The start of a New Year brings many opportunities for those searching for improvement. It’s the time of the year we are given a “fresh start”, the proverbial “clean slate”. And with this new second semester at BDHS, the student body is also given a “fresh start” related to their efforts for better attendance and a reduction of tardies and absences. While we provide less leeway to those who had excessive attendance and tardy issues in the 1st Semester before notifying parents and intervening, we do start over in terms of counting absences and tardies with the commencement of the New Year. To facilitate our partnership in continually forming our young people, please continue to familiarize yourself with the Parent BD Classroom systems which allows you to have a direct visual record of your son’s/daughter’s academic classes, grades, attendance, tardies and more.

We know from past experience that many tardy issues arise from students being late to their 1st period class. To avoid this, we ask each Cardinal family to be diligent with ensuring your children arrive to school by 8:10am. This ten minute window allows the student to get acclimated to the school environment and schedule for the day, attend to their needs at their academic and/or athletic lockers, print that last minute assignment out in the library if need be, or maybe get one last morning snack or bathroom run before the start of their first period. Not surprisingly, it’s an uneasy feeling for the vast majority of students when they are dropped off with less than a minute to get to class. The student rushes in, feeling hurried, and with materials often scattered. Many times the student has to ask their teacher to leave the classroom to visit the locker for material needed or for other reasons. If the student is not prepared for class, this causes more difficulty on the student and the teacher. We like to use the following examples and reminders (or similar variations) with students regarding the importance of punctuality.

“If this was a full time job, would they be late? Would they be late if the consequence could possibly be a loss in employment?”
“Note that you (the student) are not the only one affected by being late. Your teacher and classmates are also impacted. Remember to be considerate to those who are waiting for you, their time is also valuable.”

We look forward to a great second semester and thank you in advance for your continued support!!

_Before you are a leader, success is all about growing yourself. When you become a leader, success is all about growing others._

Stacey L. Carr, M.Ed.
Dean of Students
(805) 967-1266, ext. 105
scarr@bishopdiego.org