

IMPORTANT NEWS, FROM THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

CEA is a certified private school in the state of Florida, FLDOE code 3425. One of the responsibilities we have as a school is to know the constant changes of the state legislation regarding schools.

Even if your child is in another state, we follow Florida state and YOUR state graduation requirements to ensure college entry.

Florida has just passed a new legislation requirement regarding students entering 9th grade in 2015: All students, regardless of diploma choice, must earn 24 credits.

CEA has three diploma choices: High Honors: 26-28 credits, College Preparatory: 24 credits, and the standard diploma. The standard diploma is generally for students *not* planning on going to college. Now all students must earn 24 credits to graduate. This means that students should complete 6 credits each year of high school, including 4 core courses and electives.

FLDOE News

CEA New Teachers

CONTEST, CONTEST, CONTEST-PRIZES!

Mr. Zabor – now CEA Tutor, extra help!

Avoid Frustrations with Apex and Gradpoint

New Teachers at CEA

CEA is growing every year, yet we are committed to maintaining a small, intimate private school setting. Most of our teachers have between 15-25 students per class and do their best to interact with students on a regular basis. Our teachers are on year-to-year contracts, yet most stay with us long term. This year, we have added a few new teachers in Apex. Please read their "bios" in Apex when you get a chance. We encourage all students to write their teachers, introducing themselves. The teachers try and do the same! *Welcome...*

Mrs. Smithers: Teaching English 10

Mr. Barnett: Teaching physical, earth science, and physics

Miss Stover: Teaching all Apex Spanish courses!

First CEA contest of the new school year: **PRIZES!**

Build Your Own Dream Course: It's your turn to pretend that you're a teacher! Imagine that you are a teacher at CEA, and Mrs. Z has come to you and asked you to design a *new* course about something that *you* think is really important or fun for students to learn about--something that isn't currently offered at our school. ***What sort of course will you design?***

The course could be related to one of the core subjects (English, math, history, science) but focused on a particular event that's not typically explored in depth. **Or** you might think about something like life skills + taxes and create a course about that, **or** a special type of elective in farming, or car repair, or civic responsibility. Anything you can think of! **To submit an entry in this contest, you need to submit your 'proposal' for this new course.** The details that need to be included are:

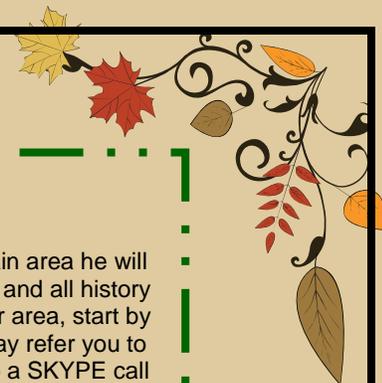
- The name of your course
- A short description of what students will learn about
- A short paragraph or two explaining *why* you think this class is important for students to take
- A list of a few possible readings, videos, field trips, or a potential guest lecturer connected to your course topic

Don't worry, **you don't have to do any lesson plans**, or anything overly specific, I'm looking for big picture ideas. *Please be creative!!!* You could write up a written proposal as an essay, or create a powerpoint. You could video yourself talking about the course as though you were talking with your principal. There are many ways that you could present this information!

6th-8th grade prize winner:
9th-12th grade prize winner:

\$100 Amazon Gift Card
\$125 Amazon Gift Card

SEND ALL ENTRIES TO
CEAMISSGENTILE@GMAIL.COM BY SEPTEMBER 30TH



★ Tutoring now available at CEA

CEA will now have tutoring available starting this fall. Mr. Zabor (Mr. Z) will be CEA's tutor. The main area he will be covering is math: Pre-Algebra through Calculus. He will also cover most of the science courses, and all history topics. If after going through the lessons, you feel that you need a little additional help in a particular area, start by contacting your assigned teacher. Your teacher may work through the problem area with you, or may refer you to Mr. Z for additional work in that particular area. Your teacher will then email Mr. Z and you to set up a SKYPE call to walk you through the difficulty.



Avoid Student Frustration with online classes. See how to stay on Track with courses below.....

With Gradpoint....

Gradpoint frustrations come from: not staying on schedule, failing an assignment and not knowing what to do, and thinking you are flying through the course, by getting away with SKIPPING major assignments.

- ❖ Much of the time you will be working at your own pace, independently. Please remember lessons must be done in order. **This year, you must submit written work before you move to the next lesson, you will not be able to skip written work.** This will avoid you having to do all the written work at the end of the course.
- ❖ All work should be submitted through the Gradpoint system. Only your teacher can give you an exception. This video will help: <http://www.screencast.com/t/UEmKLVUJrb5>
- ❖ **If you get below a 70 on a test** you must email your teacher to reset it (Monday-Friday) or the teacher may give you a different test to help you master the material.
- ❖ DAILY assignments are posted to help keep you on track, but you can always work ahead. Gradpoint posts grades and percentage of work complete. It is important to complete 50% of the work by 12/18/2015.

With Apex....

There are a few areas that frustrate students more than anything: WAITING for teachers, being locked out of an assignment, and falling behind in work.

- Most students work at their own time, around their own schedules and outside activities. **Please remember Teachers work Monday through Friday.** They will respond to you, usually within 24 hours. You may work on the weekends, just expect that a teacher may not respond until Monday.
- **If you FAIL a quiz, it is your responsibility** to email your teacher and let them know. The teacher can either move you forward, or help you with the assignment. You should be able to work through an entire unit (including tests) before reaching a "locked" point. Sometimes, if you are more than three days ahead or behind schedule, the TST will not open. If that happens, email your teacher.
- **All written work MUST be completed before you can move onto the next unit.** The best way to keep moving is to do the written work as you go along instead of saving it until the very end of the unit. Remember that teachers need time to grade written work to ensure that you are understanding the material before we move you into the next unit. Teachers have 1-2 days to grade work, but usually grade things within 24 hrs. If you do not hear back from a teacher after 2 days, just send another email or contact Miss Gentile at ceamissgentile@gmail.com.
- Please **use the calendar** to help you keep on track. You don't necessarily need to complete things on the exact day that they are listed, but as long as you complete all the work that is assigned during the week by Saturday night, you should be on pace. If you **click on the % score** from the Dashboard, you can access the Activity Log that lists all assignments + due dates for that class. Sometimes students find that more helpful than the calendar.

Call the business office if you are stuck, or unable to follow your schedule. We will try and help you!

1-800-886-0501