

## How to Maintain Good Grades Throughout High School

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On the first day of high school, the stress of maintaining good grades starts the second one sits down and does not ever seem to stop. Schoolwork can become overwhelming and it can be hard to know what to do when you start to fall behind. This article has some tips to provide guidance on how to stay on top of things. These tips may apply to everyone differently!

Everyone has been told that you should get a good night of sleep, eat a good breakfast, sit up straight, et cetera; but the real key to getting good grades and maintaining them is getting into an algorithm. The most effective way to do so is to focus on the four cornerstones of organization: good communication, utilizing resources, attention to detail, and awareness. This article will cover all four of these.

Starting with communication, this is the easiest habit to get into. This skill is the first step to getting organized. Without communication, it is not possible for teachers to know how students are doing, if they are struggling with content, if students need extra help or special arrangements, etc. The most effective way to do this is to ask as many questions as possible. For one, this improves one's engagement in class and shows the teacher that you want to learn. This also may strike teachers' attention as important information that should be clarified with the class, which in turn will help your peers as well. Asking questions, whether that be over email, in class, or one-on-one, will improve your awareness, engagement, and overall ability to understand material.

Utilizing resources is a huge part of getting on top of schoolwork. Procrastination does not necessarily root from laziness, but from the negative feelings that students feel from having to complete a difficult task. So instead of pushing things off, ask for help! Meet with a teacher one-on-one, join after school math lab, meet with an NHS tutor (it's free!), or get a study group together. A lot of students do not realize how many free resources we have at school! Talk to a counselor about academic resources to figure out which option fits your needs best.

Paying attention to detail will save you a lot of stress in the long run. Whether it means keeping a list of reminders or checking teacher websites every night, staying diligent about this can allow students to create a timeline for work and grades. It is as simple as getting into the habit of jotting down a few notes or highlighting important details that will save you!

Awareness wraps up all four of these components, emphasizing the importance of investing time into goals as a student. When students are aware, it becomes a lot easier to feel balanced and content with school, as well as life outside of school.

By focusing on these aspects of organization, schoolwork--whether that be online or in person--will become much more manageable and students' school career will flourish.



Setting goals will bring you far!  
Photo courtesy of US News.



Participating is the first step!  
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