

MISSION: In collaboration with parents and the community, the Atascocita Middle School faculty and staff will provide a supportive and safe environment. Students will demonstrate deep understanding of the TEKS, develop lifelong learner habits, and become independent, reflective thinkers able to achieve success in college and/or their chosen career path.

VISION:

STUDENTS DEVELOP LEARNER HABITS

(a.k.a. learner behaviors, soft skills, executive functioning skills)

Evidence:

- Student planner for management of assignments,
- AVID binder for organization,
- Cornell Notes (CORNELL WAY) for note-taking and study skills,
- Costa's Questions (strong questioning skills),
- Tutoring (extra effort and assistance)

Support systems for students:

- Thursdays, 4th period (time to organize binder),
- AVID students assisting during 4th period,
- Binder rubric,
- Teaching students the CORNELL WAY, "Sixty to Success",
- 6th grade Tiger Prep Camp, and
- TigerTube videos.

Support systems for faculty:

- AVID teachers and students, AVID training

Measures:

- AVID binder rubric

STUDENTS ARE ACTIVE IN THE LEARNING PROCESS

(a.k.a. independent, reflective thinkers/learners, self-awareness, metacognition, know strengths and weaknesses and take steps to improve them)

Evidence:

- Self-assessment practices (during or after unit),
- Extra effort before re-assessment,
- Demonstrate additional understanding before re-assessment,
- Identify weaknesses before tutoring, and
- standards-based assessment & grading

Support systems for students:

- Unit plans,
- Descriptive feedback,
- Self-assessments,
- Formative assessments to inform progress, and
- Re-assessment

Support systems for faculty:

- Ongoing professional development, experimentation (action-orientation)

Measures:

- AVID enrollment, and
- Pre-AP enrollment, self-assessments

STUDENT DEMONSTRATE DEEP UNDERSTANDING OF THE TEKS

(a.k.a. deep thinking, rigor, higher-order thinking skills, challenging work)

Evidence:

- Read and analyze text/data (graphs, tables),
- Solve multi-step problems,
- Inquiry & research,
- Ability to communicate understanding orally and in writing,
- Ask higher-level questions,
- Appropriate use of technology to find answers and communicate,
- Transfer of knowledge and skills to unique questions or problems,
- Increased writing across all content areas

Support systems for students:

- AVID (WICOR, pre-AP/Honors support, tutors),
- tutoring,
- re-assessment, and
- teacher feedback during instruction.

Support systems for faculty:

- Academic Lead Teachers,
- Houston A+ (leadership coaching, math coaching, RELA coaching), and
- ½-day planning for content teams

Measures:

- Readistep,
- CBAs,
- Unit Tests,
- pre-AP Enrollment, and
- STAAR Commended status

BELIEFS

- Effort, not just intellect, are requisites of learning.
- Students prefer challenging, thought-provoking work.
- Students learn at different rates.
- Grades should measure a students understanding of the TEKS.
- Students want to learn and do well in their work.

VALUES

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|-------------------|--------|-------------|---------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Professionalism | Effort | Risk-taking | Relationships | Results-, Solutions-oriented | Focus on Learning |
| Integrity & Trust | Fun! | Rigor | Communication | | |