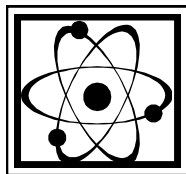


ALBERT EINSTEIN HIGH SCHOOL



11135 Newport Mill Road, Kensington, MD 20895
Telephone: 301-929-2200 Fax: 301-962-1016

Principal: James G. Fernandez
Assistant Principals: Mildred Charley-Greene, Linda Jasper
and Kimberly Williams



August 10, 2009

Dear Ninth Grade Student, Parents/Guardians:

I would like to welcome all of you to Albert Einstein High School. We truly do believe it is “The Place To Be.”

I am sure your experience at Einstein will be positive and beneficial to you and your future. We have many things to offer both academically and socially. There are many clubs, organizations and teams to join. Research indicates that students who get involved in clubs, plays, musicals, band, sports, etc., do better in the classroom. Join something. Become a part of the school. Of course our main priority is your formal education and in that area we offer outstanding staff and challenging courses. As you enter and progress through Einstein, we encourage you to take challenging courses. Honors and Advanced Placement courses will definitely benefit you if you plan to go to college. Colleges want to see good grades, but they also want to see that you have taken challenging courses. We will help you. There is tutoring available before and after school and at lunch most days from most departments if you feel a need to ask a question or have something re-explained.

One of the major issues that we face is student attendance. The Maryland State Department of Education and Montgomery County Public Schools have very specific attendance requirements. If a student has five unexcused absences in a class, the student fails and loses credit (LC) in that class. The alarm not going off, being caught in traffic, visiting a sick relative, and missing the bus, are all unexcused absences. Additionally, if a student is late (unexcused) three times to the same class, it counts as one unexcused absence.

There will be a ninth grade student orientation on August 27, from 7:25 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at Einstein. Afterwards, we will have a picnic for students and family members. We strongly encourage you and your parents/guardians to attend the picnic. Counselors and teachers will attend the picnic as well.

All data indicates that a good start in high school leads to better grades and an increased opportunity for a student to gain entrance to the college of his/her choice. Most major universities require approximately a 3.75 out of 4.0 grade point average to gain admission. If a ninth grade student has a 2.71 grade point average after the first year of high school, he/she will need a 4.0 each year for the following three years to graduate with a 3.75! Get off to a good start. Establish a study routine and follow it. If you need help, please ask. That is why we are here!

Parents/guardians, if your child appears to be struggling or frustrated, please do not hesitate to call his/her counselor. We do not automatically change a student's teacher or class, but may be able to help with the concern.

Together, we can make your child's four years at Einstein rewarding and enjoyable.

Sincerely,

James G. Fernandez
Principal