

THE CLASSICAL ACADEMY

The Classical Academy is an admissions exam school within Haverhill High School that engages academically promising students in a challenging college preparatory curriculum intended to broaden and deepen their knowledge, skills, understandings, and civic commitment. The Classical Academy will create scholars who are well rounded, cultured, self-disciplined, critical thinkers who can compete at the highest academic levels.

The Classical Academy emphasizes:

- A community of learners with close, supportive connections among teachers, students, and staff
- Inquiry based instruction which promotes careful analysis, creativity, independent thought and problem-solving, and informed decision-making
- Aesthetic appreciation
- Development of individual confidence and high aspirations
- A fully integrated environment
- Regular and continuous intellectual growth
- Cultural linguistic sensitivity
- Independent learning and research

Expectations for Student Learning **Classical Academy**

Section I.

All Classical Academy students are expected to:

Attain an understanding of the educational standards, core knowledge, skills, And concepts defined by the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks.

Students are expected to:

- Earn a grade of 75 or better in a course to advance to the next class, or their academic standing will be reviewed resulting in either probation or removal (**See Section II: Concerning Probationary Status**)
- Satisfy the requirements of the MCAS test, with the goal being at least a Rating of proficient or higher

Take increasing responsibility for educational decisions on a daily and long-term basis.

Students are expected to:

- Attend class regularly and on time, with all materials required for the day's learning activities and prepared to work when class begins.
- Meet all deadlines: late work may be given partial credit at the teacher's

discretion, but failure to submit work on time could, in many cases, result in a zero.

- Comply with the Haverhill High School Plagiarism Policy.
- Seek makeup work when absent and complete it within five days of return.

Complete academic work both independently and cooperatively in a productive manner.

Students are expected to:

- Exhibit exemplary initiative, effort and work ethic in a cooperative setting.
- Work without peer or staff intervention in a productive and timely manner on short and long-term assignments, as directed.

Think critically and solve problems using inductive and deductive reasoning.

Students are expected to:

- Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of problem-solving skills.
- Break down problems into parts, show relationships, combine concepts, and evaluate ideas.
- Apply solutions to problems.
- Provide insightful interpretations, connections, extensions, application, analogies, and judgments both orally and in frequent writing tasks.
- Complete a major research project in at least one subject area each year.

Read effectively and communicate ideas and information using a variety of formats.

Students are expected to:

- Complete reading assignments on time.
- Exhibit an ability to read and listen critically, take notes and form questions.
- Write in a compelling, organized, detailed, and insightful manner.
- Use standard edited academic English in all writing assignments, unless otherwise specified. (e.g., creative assignments).
- Use a dictionary to expand vocabulary, and keep a notebook of all acquired words.
- Speak clearly, appropriately, and logically so that the audience understands their meaning.
- Complete recommended and required summer reading.

Develop an ability to use a variety of media-including the creative and technological-in the process of learning, and demonstrate their acquired learning through use of those media.

Students are expected to:

- Use a wide variety of creative and technological skills.

- Display an in-depth understanding of those skills in various media, including information literacy.
- Possess the ability to evaluate the benefits, accuracy, and appropriateness of these media as a means of communicating information effectively.

Demonstrate respect for individual differences and appreciation for the diversity of a multicultural world.

Students are expected to:

- Participate actively in club, sport, volunteer and/or work activities.
- Contribute regularly to the classroom community.
- Consistently follow school rules and community laws, and behave appropriately in all school settings.

Section II.

Concerning Probationary Status

Students must attain a grade of at least a 75% in a course for any quarter. Failure to meet that threshold will result in academic probation the following quarter. Probationary status would not be reflected on a student's permanent record: it is an administrative and educational tool meant to monitor and assist the student's performance in the desired area.

The initiated actions could be:

- Notification of the parents and a meeting if decided.
- Appointment of a Mentor Teacher by the Principal or Associate Principal from one of the student's Classical Academy teachers.
- Meetings between the Mentor Teacher and the student to appraise the student's progress and arrange remedial actions if warranted.
- Reporting, at the end of the quarter, by the Mentor Teacher to a Probationary Board.

The Probationary Board could consist of an Associate Principal, a designated Classical Academy teacher, and a designated Curriculum Supervisor. The Board would review the problem status of the student and the results of efforts to improve the situation. Recommendations would be solicited from the student's teachers. A final recommendation would be determined by the Board, referred to the Principal, and a meeting would be held with the student's parents if the recommendation is negative.

Recommendations include:

- * Removal from probation
- * Continued probation
- * Removal from the Classical Academy