# Tips for Increasing your Success in Chemistry

1. **Stay Focused 100% of the time in class.**

   As teachers we spend countless hours preparing effective lessons for our 45 (or so) minute periods. When students do not stay focused and do not use their class time effectively, they will start to see negative results in their grade. Before you try any of the interventions below, ask yourself what percentage of the class time you stay focused. Then ask yourself what you need to do to increase this percentage. If you are having trouble answering this question, ask your parents and your teacher for advice.

2. **Spend more time studying chemistry.**
   a. Read over new notes later that day
   b. Look back over homework, webassigns, classwork, warm-ups, and quizzes.
   c. Read the section in the book dealing with that subject whether it is required reading or not.

3. **Develop new study skills.**
   a. Flash cards
   b. Flow charts/graphic organizers
   c. Book Markers
   d. Highlight key points in notes
   e. Acronyms
   f. http://www.studygs.net/index.htm - provides suggestions for studying. If this website doesn't help, find another. There are many study skill websites available on the internet; just make sure you use one that is credible.
   g. www.Quizlet.com – a good website to use to help you make online note cards and study vocabulary terms all right in front of your computer. It's free to join!

4. **Tutoring**

   Tutoring is available from one or more chemistry teachers on most days after school from 2:40-3:30. The only exception is Wednesday and the first working Monday of the month. Teachers' availability on the other days varies from week to week, so please ask your teacher who is available that week. Please be aware that students who use their class time effectively will be given priority over students who do not. In some cases, teachers may refuse to allow students to come to tutoring if they are rarely focused in class.

5. **Video Lessons online**

   Check out video websites online that can provide tutoring help for specific concepts.
   a. www.khanacademy.org – an online resource providing videos for many subjects. You will have to search for the concept you have questions about.
   b. http://www.gpb.org/chemistry-physics/students/all# - another great online video website, from the state of Georgia. Its content is very relevant to what we teach at Enloe.

6. **Parents**

   Ask your parents for advice with study skills. Ask them about some chemistry stuff. You may be surprised at what they remember from their chemistry days!

7. **Form a study group**

   They can be entertaining and academically rewarding. Study groups can be very helpful if everyone remains focused. I would recommend no more than 5 in a group. There is a difference between group work and cheating. If you have any questions about this, let me know.

8. **Hire a tutor**

   If nothing else seems to help, hire a tutor to get one-on-one help. Ask me for a list of chemistry teachers in the area for hire or call a local tutoring facility. There is also a list of tutors posted on the edmodo website or ask your teacher for one.