

Dear Parents:

Shenandoah County Public Schools has the capability to provide online access to your student's current grades and attendance information. The type of student academic information available will vary by grade level. In order to gain this access, return this letter with your signature and your login information will be mailed to you. **If you had a parent portal account for your student(s) last year, you do not need to return this letter. If you need to add a student to your account, then you should sign and return this letter for that student.**

It is essential to understand that final grades are NOT always determined by a simple average of every grade. Some teachers weight certain categories of grades to give them more significance in determining the final grade. Other teachers place more value on evaluations that show a student's progress in knowledge and understanding and give grades based on the final growth, rather than averaging all grades. Teachers explain their grading systems in the course syllabus sent home at the beginning of the year. It is vital that you read these syllabi to determine what grading system each teacher uses. In addition, you may always contact the teacher to get clarification about the methods used to determine six-weeks' grades.

It is also important to maintain a balance between timely reporting of grades and careful evaluation of student work. At this point, it is expected that teachers will record the grades of regular assignments within five days. Major assignments, such as research papers, projects, major papers, discussion tests, etc. will take longer to grade and will therefore not be subject to the five day requirement. Teachers will be expected to update their gradebooks, for viewing by parents, at least once each week. This update will take place on Wednesdays.

Comments or questions may be directed to the principal of your child's school.

Student Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____