



EXCELLENCE WITHOUT EXCEPTION

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Zion Central Middle School
1716 27th Street, Zion IL 60099

Dear 8th Grade Families,

During parent/teacher conferences short information meetings were held for families of 8th grade students to review the criteria for participation in 8th grade end-of-year activities including participation in the promotion ceremony. It was nice to see so many of you in person!

For those parents who were unable to attend the informational sessions during conference we have included a link to the presentation on the Zion Central Middle School website. Please select the Promotion tab to view pertinent information and documents. Attached to this letter is a copy of the 8th grade promotion criteria for your review.

An 8th grade student assembly will be held on Tuesday, October 9 so this information can be reviewed with all students. We do ask that all parents/guardians take the time to review this information with their 8th graders as well so that they have a clear understanding of how they are able to earn the right to participate in all the end-of-year activities, the ceremony and be promoted to 9th grade.

Once this information is reviewed, we ask that you and your child sign the criteria indicating you have received and read the requirements for participation in the 8th grade end-of-year activities. This needs to be returned to your student's homeroom teacher by October 12th.

If you have any questions regarding the promotion criteria, please do not hesitate to contact me at 847-379-0227 or at vshannon@zion6.org.

Sincerely,
Venus Shannon
Principal



8th Grade Promotion Ceremony and End-of-Year Activities Criteria



8th grade students will be required to earn credits based on academic performance and school attendance in order to participate in the end-of-year 8th grade activities, including promotion. Students can earn a total of 7 credits for the year. The following credit system outlines 8th grade participation:

- Earning 7 credits = Great America, 8th Grade Dance, and Promotion
- Earning 6 credits = Great America and 8th Grade Dance only
- Earning 5 credits = Great America only

Academic Performance (worth up to 6 credits)

Students must maintain a grade point average of 1.0 or higher, cumulative, in each core subject, PE/Health, and Explore over the course of the year to earn a credit for that class. The grade used will be the performance grade in each subject area for each quarter. If their GPA is lower than a 1.0 in any of these classes, they may be at risk of not participating in one or more of the end-of-year 8th grade activities.

Below is an example of four student's grades in one of their classes.

A = 4.0 B = 3.0 C = 2.0 D = 1.0 F = 0.0

(Class average – add up the 4 quarters and divide by 4)

| | 1st qtr. | 2nd qtr. | 3rd qtr. | 4th qtr. | Class avg. for the year | Credit Earned |
|-----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-------------------------|---------------|
| Student A | D (1.0) | D (1.0) | F (0.0) | C (2.0) | D (1.0) | Yes |
| Student B | D (1.0) | D (1.0) | F (0.0) | D(1.0) | F (0.75) | No |
| Student C | F (0.0) | D (1.0) | B (3.0) | F (0.0) | D (1.0) | Yes |
| Student D | C (2.0) | D (1.0) | F (0.0) | F (0.0) | F (0.75) | No |

In the examples above, Student A and C would earn a credit for their class towards participation in 8th grade activities.

Attendance (worth 1.0 credit)

Students must be in attendance 90% of the school year in order to participate in the end-of-year activities. This percentage allows a child to be absent 18 days out of the 180-day school year. The following reasons will NOT count against the students' attendance record for the purpose of end-of-year activities: (1) funerals and the death of a close relative/family friend, (2) suspension issued by the school, or (3) each day absence, which a doctor has approved.

Behavior

Student behavior during the 2nd semester of school will be cumulative and result in the loss of 8th grade activities. Students who are absent from school or serving a suspension on the day of the ceremony will not be allowed to participate

1. If a student acquires two (2) major office referrals between January 22, 2019 and the time of the first end-of-year activity, the student **will be excluded from the 8th grade class trip to Great America.**
2. If a student acquires three (3) major office referrals during that same time period, the student **will be excluded from the 8th grade class trip to Great America and the 8th Grade Dance.**
3. If a student acquires four (4) major office referrals during that same time period, the student will **be excluded from the 8th grade class trip to Great America, the 8th Grade Dance, and the Promotion ceremony.**
4. Behavior resulting in an **out-of-school suspension** during second semester **will be equivalent to 2 major ODRs,** excluding students according to number 1-3 above.
5. Building administration reserves the right to make final decisions regarding student participation in 8th grade activities.



I have read and understand the 8th grade promotion ceremony and end-of-year activities criteria.

Student Name / Nombre del Estudiante

Parent's Name / Nombre del Padre

Parent's signature / Firma del Padre

Date / Fecha



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