**AFS ACADEMIC COMMITMENT**

AFS is a cultural exchange program that requires school attendance and participation in high school life. Students are required to do the best they can even if the classes do not count for credit in their own country. Students are also encouraged to choose an after-school activity (a sport or a club) during each season they are here. We ask that you review this document with your host family and/or liaison. Please remember, we are all available to assist you in your intercultural journey.

1. Students are **expected to attend class** except for illness or excused activities such as AFS or school activities. Absences must be excused according to the school’s policy and guidelines. This usually requires a note from host parents.
2. Students are expected to **pass all classes with a satisfactory grade (typically a C or above)**. Students usually can maintain this grade by taking all tests, quizzes, actively participating in class, and completing homework. In the U.S., homework must be turned in by the deadline given and counts for part of your grade.
3. Your assignments must be completed by you. Please take note that plagiarism is taken very seriously in the U.S. academic system and can result in disciplinary action such as suspension or expulsion. **Plagiarism** *is defined as the practice of taking someone else's work or ideas and passing them off as one's own.*
4. Students are encouraged to **show their grades/report card to their host parents and liaison** as a supportive measure to track academic progress.
5. Should a student experience challenges in school, they are expected to **talk to their teacher, host family or liaison** about how to resolve the problem.
6. Students are expected to **balance school and studying with other activities,** like sports and clubs. Not participating in other activities just to focus on academics is not consistent with the mission of the AFS program. If a student struggles to achieve this balance, we encourage them to speak to their host family, liaison, or school support.

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Name Signature

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Date