October 3, 2016

Dear grade 9 student,

As a result of frequent tardiness, absences, interruptions and behavioural issues, some students in your class (maybe you are one of them) are finding it difficult to learn and demonstrate their learning.

Some new classroom routines to address the challenges listed above are as follows:

1. First 10 minutes of class: The first 10 minutes of class will be silent reading and note taking for specified pages in your text book. Following these 10 minutes, you will respond to three questions that will be evaluated and recorded for marks. You may use your notes but not your text book while answering questions. If you are absent, you can not make up credit for these questions. A total of 150 marks will be recorded for these activities (you have 30 or so chances to make mistakes and still score 100%). This activity is silent.
2. Interruptions: Every time you cause a disturbance during class (interrupt me, another presenter, a fellow classmate, act in a way that prevents others from learning), you owe me 5 minutes of your time after school. Tallies will stay on the board. Raise your hand if you have something to contribute to a discussion.
3. Lates: If you are late for class, sign in and take your seat quietly. Every minute you are late is a minute that you owe me immediately after class. If you miss the bus, you will need to make alternative travel arrangements to get home. Don’t be late for class.

Please initial beside each of the points A, B and C above that you have read and understand them.

I’m looking forward to the rest of the semester with you in this class.

Ms. McDade