Contact Teachers

- PCSB email
- Focus messenger
- Canvas messages

Planners/Calendar

- Students are NOT required to use a planner daily.
- It may be helpful if your student has a planner/calendar that is large enough to write in assignments for each class.



Best contact method: Email!
netzlert@pcsb.org

Focus: Assignments are entered on or near the assignment date.

All instructions for assignments are found on course OneNote page.

Canvas: Canvas is used to link to OneNote and for submission of digital assignments.

Homework Details:

Homework is assigned and due throughout the week. Paper assignments are due in class and digital assignments are due before 9am on the due date. Homework is posted on OneNote.

Tests/Quizzes:

There are no tests in my class. Quizzes to check reading comprehension during novel studies.

Organization	Absences	Motivation	Comprehension
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use a planner to keep track of assignments!• Check OneNote!	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All work is one our course OneNote page. Students should check OneNote and complete the work there when they are absent.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Choose topics for independent study that interest them!• Ask questions!	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use OneNote and other students as a resource!• Ask for help!

Best contact method: McDermott@pcsb.org

Focus: I use focus for grading, communication and attendance

Canvas: We are currently moving towards a digital based classroom, however, have not started using Canvas as of yet. When we do, I will notify parents and let them know.

Homework Details:

2 to 3 assignments a week. All assignments are due the following Monday. If students finish them beforehand and want to turn them in, they may.

Tests/Quizzes:

Tests are given at the end of every Unit and are announced a week prior. Quizzes and "Bell Quizzes " may or may not be announced and are given at random times throughout the unit to make sure content is being understood.

Organization	Absences	Motivation	Comprehension
Notes are taken in their Math Journal. Some notes are copied by student from teacher during lesson. Some may be printed glued in to the Journal.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">There are folders with prior assignments in them and IXL Codes are listed on the board.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Participate in class discussions and activitiesAsk questionsFind someone to study with	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Tutoring sessionsWatch class videosYouTube other videosVirtualNerd.comAccess remediation tools in online textbook.

Subject: U.S. History

Teacher: Maxwel Stone

Grade: 06

Best contact method: Email: Stonema@pcsb.org

Focus: Focus is used for all student grades and I have set it up by grade type: ISN, Assessments, Homework etc

Canvas: Absent work is posted every day in announcements, week at a glance used t outline work for the week, and homework

Homework Details:

Assigned every Monday, due every Monday, homework will mostly be on TCI, directions and parent signature sheet sent home every week.

Tests/Quizzes:

Tests/Quizzes: The midterm, final, and cycle assessments are completed through performance matters. Quizzes will be done through Canvas, tests are hard copies. I post all review work into canvas and students should use their notebooks.

Organization	Absences	Motivation	Comprehension
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Set-up your notebook in a way that makes sense to youUse the table of contents to stay organizedUse my notebook as a guideWork with your tablemates!	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Make-up work is posted in Canvas every day and I keep a hard copy of my own notebook that has a table of contents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Participate in class discussions –we have so many of them!Work with your tablemates you are a team!	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Always ask questions! I don't know what you don't know unless you tell meUse your guiding questions and graphic organizers

Subject: Science

Best contact method: Russoth@pcsb.org

Teacher: Mrs. Russo

Focus: Grades are updated weekly, usually 2 grades per week that are standards based on our essential question for the week.

Grade: 6th

Canvas: Canvas is used for weekly "To Do Lists" which lists the classwork and homework. Resources for these assignments are in each Module for our Units/Topics.

Homework Details:

Homework is assigned weekly. Assigned Monday due the following Monday. There is a weekly "To Do List" in Canvas Announcements. This "To Do List" is sent to parents/guardians weekly via email.

Tests/Quizzes:

Quizzes for each topic are every 2 weeks. The quiz day varies depending on students' formative assessments from class. Quizzes are in Canvas and in Performance Matters as directed by our school district. Resources to study are in Canvas and assigned through online games such as GimKit or Kahoot.

Organization	Absences	Motivation	Comprehension
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Organizational tips are as follows: Check Focus weekly and write assignments in planner that are posted in Announcements in the "To Do List".	<ul style="list-style-type: none">If absent, check the weekly "To Do List" and record in your planner. If you are not able to access assignments in Canvas, ask me in class.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Students are able to earn PBIS points through Clever to earn positive behavior points to purchase things in our school store and classroom store.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">If you are having a hard time understanding our essential questions for the topic, there are resources in Canvas under the Module and "Resources" tab. I am more than willing to sit down and help with understanding as well.

Subject: Math

Teacher: Ms. Greth

Grade: 6 & 7

Best contact method: Gretha@pcsb.org

Focus: All assignment and assessment grades are posted here. Grades are entered within 48 hours of the due date and late work is updated once a week by Sunday afternoon.

Canvas: Each day is posted in the Modules by day and date with all assignments posted (warm-up, classwork, and homework)

Homework Details:

Monday – IXL Skills Weekly Assignment

Tuesday-Friday – Daily paper-based work

Tests/Quizzes:

Tests are announced at least 2 days before the test, a review/study guide will be provided, retakes will be available for all tests with guidelines provided

Organization	Absences	Motivation	Comprehension
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Write neat and purposeful notes in math journalKeep all pages from the book and returned work in math folder	<ul style="list-style-type: none">When absent, check Canvas Module for that date to acquire missed notes, assignments, and announcementsTurn missed work in the next class period	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Extra Credit – earn points by reaching the Leader Board in IXL (top 10 most correctly answered questions) and working in ProdigyAll work receives full credit if turned in by unit test day	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Watch Khan Academy video on YouTubeAccess the book online through McGraw-Hill in clever and practice problems and watch videosAttend tutoring on Tuesdays from 4:15pm-5:15pm

Subject: Advanced Academics

Teacher: Susan King

Grade: 7th

Best contact method: Kingsus@pcsb.org

Focus: I check in work and put an M if it's missing. Check the comment section for more information.

Canvas: I put all work on Canvas prior to teaching each section. It's organized by date and subject. Look for PowerPoints, handouts and rubrics there.

Homework Details:

Homework is assigned once or twice a week and is posted on Canvas. It's also written on the white board in class. I do accept late work. I have a final deadline two weeks prior to the end of the quarter.

Tests/Quizzes:

Not applicable.

Organization	Absences	Motivation	Comprehension
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Check the Canvas calendar• Students should message me in Canvas if they have turned in late work or have questions• Students should keep work in a class folder for reference	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Please check Canvas because everything is available there• Students can message me in Canvas because some work may be excused	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sometimes I allow student choice when producing products so students can ask do complete some projects in mediums of their choice• Students can ask for help	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review the directions and materials in Canvas• Be sure to look at rubrics again and check for completion• Ask me clarifying questions if you don't understand

Best contact method: Email:
JonesDono@PCSB.Org
Messages on FOCUS
Messages on Canvas

Focus: I utilize FOCUS as the primary way to house grades for your scholar. I update FOCUS every two days.

Canvas: I utilize Canvas to house most of your scholar's work. They can find what they missed on Canvas as well as homework directions are located on Canvas.

Homework Details:

Homework is assigned on Mondays and is due the Sunday after at 11:59 PM. It is posted on the daily agenda slide provided each day in the class. Late work is accepted up until the unit test.

Tests/Quizzes:

Test are posted on the daily agenda slide beginning two weeks before the test. Students are provided with a study guide with the common terms and ideas of the unit a week before the test. Students also have their notebooks as a study material.

Organization	Absences	Motivation	Comprehension
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Make sure to bring your notebook everyday so that you stay current.• Make sure that you have a designated place for work that is not complete in class so that it is not lost.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If you are absent, please make sure to check Canvas.• If you miss a test, I will provide you with an opportunity to make it up.• If you are excessively absent, we will work together to ensure your scholar gets caught up on work.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The best way to stay motivated in my classroom is to participate. We do a lot of hands-on activities and discussions. So as long as your scholar is participating, they should be motivated to keep going.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If your scholar is struggling to comprehend or retain the information, make sure to contact me.• I can set up time to discuss concepts they may be struggling with.• Students are also provided with readings to support them.

Subject: Language Arts

Teacher: Pink

Grade: 7th

Best contact method: pinkj@pcsb.org

Focus: Grades are posted here as are messages about missing work and deadlines for missing work.

Canvas: All assignments are posted here. They are arranged by the "Week of ..." Announcements are also here.

Homework Details:

Homework, which is posted on Canvas, is given at the beginning of the week and is due at the end of the week.

Tests/Quizzes:

Stems quizzes are usually 10 days after students compile their list. Gimkits are on Canvas to be used as study aids. Reading quizzes are given at different times during the reading.

Organization	Absences	Motivation	Comprehension
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Keep current text, annotations, notes and graphic organizers in your ELA folder.Follow the agenda posted on the smartboard and the whiteboard.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Look on Canvas for work you missed due to absence.Email me if you have questions.You have one week to make up missed work.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">First, start with a positive attitude.Next, know that you are not the only one who might be facing challenges.Finally, come to me and let's work it out together.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The more you read, the more you will understand the task.Think about what you already know about the subject.Ask questions of things you don't understand.

Subject:

Civics (Advanced)

Teacher:

Mr. Mackay

Grade:

7

Best contact method:

Mackayda@pcsb.org

Focus:

Updated weekly. Homeworks take a little longer to be updated as they are usually written assignments

Canvas:

All classwork and homework posted in Canvas. Homework is marked 'HW-'

Homework Details:

Homework assigned each Monday. Due the following Monday.

Tests/Quizzes:

Test at the end of each unit. An assignment will be posted in Canvas so it shows on student calendar.

Organization	Absences	Motivation	Comprehension
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Use the module section. I've organized everything. Use Canvas calendar to see upcoming assignments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Everything posted on Canvas. It's up to the student to make up days missed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Have fun! And if you're struggling come talk to me.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Again come talk to me. There are resources posted at the top of the modules (links to CPALM tutorials) that can help you outside of the classroom.

Subject: Algebra 1/Geometry

Teacher: Ms. Bartlett

Grade: 7th and 8th

Best contact method: Email: bartlettel@pcsb.org

Focus: Updated **DAILY** with graded assignments

Canvas: Updated **DAILY** with current and upcoming assignments and grades

Homework Details:

May be assigned almost every class

Due at the beginning of the next class period

Graded for completion and effort – not accuracy

Missing/Late homework will be accepted for half credit up to one week after the due date.

Tests/Quizzes:

Posted in CANVAS one week prior. Approximately 1 or 2 Quizzes per Module

Tests will be given for each Module and Cycle Tests will be given each Quarter

Mid-Term and End of Course Exams will be cumulative

Test corrections available to improve grades

Organization	Absences	Motivation	Comprehension
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Interactive NotebookHomework Folder with pocketsLined notebook paperScientific Calculator (TI 30Xa)Pencils and Highlighters	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Check CANVAS for any missing assignments.Check Absent Work Folder for notes and worksheetsMissed assessments - made-up ASAP to provide time for corrections	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Participate in class discussions and activitiesAsk questions in classFind a study buddy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Tutoring sessionsWatch class videosYouTube other videosAccess remediation tools in online textbook.

Subject: Mathematics

Best contact method: Canvas messenger

Teacher: Jacqueline Harding

Focus: Standard-based grading (at least two per week)
Sending out Newsletters

Grade: 7th or 8th

Canvas: Module alternative supports, teacher-student and parent contact, and digital learning tasks (quick access)

Homework Details:

Homework is assigned every class meeting and recorded on the Monday of week in student homework folder.

Tests/Quizzes:

Module assessments occur at the end of every Module
Quizzes may occur mid-unit or be Pop quiz style

Organization	Absences	Motivation	Comprehension
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Notebook with color coded notes.• Homework folder with calendar• Canvas outlined by module order (pages are ordered based how taught in class)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Absent students are to refer the alternative learning material from canvas.• Scholars are given extended time to makeup assignments when absent.• Homework is posted on canvas announcements for the week.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Application of WICOR strategies• Technology learning platforms/games• PBIS• Classroom climate and culture that fosters social-emotional open sociotechnical systems for conditions of learning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tutoring is available Tuesday and Thursday from 8:30-9• IXL learn from example, tutorial, or feedback on benchmark skill• Canvas alternative support modules

Subject:Physical Science Honors

Teacher:Mr. Evans

Grade:8th

Best contact method:Email: evanssea@pcsb.org

Focus:

- Grades are posted here with messages concerning work
- Assignment descriptions
- Missing work reported

Canvas:

- Canvas contains agendas/homework, notes, assignments and class resources
- Announcements will be made occasionally through Canvas, as well as in class
- Check Focus for grades, not Canvas

Homework Details:

- Homework is given daily and is most often due the next class meeting unless otherwise specified.
- Homework is posted in class, as well as in Canvas (Modules page per date).
- Late work will be penalized 20% of the graded assignment.

Tests/Quizzes:

- Quizzes may occur mid-unit to check for understanding of recent skills/concepts; sometimes pop-quizzes are utilized
- Tests occur at the end of a unit and will be given at least a week's warning.
- Students will be notified which specific sections of their Interactive Notebook to study, as well as given study guides when needed

Organization	Absences	Motivation	Comprehension
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students use an Interactive Notebook to keep notes, diagrams, lab-work, and reflections organized and easily accessible• The Interactive Notebook's table of contents is an easy way to find what a student is missing, if absent	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students can check Canvas and find the agendas on the Modules page to keep up-to-date, as well as find missing work on the Assignments page• Students should contact the teacher for additional assistance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participate in discussion and all activities.• Ask questions often.• Share your insights and breakthroughs.• Find a study buddy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I offer tutoring as needed, so all the students need to do is ask.• I am available most Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, whether it is mornings or after school.• I also offer occasional lunch-time tutoring.

Best contact method: pewitta@pcsb.org

Focus: Updated throughout the week with relevant notes, Please check Focus regularly!

Canvas:

- All daily classwork and materials are under the “Classwork” module
- Homework and materials are under the “Homework” module
- Independent Study Labs are under the “IS Lab” module

Homework Details:

Posted and assigned on Canvas Tuesdays (A Day) and Wednesdays (B Day). Due the following Tuesday/Wednesday. Loss of additional letter grade per class period when it is turned in late, up to 50%. Demerits can’t be removed when work is turned in late.

Tests/Quizzes:

Mastery Checks happen in Independent Study Labs. Most other summative assessments are in the form of projects during and at the end of units.

Students are expected to maintain an online quarterly portfolio of all their classes, focused on the 7 gifted goals. Checkpoints are assigned and graded throughout the quarter.

Organization	Absences	Motivation	Comprehension
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maintain a daily planner.• Keep notes in a notebook specifically for this class.• Have required materials every day (pencil, paper, AVID materials, laptop, charger, wired headphones)• Keep track of class through Canvas and Focus• Students should contact Pewitt through email or Canvas if they complete late work.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Check Canvas and complete any linked materials for every day a student is absent (classwork, homework, and IS labs).• Students are responsible for making up work from absences. Students often don’t make up work from absences.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maintain positivity and a growth mindset.• Paired/group activities are a great way to learn from each other.• Realize that work is designed to be challenging, but within your abilities. You can do this!• Be proactive if you are struggling. Talk to the teacher, he can be surprisingly accommodating and helpful!	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review directions and rubrics given for all materials. Teacher priority is being clear and understandable.• Work with your classmates, and talk to teacher if you don’t understand something.• Individual tutoring is available many days before school. Contact teacher.

Best contact method: Mcclaina@pcsb.org
Or through the messenger on Focus.

Focus: Focus is updated daily with graded assignments and progress reports are sent out mid quarter.

Canvas: Canvas houses the course content material and is organized by weekly modules. Focus is used for grades.

Homework Details:
Homework projects are assigned as needed and it is understood that if a student has missed or still needs to finish daily the tasks, that is considered homework.

Tests/Quizzes:
Test and quizzes are given in class and are scheduled through the weekly overview.

Organization	Absences	Motivation	Comprehension
Modules in Canvas are organized by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Engage: weekly overview2. Explore – bell work and timed writing activities3. Expand – resources4. Extend – assignments and assessments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Students can follow the course progression through the Canvas page.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Students are encouraged to find relevance within the content to stay engaged.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Students can be given personalized instruction through Study Sync Spotlight assignments.

Subject:

Pre-AP World History and Geography

Teacher:

ESCALONA

Grade:

8th

Best contact method:

Escalonasadaf@pcsb.org

CANVAS

FOCUS

Focus:

Post grades of assignments

Canvas:

Under ASSIGNMENTS look for descriptions and rubrics for the assignments and for how to submit them. Due date also available there

Homework Details:

Mostly Source Explorations from student workbook (4 questions each). It takes about 10-15 minutes of work. Are available in CANVAS with RUBRICS to help student know how to best answer. I accept late work w/out grade penalty

Tests/Quizzes:

Assessment Unit 1: Paleolithic. Rubric and feedback available on CANVAS. Students can retake test one time

Organization	Absences	Motivation	Comprehension
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Keep an agenda/electronic calendar of homework and other important datelines. For students who struggle, I will sign it every day so parent can tell what is due when at-a-glance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">All work is posted in CANVAS. However ACADEMIC CONVERSATION (students learning from student) is central to the Pre-AP curriculum and there is no substitute for it.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Partner with another student who is succeeding in class and try to learn what works for them. If a student lets me know that a different grouping might work better, I am open to arrange it	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Focus on the SKILSS and less on the content when looking at evidence. The skills for unit 3 is CAUSATION. Students have access to descriptions of what it looks, like when the skills are applied to analysis of sources.

Subject: French and Advanced Academics

Teacher: Leila Nouri

Grade: 6/7/8th

Best contact method: Nouril@pcsb.org

Focus: Portal is updated every day and is used for final grades. Progress report are sent out every Friday afternoon.

Canvas: Canvas is used for:
Online Bell work and quizzes
.Notes if they are absent,
Homework and online practice.

Homework Details:

Homework is usually assigned once or twice a week. Due dates differ from one week to another. Homework is posted on Canvas and written on the board.. We go over our agenda(flow of the day) including homework at the beginning of each block No late work will be accepted except when students are absent or have a valid excuse.

Tests/Quizzes:

Online quizzes are usually unannounced. Quizzes are based on notes we took during class. Students are usually allowed to have their notes out for quizzes.

Test will be announced 2 weeks prior and they will be based on notes/practices done in class.

Organization	Absences	Motivation	Comprehension
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Students should have a 3-subject notebook: 1st section will be for notes and practices. 2nd section will be for Language Lab Practice and 3rd section will be for all handouts received from teacher.Take good notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Student are allowed one class period to make up their missing work.All notes/classwork and homework will be posted on Canvas. Students should not fall behind in my class. They have access to everything on Canvas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Students are often reminded that this class is a high school class. It will affect their GPA.Students are also motivated by the fact that they will be allowed to cook at the end of each grading period.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Students can attend tutoring: every Tuesday and Thursday 9-9:30 am.Student can also ask for clarification.I also have links on Canvas: Resources page, to help them practice at home.