

# Powell Middle School

## Guidelines for Zero's Aren't Permitted (ZAP) Program

One obstacle to academic success is the failure to complete assigned homework on the part of the student. Without student's completion of homework, teachers have no way of knowing if the student learned the concept or not.

The goal of the Zero's Aren't Permitted (ZAP) program is to provide support for students, promote responsibility and good study habits, reinforce the value of hard work and effort, and foster good communication between home and school. This program will also make us evaluate the educational relevance of homework to reinforcement learning.

The Zero's Aren't Permitted (ZAP) program is a tiered approach to help provide support and an incentive for students to complete their school work (See Behavioral Intervention Pyramid).

**Tier One:** Students will be assigned to the Lunch ZAP program where they will be given supervision and academic support by a certified teacher until they have completed their work. Students will lose ten percentage points of the total points earned for that assignment every day they are in the ZAP program until the missing assignment is completed. The highest possible grade will be 50% of the total points earned after five days, which is much better than getting a zero. Students will be given **three days** to complete their work. If the student chooses not to complete their work **within three days** then they will be moved to the tier two intervention of the ZAP program.

**Tier Two:** In addition to the Lunch ZAP program, students will be required to attend an after school "Homework Help" class. Parents will be notified of students being placed in the ZAP program once they are referred to Tier Two in the ZAP program. If the student chooses not to complete their work after a week then they will be moved to the tier three intervention of the ZAP program.

**Tier Three:** In addition to the Lunch ZAP program and required after school "Homework Help" class the students will be assigned a "Saturday School". Saturday School is held periodically throughout the school year as needed. Saturday School runs from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Wednesday school may also be an option to help the student complete their work. Wednesday schools are periodically held on early release Wednesday's throughout the year. If the student chooses not to complete their work after another week then they will be moved to the tier four intervention of the ZAP program.

**Tier Four:** In addition to the Lunch ZAP program, required after school "Homework Help" class and Saturday/Wednesday schools then a conference will be held with the student and parents. This conference will be held to discuss ways to get the student engaged in their own learning. We will discuss placement in summer school, loss of elective courses and possible retention at this conference.

\*Changes for the 2009-10 school year are highlighted in yellow.