**ExCEL Commitment**

We are excited to welcome you into ExCEL! We take to heart our program title: **Exploring Careers & Education in Leadership**. We want you to explore, to learn, and to grow in our magnet, and we have designed our program as a safe space where students have the support they need to achieve a solid, meaningful education.

To help students reach their highest potential in ExCEL, we ask that they maintain specific academic, attendance, and behavioral requirements:

* **Academic**: Students must maintain a **unweighted GPA** consistent with that required to remain in the AVID program:   
   **Freshmen: 2.0 Sophomores: 2.3 Juniors and Seniors: 2.5**
  + A student whose GPA goes below this level in the Q1 or Q3 report card will be placed on probation for the remainder of the semester (S1 or S2).
    - A student whose GPA goes below this level at the end of a semester will be placed on probation for the next semester.
  + **Academic Probation** is considered a means of student intervention and support to help students build skills and improve their academic standing. As part of Academic Probation, Students must schedule and attend a minimum of 2 tutoring sessions with teachers and/or afternoon sessions in our after-school study program per week, at a minimum of 30 minutes each.
  + **If students do not comply with the probation requirements and/or do not raise their GPA by the end of the semester, they will be asked to leave ExCEL.**
* **Attendance**: Students should have **no more than 5 unexcused absences** per semester.
  + Exam exemption (where permitted) is tied to attendance.
  + Three tardies count as one absence; family vacations/travel are not excused absences.
  + **Attendance Probation** is, at its core, problem-solving; we will collaborate with students and their family members to solve transportation issues.
  + **If students’ attendance issues continue through the next quarter, they will be asked to leave ExCEL.**
* **Behavior**: As we work to excel in careers and leadership, our behavior should reflect professionalism and honesty.
  + **One SESIR (School Environment Safety Issue Reporting) incident will result in immediate probation.** SESIR incidents include bullying, alcohol or drug use, fighting, and battery (complete list at https://www.fldoe.org/safe-schools/sesir-discipline-data/).
    - As of this year, **vaping** is considered a SESIR incident. This year only, students will get one warning for vaping; the second incident will result in probation.
  + **For Academic Honesty incidents (cheating, plagiarism),** the first incident will result in a specific requirement: the successful completion of an academic honesty course.
  + **For lower-level behavior issues, three incidents will result in probation**. These incidents can include skipping class, disrespectful or disruptive classroom behavior, or other activities which compromise the learning or safety of other students.
  + **Behavioral** **Probation** is considered an intervention; a plan will be put in place to track student behavior and assist the student in recognizing and avoiding problem behaviors.
  + **If students’ behavior issues continue through the next quarter, they will be asked to leave ExCEL**
* **ExCEL Project and Shadowing Requirements:** As a fundamental part of our magnet program, students are required to complete two shadowing days per school year (one per semester) as well as actively participate in the ExCEL project each spring as an effective member of a team.
  + Shadowing includes contacting, scheduling, and attending a shadow day as well as completing the accompanying presentation.
  + Active participation in the school project includes taking part in the research, helping to create a final project, participating in the share out of findings, and being a positive and productive member of a team.
  + **ExCEL Probation** is considered an intervention that provides students with an opportunity to makeup completion of the project or shadowing requirements to the expected level of performance.
  + **If a student does not complete these requirements by the end of the semester, they will be asked to leave ExCEL.**