

## PEER HELPER GUIDELINES

MS. DOTSON (F-9)

2024-2025

*WE ARE SO EXCITED TO HAVE YOU AS PART OF OUR CLASS! BELOW ARE SOME GUIDELINES TO MAKE SURE THAT WE HAVE A GREAT SEMESTER!*

THE PURPOSE OF THIS CLASS IS TO CREATE AN INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY AT TUSCOLA HIGH SCHOOL. AS A PEER HELPER YOU WILL BE A ROLE MODEL AND FRIEND TO THE STUDENTS IN OUR CLASSROOM. THEY WILL COME TO LOVE YOU AND LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU EVERY DAY. THANK YOU FOR YOUR WILLINGNESS TO BE THAT FOR OUR STUDENTS!

- 1) PLEASE TURN IN ALL OF YOUR PEER HELPER PAPERWORK!
- 2) MAINTAIN CONFIDENTIALITY- THE STUDENTS' DISABILITY, PERSONAL INFORMATION, ETC. SHOULD BE CONFIDENTIAL. PLEASE UPHOLD EACH STUDENT'S INTEGRITY AND RESPECT THEIR PRIVACY. PLEASE DO NOT SHARE ANY PERSONAL INFORMATION ABOUT OUR STUDENTS WITH ANYONE OUTSIDE OF OUR CLASSROOM.
- 3) REMEMBER THAT STUDENTS IN OUR CLASS ARE ALSO HIGH SCHOOLERS. PLEASE ENCOURAGE THEM TO BE AS INDEPENDENT AS POSSIBLE. IN OUR CLASS WE MAINTAIN HIGH EXPECTATIONS FOR ALL STUDENTS. WE DON'T WANT TO HINDER THEM OR DO THINGS FOR THEM BECAUSE WE WON'T ALWAYS BE THERE TO HELP.
- 4) USE PERSON FIRST LANGUAGE WHEN TALKING ABOUT PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES. EXAMPLE: "GIRL WITH DOWN SYNDROME" VS. "DOWN SYNDROME GIRL". WHEN YOU DON'T USE PERSON FIRST LANGUAGE YOU ARE LABELING SOMEONE AND MINIMIZING THEM TO THEIR DISABILITY WHEN IN REALITY THEY ARE SO MUCH MORE THAN JUST THAT DISABILITY.
- 5) ATTENDANCE- YOU SHOULD BE IN CLASS EVERY DAY ON TIME. IF YOU NEED TO MISS FOR A SPECIFIC REASON YOU NEED TO HAVE A NOTE. WITHOUT A NOTE YOU WILL BE COUNTED AS ABSENT. **THIS CLASS IS FOR A GRADE. IN ORDER TO DO WELL ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS SHOW UP ON TIME AND PARTICIPATE.**
- 6) CELL PHONES- PLEASE PUT YOUR CELL PHONE AWAY WHILE IN CLASS. IT IS NOT APPROPRIATE FOR YOU TO BE ON YOUR PHONE WHILE IN OUR CLASS. OUR STUDENTS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO HAVE THEIR PHONES OUT SO NEITHER ARE YOU. IF YOU CHOOSE TO USE YOUR PHONE WHILE IN OUR CLASS YOU WILL RECEIVE A REFERRAL.
- 7) PARTICIPATION- WHILE IN OUR CLASS YOU WILL BE ASKED TO WORK WITH SPECIFIC STUDENTS OR A GROUP OF STUDENTS. IF YOU ARE NOT ASSIGNED A GROUP TO WORK WITH PLEASE JUST JUMP IN WHEREVER YOU SEE AN OPENING TO HELP. OUR CLASS IS NOT THE TIME TO WORK ON HOMEWORK OR ASSIGNMENTS FOR OTHER CLASSES.
- 8) THERE WILL BE A BIWEEKLY CHECK IN FOR YOU TO COMPLETE. THERE WILL ALSO BE A FINAL PROJECT THAT WILL BE DUE AT THE END OF THE SEMESTER. THE FINAL PROJECT COUNTS AS YOUR EXAM GRADE.

YOU WILL DO GREAT IN OUR CLASS IF YOU SHOW UP AND BRING A POSITIVE ATTITUDE AND COMPASSIONATE HEART. AGAIN, WE ARE SO THANKFUL TO HAVE YOU! PLEASE ASK IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS.

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