



ALBANY HIGH SCHOOL

DALE A. GETTO, INTERIM PRINCIPAL

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City School District of Albany

October 18, 2017

Dear Families:

The health and safety of all of our students at Albany High School and throughout the City School District of Albany is a top priority for all of us. I am writing to ask for your partnership in an important matter in these areas at our school.

Albany High is a closed campus. Once students arrive for the school day they are not allowed to leave unless they have permission from a parent or guardian, or for an approved school-sponsored activity. Examples of reasons for students to leave school during the day with permission from home include illness, medical or dental appointments, family emergencies, religious observances or jobs.

Leaving school during the regular school day to buy food or beverages at local businesses – with or without permission from home – is an unexcused absence. Of greater concern, it is a serious safety risk. Students cannot leave school for these reasons at any time during the regular school day, which begins at 7:50 a.m. and ends at 2:50 p.m. Students leaving school during the regular day without appropriate permission from home are violating our Student Code of Conduct. Much more importantly, they are putting themselves at risk while also creating serious safety concerns for others.

For example, if a school emergency happens and a building evacuation is necessary while students are away from school without permission, they would be counted as absent or missing when their teacher is taking attendance following the evacuation. This could lead to a safety risk for a school staff member or emergency responder, who may return to a dangerous situation in the building to try to locate and rescue the missing student. In this case, the student's unexcused absence to buy food or beverages could result in injury or even loss of life for another person charged with their protection.

Our staff at Albany High are responsible for more than 2,500 students on a daily basis. We take this responsibility to each and every student, and each and every family, very seriously. Please talk with your students at home about the important safety concerns for themselves and others that are created when students leave campus without permission. Please discourage them from taking part in this practice. We appreciate your cooperation and partnership in our efforts to ensure the safety and well-being of every student, every day.

Sincerely,

Dale A. Getto
Interim Principal

MISSION

Staff, students, parents, and community will work together to ensure every student will graduate within four years career-ready, college-ready and as engaged citizens of our global society.