

Greetings Parents and Guardians!

Happy New Year! As we transition into January, we are preparing for the close of our first semester and the exciting "fresh start" that the second semester brings. This time of year is a natural point for reflection and recalibration as we continue to build on the Royal Foundations of student success.

The first semester officially concludes on Friday, January 16, 2026. This transition marks a significant milestone in the academic year:

- **Grading & Progress Reports:** Following the end of the semester, teachers will be finalizing grades. Please look for progress reports to be available shortly thereafter.
- **Schedule Changes:** With a new semester, many students will experience changes in their daily schedules, including new elective classes and different teachers. *Students cannot request specific teachers or lunches. Changes will be made for wrong placement and or elective courses.*
- **Return to School:** Following a Teacher Workshop day, students will resume classes on Wednesday, January 21, 2026. This mid-week return is an excellent opportunity for students to reset their routines and set new goals for the second half of the year.

Throughout the second semester, we remain deeply committed to our core focus areas:

Attendance, Achievement, Behavior, Mindful Tech, and Being Connected.

Attendance remains our top priority, as it is the single greatest predictor of student achievement. We have observed a significant decrease in tardiness year over year!

- **Truancy Accountability:** We are committed to following state statutes regarding truancy. We will continue to send formal notifications for 3, 5, and 7-day unexcused absences. However, our goal is not just compliance; we are working harder than ever to partner with families to determine the *root cause* of absences and provide specific resources to remove barriers.
- **The Tardy Reset:** To encourage growth, we are resetting all student tardy data to "zero" for the start of the second semester. This gives every student a clean slate to practice the habit of punctuality.

Behavior & Mindful Technology The routine of placing cell phones in designated sleeves continues to protect instructional time and minimize distractions. We are also doubling down on our positive behavior referrals, celebrating the students who consistently model what it means to be a Rogers Royal.

Excellence in Achievement:

We are pleased to share an exciting academic update for the 2026–2027 school year. In response to growing student interest in earning college credit, our district is expanding its concurrent enrollment offerings by adding nine additional courses. This expansion builds upon our current 12-course offering and brings the total to 21. This represents a significant step forward in broadening access to rigorous, college-level learning for all students.

ISD 728 Concurrent Enrollment Course Offerings (New offerings are noted with an !)

Advanced Marketing/DECA 4 (*ERHS & RHS only*)
 ! College Advanced Composition
 College Algebra
 ! College Composition
 ! College Concepts of Chemistry
 ! College Government & Policies
 College Intermediate Spanish Language &
 Culture I
 College Intermediate Spanish Language &
 Culture II
 ! College Intro to Communication
 College Intro to Education
 College Intro to Psychology (*ERHS only*)

! College Multicultural Literature
 ! College Music Appreciation
 College Pre-Calculus
 ! College US History I & II
 ! College World History I & II
 French 102 - Elementary French I
 French 201 - Int. French I
 German 102 - Elementary German I
 German 201 - Int. German I
 Human Physiology, Technology & Medical
 Devices

This initiative reflects both student interest and our district's commitment to providing multiple, high-quality pathways for earning college credit while in high school. Our long-term goal is to ensure that students have the opportunity to complete **all areas of the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum** while remaining enrolled at one of our three high schools. By doing so, we can offer greater continuity, support, and access for students who are seeking college readiness within our schools.

We are also extremely proud of our strong academic standing and student performance on AP exams, and our **19 AP course offerings** remain a vital and valued component of our secondary curriculum.

Thank you for your continued partnership and for helping your student arrive ready to learn every single day. Let's make the second half of the 2025-2026 school year the best one yet!