

Dear GWHS Parents, Guardians and Students,

At GWHS, we remain steadfast in our commitment to maintaining high expectations for student success. Punctuality plays a key role in creating an environment where all students can thrive academically and socially. In our ongoing effort to provide the best possible learning environment, we are addressing the growing concern of tardiness and the disruptions it causes for both students and staff.

As part of our efforts to reduce tardiness, we extended the passing period for the 2024-2025 school year from five minutes to six minutes. Additionally, teachers and staff have been actively supporting students to ensure they get to class on time. We even provide a one minute warning bell for all periods. Despite these efforts, we continue to see significant challenges with students being late to class, creating interruptions to the learning environment and posing potential safety risks in the halls.

Research consistently shows a strong connection between punctuality and student success. Students who arrive on time are more likely to have higher grades, improved behavior, and better overall academic outcomes. We believe that teaching punctuality is not only essential for academic success, but also for promoting responsibility and time management—skills that are crucial for lifelong achievement.

Hall Sweeps and Tardy Policy: Effective January 14, 2025

To address these challenges and reduce disruption to the learning environment, we will be implementing a plan to reduce tardiness and minimize classroom disruptions, starting on **January 14, 2025. To begin, we will focus on the first period, the class after lunch and the last period of the day.** Once these periods are better attended, we will begin daily hall sweeps in all periods. The key components of this plan are outlined below:

1. Students In Class On Time and Classroom Doors Closed Ten Minutes After the Bell

- Beginning January 14, 2025, all students are expected to be in class when the bell rings. Hall sweeps to funnel all students to class will be conducted for the first ten minutes.
- There will be no passes out of class for the first ten minutes or last ten minutes of class, as is already the policy. This helps assure an informed start and finish to each lesson.
- Any students in the hall after the Tardy Bell will be funneled into their classes as quickly as possible.

- Ten minutes after each bell, teachers will close their classroom doors to eliminate any further disruption to learning.
- Hall sweeps will begin ten mins after the bell, and students in the halls without a pass must report to the Welcome Desk in the Pikes Peak Lobby in order to be marked present and provided a work space for the remainder of the period.
- Any student found in the halls without a pass during instructional time will be sent to the Welcome Desk for check-in and a work space.

2. **Excused Tardies**

- If a student has an excused tardy in Infinite Campus or a written excuse from a parent or guardian, they will be provided with a pass to class from the Welcome Desk or Main Office.

3. **Students with Off Periods**

- Students with off periods may be in the Library or Pikes Peak for that period and are not allowed in the halls during instructional time.
- Students with off periods who arrive early for a class must wait in the Pikes Peak Lobby until the next bell rings. They are not allowed in the halls during instructional time.

4. **Transportation/Weather Delays**

- If RTD or weather delays play a role in first period late arrivals, we will adjust the tardy times accordingly.

Consequences for Tardiness

To reinforce our commitment to high expectations, students who continue to struggle with punctuality will face a progressive series of interventions. These will include:

- **First Tardy:** A conversation to set expectations for punctuality.
- **Second Tardy:** A reset of expectations and discussion of any barriers to being on time, and parent notification with student.
- **Third Tardy:** Parent phone conference and assignment of an online BASE intervention to address attendance concerns. If the BASE module is not completed independently, the student will serve detention to complete it. If detentions are missed, then In-School Suspension will be assigned.
- **Fourth Tardy:** A parent conference, and the next online BASE module assigned, and the student will serve Thursday morning detention from 8:30 to 9:45am. If detentions are missed, then In-School Suspension will be assigned.
- **Fifth Tardy:** Parent conference and lunch detentions. If detentions are missed, then In-School Suspension will be assigned.

- **Sixth+ Tardies:** In-School or Out-of-School Suspension and a parent conference to discuss alternative supports to ensure student success.

Our Commitment to Success

We understand that situations may arise that make it difficult for students to be on time. If your student is struggling with being on time, we encourage you to contact us so we can work together to find solutions. Our goal is to support students in developing the habits of responsibility and time management that will serve them well both in school and in life.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain high expectations for all students. We believe this policy will foster a more focused, safe, and successful learning environment for everyone at GWHS.