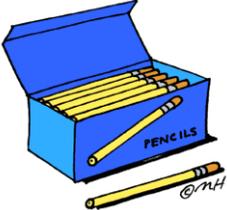




**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** AVID Excel is a class that helps develop strong academic English skills so students will be prepared to take advanced courses in high school and assist them on their path to college. Students will learn to read complex texts, complete formal writing pieces, and use high level vocabulary. They will also build strong team working skills and have opportunities to learn about colleges and careers.

Topics Covered	
<b>Unit 1:</b> "Leading the Way"	<b>Unit 2:</b> "Charting My Course Toward College"
<b>Unit 3:</b> "Debating College Issues"	<b>Unit 4:</b> "Managing Transitions"

➤ **STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO BRING TO CLASS EVERY DAY:**

Pencil	Complete Binder
	

➤ **GRADING POLICY:** We want every student to demonstrate proficiency in the skills and knowledge for every unit. Students build their grade throughout the semester (grades will only start over at the beginning of second semester).

Academic Grading			
4	Exceeds	90 - 100%	A
3	Meets	80 - 89%	B
2	Nearly Meets	70 - 79%	C
1	Beginning	60 - 69%	D
0.5	Little Understanding	0 - 59%	F
MISS	MISSING	0%	F

Work Habits Grading		
4	Outstanding	O
3	Satisfactory	S
2	Needs Improvement	N
1	Unsatisfactory	U
MISS	Missing	U

How You Build Your Academic Grade	
Focused Notes/Assignments = 20%	Scholar Groups/Tutorials = 40%
Binder/Planner = 20%	Projects/Quizzes = 20%

How You Build Your Work Habits Grade
All completion checks or parent signatures are weighted evenly!

➤ **PORTFOLIO:** students will create a portfolio that showcases their best quality work for each unit. This portfolio will follow students throughout their AVID enrollment and could possibly be used for evidence when applying for colleges.

➤ **HOMEWORK**: students will be responsible for completing any unfinished work from this class at home and use AVID strategies learned in class to help them complete work/projects or study for their other classes.

➤ **ASSIGNMENTS, PROJECTS, ACTIVITIES**: all class work can be **re-done** for a higher grade.

➤ **EXTRA CREDIT**: there are **NO** extra credit opportunities. However, any low scores can be redone and resubmitted for a higher grade during tutoring.

➤ **CHECKING GRADES**:

- Grades will be printed in a progress check every 2 weeks and placed in binder to go home.
- Grades are updated weekly in Synergy (found on Houck website or my website)

➤ **CLASS PACING / ACCOMMODATIONS**:

This class is at grade level and will progress at an average rate.

Modifications and or accommodations will be made for TAG, IEP and 504 students.

➤ **TEACHER CONTACT INFORMATION**:

For any questions or concerns please feel free to call me at (503) 399-3446, between 7:30 am and 3:30 pm or e-mail: [law\\_brandon@salkeiz.k12.or.us](mailto:law_brandon@salkeiz.k12.or.us)

➤ **CLASSROOM MATERIALS NEEDED**: (donations are greatly appreciated)

College Ruled Paper	Kleenex	Staples
70 Sheet College Ruled Spirals	Elmer glue bottles	Scotch Tape Refills
Graphing Paper	3" x 5" Lined Index Cards	3 1/2" x 5" Envelopes

----- Cut Here ----- Cut Here ----- Cut Here -----

I have read the syllabus for the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade AVID Excel class. I understand that as part of the grading system, each student will be held responsible for demonstrating proficiency and is allowed to re-do assignments **as many times as needed up to the week before the semester ends**.

_____ - _____ Excel #                      (Period)
_____ (First Name)
_____ (Last Name)

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Return to Red Turn in Tray. Due On:** \_\_\_\_\_