

**GRANT MIDDLE SCHOOL
CONTRACT FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We are looking forward to assisting your son/daughter in being academically successful at Grant Middle School. To be successful, daily class attendance is essential. Attendance, accountability, and discipline are cooperative efforts between the family and the school. Each student is responsible for attending his scheduled classes and for being on time. Parents have an obligation to send their children to school on time as well as making sure that they are prepared. The school is responsible for documenting absences, notifying parents of excessive absences (four or more per semester), assisting with extenuating circumstances, and enforcing current truancy laws.

Parents, students, and the school working together are also responsible for helping students to learn and to pass successfully from one grade level to another. Students do this by being prepared for class, working and following rules while they are in class, and completing homework assignments. Parents are part of the school team by being knowledgeable of school programs, curriculum expectations, rules and helping to reinforce good learning practices. The school will provide instruction, tutoring, as needed, communication with parents when students begin to fail, and support to both students and parents as they deal with middle school and the changing environment.

Because we are ready to support our students and their parents by providing numerous services, we have received permission from the Instructional Cabinet and the A.P.S School Board to institute a NO-WAIVER POLICY. Our No-Waiver Policy is coincidentally in compliance with a newly passed state law which limits parents to only one “unearned promotion” request per student during grades k through 7. Parents of eighth grade students will no longer be able to “waive” their students to a high school without the necessary grades. Every other Monday we will monitor all transfer students through the first marking period. According to state policy a student will be required to be retained or attend summer school academy when he/she fails:

1. Literature or Language Arts for the year and also scores below proficient on the New Mexico Standards Based Assessment.
2. Math for the year and also scores below proficient on the New Mexico Standards Based Assessment.

When a student has failed two or more classes for three or more nine weeks during the school year he/she and parents will be faced with the following choices:

1. Retention within the same grade level.
2. Attendance at summer school (Up to two classes)
3. A waiver which will only be granted through a conference in the principal’s office, and which abides by the terms of the new state law.

We believe that granting students waivers only helps to perpetuate failure and does not teach the student that in order to be successful in school he/she must become involved in his/her own learning.

Please sign the attached sheet, detach it, and it MUST be returned at registration. Students will not be allowed to register without returning the form. If you do not choose to sign this form or have any questions or concerns regarding this new policy, please call the principals office at 299-2113 to schedule a conference to discuss this program.

Be aware of this Grant Middle School Academic No-Waiver Policy.

Sincerely,

Edgar W. Briggs
Principal

Kristin Pilling
Assistant Principal

COMPLETE AND BRING THIS PORTION TO REGISTRATION

I have read, understand, and agree to the terms of the Contract for Academic Excellence.

Student Name (PRINT LEGABLY)

Grade

Student ID #

Parent/Guardian Name (PRINT)

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature