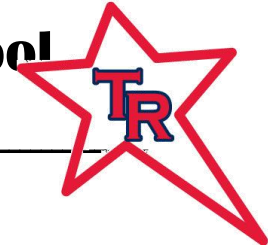




Theodore Roosevelt High School

"We Believe...Whatever It Takes"



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Dear Roughriders,

I hope everyone is having a great summer and enjoying some time with your families. I am sending you this letter in an effort to inform everyone about a few issues we have been working on this year. At Roosevelt High School, we are striving to prepare students for college and career readiness. As a result, I feel strongly that students should be provided a learning environment where promptness and appropriate dress are an expectation. Though many of these expectations are outlined in the District's Student/Parent Handbook, there has still been some confusion among the students, teachers, and parents. This year, I would like to prevent many of the issues we faced last year and get you the expectations for promptness and dress code at Roosevelt High School early as to avoid any confusion when the school year begins.

Expectations for Promptness (*Start On Time*)

To assist our students, parents and teachers, our campus O.H.I./Discipline committee has been working hard all summer to implement a set of research based procedures designed to diminish tardiness, improve campus safety and most of all improve academic performance. We are calling the initiative ***Start On Time***. As the name suggests, our goal is to start classes on time so that teachers and students can maximize instructional opportunities. We need your support to help make this initiative a success.

Briefly summarized, when the final bell rings teachers will shut their doors and begin teaching. Any student remaining in the hallway or courtyard area will be counted tardy. Students who are chronically tardy will be given a series of consequences aimed at helping them to understand the negative consequences of their behavior and their need for improvement. These consequences will be progressive and may include verbal warnings, counseling, non-social lunch assignment and ISS. Non-social lunch is a consequence that requires students to spend 20 minutes of their 50 minute lunch period in a pre-determined location. Students will not be allowed to talk or use their phones during this non-social lunch assignment. Parents should expect to be contacted by school personnel and on Parent Portal when students reach the tardy consequence benchmarks listed above. In addition, on the day a student reaches a tardy consequence benchmark, they will receive a tardy consequence slip. The tardy consequence slip will at time serve as a warning and also will accordingly be used to inform the student of the date of his or her non-social lunch. As a campus, we will also be recognizing students who are meeting our expectations by consistently coming to class in a timely manner. Students will have the opportunity to receive campus based incentives for exhibiting "on time" behavior.

During the first week of school, students will be taught expectations for starting on time. As we emphasize promptness as it pertains to college and career readiness, we would ask for your support by making sure that your students arrive to school on time for first period.

Dress Code Expectations

Time and place should dictate the way we dress. We dress differently, for example, attending a wedding than we would if we were going to the movies. School is a place of respect and dignity and we should dress accordingly. This is why the District has established a dress code policy located in the Student/Parent Handbook.

The guidelines listed below are taken from the NEISD Student/Parent Code of Conduct.

- *Straps on shoulders must be at least wide enough to cover undergarment straps. A suggested strap width is two inches wide. Any straps less than two inches may merit a decision by a teacher or principal regarding appropriateness. If we see undergarment, then the strap is too thin.*
- *No racer-back type shirts are allowed as they have a tendency to reveal undergarments.*
- *No hats of any kind shall be worn. Hats will be confiscated and returned to a parent.*
- *No facial piercing including nose, tongue, eyebrow, etc. Piercing is only allowed in the ear. Piercing items will be confiscated and returned to a parent.*
- *No tank tops or sleeveless undershirts (boys) to be worn alone. Boys can wear tank tops as long as there is a shirt worn over or under the tank top.*
- *No exposed midriffs, including those that expose the stomach when arms are raised, will be acceptable.*
- *Long shirts will be tucked in, especially when it is evident that students are sagging their pants (Longer than the fingertips).*
- *Shorts/skirts/dresses/gym/soccer or biker shorts are measured by the finger-tips of the student. This applies to all non-school related clothing though shorts seem to be the main issue).*
- *No baggy or sagging pant. Pants are to be worn at or above the waist line (underwear should not be visible above the waist of the pants).*
- *No torn or frayed skirts, shorts or jeans (This one is, admittedly, a bit subjective, but we should not see several, large, or inappropriately placed holes in jeans).*
- *No low-cut blouses.*
- *No “unusual” (blue, red, green, etc) colored hair. Hair must be a “natural” color and have no streaking of “unusual” color.*
- *No Mohawks or spiked hair.*
- *No pajama bottoms or house slippers.*
- *All other guidelines listed in the handbook will be enforced.*
- *There may be incidents in which dress may be in the gray area. But, as the student handbook reads, “While it is inevitable that there will be differences of opinion as to the appropriateness of dress and grooming, the final determination will be made by the building principal.” Remember, our school looks good because our kids look good. Students found in violation of the dress code will be asked to put on a pair of sweats (for pant/shorts issue) or a Roosevelt t-shirt (for a shirt issue). Students will NOT be allowed to change into other clothing he/she may have brought to school or stored in a locker. Several violations will result in a parent conference with a principal and/or ISS assignment.*

I truly appreciate all the support you have been giving us as we continue to prepare all our students for future successes. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me anytime or send a quick e-mail.

Respectfully,

Richard Canales
Principal