



Important Educational Updates from DFS October 2022 *What You Need to Know....*

Hi Everyone. The First Quarter of the 2022-2023 School Year ends on Friday October 7th. You made it through ¼ of the year! Congratulations! Now is the best time to check in with your child's school to make sure he/she is on track to pass classes and make plans to make up any missing/failed work!

Check Infinite Campus/Canvas Parent Information to view your child's First Quarter Grades

- While it is semester grades that become a part of a child's official report card or transcript, quarter grades can be a great indication of how a child is doing in school and any struggles a child may have thus far. Quarter grades/progress reports and even a teachers' contact information will be posted on Infinite Campus and Canvas.
- Teachers /school staff are encouraged to work with families to help children be successful in school and not fail so plans can be worked out make up missing work.
- ***If your child is struggling in school as indicated by multiple failing or missing assignments or your child has unsatisfactory quarter/progress grade in a class (such as a D or an F), please reach out to your child's teacher (elementary/middle/high school) or counselor/class teacher (middle/high school) to find out why the child is failing and how any failed or missing work can be made up.*** Many schools offer tutoring or after school help from teachers in classes.
- ***Ask your child's teacher(s) why your child isn't succeeding in the subject or class and how he/she can receive support to do better in school. At the middle and high school level, you can set up a meeting with all your child's teachers in the morning before school to go over progress in each class via your child's counselor.***
- ***It is also helpful to have a positive or supportive conversation with your child about your child's grades and make a plan to improve any class that your child is struggling in***
- ***If you need access to Infinite Campus/Canvas, contact your child's school for assistance***

Free Online Tutoring Available to Students

- **CCSD is providing all students with access to free online tutoring through "Paper"**
- Paper tutors work individually with students 24/7 to help them master concepts, improve their writing, and complete classwork. Teachers can also access Paper to see what students are struggling in and help with providing better support for their class.
- ***Student can access the tutoring services via link or app through their class Canvas Page on their particular classes or through their general CCSD Clever Page***
- ***Please encourage your child to use Paper as a resource and ask any questions about class content to Paper Tutors.***

- *To learn more about Paper, visit <https://paper.co> or ask your child to show you the Paper link/app in their class page/Clever Page*

If Your Child is Suspended or Recommended for Expulsion: You can Appeal the Discipline; Get a Restorative Justice Plan for Your Child; and Ensure the School has Considered the Effects of Being in Foster Care in Moving Forward with the Discipline

- Parents have a right to appeal a suspension or a recommended expulsion, this right should be explained by an administrator when the discipline is discussed with the parent. Administrator should take note of the parent's wanting to appeal and provide the parent with the next steps in the appeal process.
- Schools must create Restorative justice Plans after a child has been removed from school for any disciplinary action (RPCs, Suspension, or Expulsions). Restorative Justice Plans outline actions taken by the school to support the student for the possible reasons the child may be in disciplinary procedures.
- **A new law stated that a child in foster care who is at least 11 years of age may be suspended or expelled from school only if a determination is made that the behavior that led to the suspension or expulsion was not caused by being in foster care. It shall be presumed that the behavior was caused by being in foster care unless an advocate for child in foster care or the school counselor of the pupil determines that the behavior was not caused by being in foster care.**
- *If you disagree with your child's suspension or expulsion, please let your administrators know of your disagreement and ensure they document it.*
- *Follow up with your school's Foster Care Advocate and Principal if your child was not given a Restorative Justice Plan or if it was not determined that the behavior used as the basis of the suspension/expulsion was not caused by being in foster care and you disagree with that determination.*
- *You can ask your child's school for your child's restorative justice plan if they have been removed at all from school. You can inquire whether the plan has been followed/enacted.*
- *For additional help and support, please contact your child's caseworker and CCSD's Foster Care Department at 702-799-1196 or at fostercaretransrequest@nv.ccsd.net*

Counselor, Learning Strategists, Foster Care Advocates (FCAs), and Safe School Professionals (SSPs)/Social Workers are available on campus to help your child be successful in school

- *Counselors* help to make sure a child is on track to graduate or be promoted to the next grade and required to meet with secondary students periodically.
- *Learning Strategists* can put children into special reading, language arts, and math interventions as well as work with elementary students who are not reading at grade level. Each elementary school has to have a Learning Strategist by law per the Read by 3rd Grade initiative. Middle and high schools usually have someone designated in this position to help with identifying struggling

children who might need special education services and may need to be put into Response to Intervention (RTI) processes. Strategists can also be available to help struggling students.

- *FCAs* have been designated by their principals to be the school-based person trained in understanding the rights of children in the foster care system.
- *SSPs* are School Social Workers/ Mental Health Professionals whose responsibilities are to identify and coordinate school and community resources to enable students to learn as effectively as possible in the educational setting. We have been working with the Assistant Superintendent and Coordinator over the SSPs and they have agreed to provide direct support to our children in their schools. SSPs are available to work with our children directly, attend school meetings, and even advocate for our children with school administrators. Half of all CCSD schools have SSPs.
- ***We strongly encourage you to reach out to their children's Counselors, Learning Strategists, FCAs, and SSPs so that they can begin working with our children in school and providing needed support. Attached you will find a list of Counselors, Foster Care Advocates, and Safe School Professionals for reference. You can also call the front office and ask your child's school the name of each professional and how to reach him/her.***

If you have any issues with the above or any other school related issues, please contact your child's caseworker or DFS Representative.

DFS has various supports in place to help work through any school related issues.

We are here to support you and can't do what we do without you!