

Willowcreek Middle School

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Dear Parent/Guardian:

Willowcreek Middle School is continually looking for strategies to improve the academic excellence of our students. One way we feel we need to improve is our end-of-level test scores. In order for scores to improve, students must know or *master* the concept(s) in each class. This is where “Walkaways” come into play.

What is a “Walkaway?” A walkaway is to ensure each student will *walkaway* completely knowing the core curriculum for each class. Students show mastery through testing.

How do “Walkaway’s” work? Teachers are given the core curriculum of their class/classes at the beginning of the year. From that, the core concepts, or the most important points to learn, are broken down. A “Walkaway” test is given for each of those concepts, which students must master. To show mastery, students may take “Walkaway” tests as many times as needed, until the test is passed at 80%.

What happens if a “Walkaway” is not passed? If a “Walkaway” is not passed, the student receives an “I”, which stands for “in progress” or “incomplete.” The grade will remain an “I” until the “Walkaway” test is passed. If the test is not passed and the “I” taken care of, it will then be changed to an “F”, upon the completion of the semester or school year.

To reach our academic goal, we will be taking some drastic measures. If your student(s) receives an “I” on his/her report card, he/she will no longer be eligible to actively participate in extracurricular activities. This means, if your student(s) is on the basketball team, the student council, the peer leadership team, or the yearbook staff, they will not be eligible to participate in the games, activities, or other things which would take a student out of class. This also includes, choir, band, and orchestra festivals/concerts, drama activities, FFA activities, or any club which will require students to miss any class time whatsoever. Furthermore, any field trip will not be allowed for any student who has an “I” on his/her report card. Once the “I’s” have been made up, the student can come to the office to obtain a current report card. They will need this to show the teacher/advisor they are now eligible to participate in the activities.

At this time, we are asking each student who has received an “I” on their report card, to work hard getting all “I’s” made up. Students who obtain “I’s” during any term are required to make them up by the last day of that class or the “I” will turn to an “F”. (**FOR SEMESTER CLASSES–LAST DAY OF THE SEMESTER; FOR YEAR CLASSES–LAST DAY OF SCHOOL.**) We will be monitoring each grade level weekly and the progress they are making to complete their “I’s”. By doing this, our overall goal is to see students achieve their very best!

Sincerely,

Fred Openshaw
Principal

Stacy Salmans
Assistant Principal

Jarom Becar
Assistant Principal