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Dear Parent,

We are excited to welcome back your student for another great school year. We have a few new and changed policies that may affect your student. Please read about the new Peanut Free policy for the district, the changes to the cell phone policy and the new Cardinal Skills policy for Middle School.

Peanut Free

Anyone with a serious peanut allergy can suffer a reaction merely by touching a peanut-containing food or an object (such as library books, toys, markers, etc.) that has been touched by another child that has touched/eaten a peanut product. Therefore, we are becoming a **peanut and tree nut free school** and putting the following safety guidelines into effect:

- Please do not send any peanuts, peanut butter or foods containing peanuts or peanut butter to be eaten as snacks in the school. The same is asked for any tree nuts (Brazil nuts, hazelnuts-Nutella, almonds, pecans, walnuts, cashews, macadamia nuts, coconut, etc.)
- If your child ate peanut butter or Nutella for breakfast, we would greatly appreciate you making sure that his/her hands are washed with soap and water before leaving for school. Water alone does not do the trick!

Cell Phones

Students may possess electronic communication devices including, but not limited to cell phones, smart watches, MP3 players, paging devices, etc., during the school day under the following conditions:

1. Students in grades 7-8 must have their devices in their locker from 8:00 – 3:30. Students will be allowed to check them during lunch
2. Students in grades 9-12 must put devices in the pouches or other teacher designated location upon to entering the classroom. They can be used during passing periods and lunch.
3. Students may also use electronic devices, if given permission by an instructor and are under the direct supervision of the instructor, as a learning tool for activities that are directly related to the class subject area.
4. Students in violation of this policy are subject to the following disciplinary action.

1st offense - Item confiscated and returned to the parent only.

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2nd offense - Item confiscated and returned to the parent after two days and the student is subject to discipline policy

3rd and subsequent offenses - Item confiscated and returned to the parent after one week and the student is subject to discipline policy

Cardinal Skills (Middle School)

It is the belief of the Langdon Area Middle School that a student's letter grade should represent the content that a student has mastered and should not include behaviors such as turning in work late or being prepared for class. Therefore, middle school students will receive two grades for each course they are enrolled in: an academic grade that represents the content, and a Cardinal Skills grade that represents behavior. The Cardinal Skills are:

1. Come to class on time and prepared (agenda, writing utensil, textbook, gym clothes, etc....)
2. Complete and turn in all assignments on time
3. Demonstrate appropriate communication skills (no speaking out of turn, discussions stay on topic, etc....)
4. Participate positively and actively in small and large group activities

Each day of class, students will receive 4 points for Cardinal Skills. If a student fails to demonstrate a skill, they will lose one point. If a student's Cardinal Skills drops below an 80% a plan may be developed to help the student.

If throughout the course of the year you have any questions or concerns any issues, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Stephanie Hochhalter
Secondary Principal

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