

## Strategies for Academic Success

➤ **Organizational Systems and avoidance of such:**

Resources includes: planners, electronic calendars, white boards, post-it notes. Other resources: Some teachers use Remind 101, websites, wikis, Google Classroom, Edmodo or Schoology. Use the student portal. Success in high school means studying over the course of the week, not cramming

➤ **Note-taking:**

Check teacher resources; Cornell Method – using text to augment learning; note cards and re-writing notes; writing summaries and making connections

➤ **Reading Strategies:**

Active versus passive reading (review assignment or study guide ahead of time and read strategically); use post-it tags for important sections, passages; use note card(s) for notes and as bookmarks; if possible, write in book – underline, highlight, comments in margins; Spark Notes – for more difficult independent reading, only as needed; talk about the reading with a peer, sibling or parent

➤ **Studying for Exams:**

Reading over your notes is not studying. Rewriting your notes in your own words, using the text to answer questions you have, using a motivated study group or partner to practice/quiz each other – these things are studying. Note cards enhance memory – any writing will enhance memorization.

Use mnemonic devices; utilize learning style and adapt method of studying : visualization, moving around (alternate study locales), reading aloud – so you hear the content, use graphic organizers. Listen to Mozart; visualize success; take a break and exercise for 10-20 minutes between study sessions

➤ **Taking Exams:**

Unload your memory bank (for two minutes) jotting down everything you remember – vocabulary and key concepts. Pace yourself; review whole exam first before beginning to work; answer questions with most point value first; breathe – maintain a positive attitude; skip question you don't know and come back to it; focus on your work – don't worry if you're taking longer than peers; look over your test before you turn it in – make sure you haven't made any silly mistakes – is your name on it? Make sure you develop your ideas fully. Eat a little chocolate prior to your test.

(Thank you to Dr. Zeiher who was a resource for some of these tips.)