**Intended and Unintended Consequences of Policies**

1. Students are allowed to take a maximum of two on-line classes starting in 9th grade.

**Intended Consequences:**

Provides an opportunity for students to take classes they can’t fit into their schedules.

**Unintended Consequences:**

Advanced students may be ready for coursework available on-line earlier than 9th grade.

Advanced students may benefit from taking more than two on-line courses.

2. Students are not allowed to take algebra until 9th grade.

**Intended Consequences:**

Students may not have the math background or understanding of math concepts to learn algebra before 9th grade.

Students may skip over important math learnings in their basic math classes and have gaps in their math backgrounds if they take algebra in middle school.

**Unintended Consequences:**

Students who are ready to learn math at higher levels are not allowed the opportunity.

If students aren’t allowed to take algebra until 9th grade, they will not have the opportunity to take more advanced math classes such as calculus or trigonometry during their high school years.

3. Students must be in 11th or 12th grade to take AP classes. (College Board doesn’t care what grade a student is in.)

**Intended Consequences:**

Students will be older and more capable of handling the rigor of AP classes.

**Unintended Consequences:**

Advanced students may be ready for the rigor of AP classes in 9th or 10th grade.

Advanced students will not have the opportunity to take a full range of AP classes.

4. Students have to meet strict requirements to take AP classes.

**Intended Consequences:**

This will insure that only those students who have demonstrated through past academic success that they are capable of doing hard course work will be in AP classes.

**Unintended Consequences:**

High ability students who do not have good grades may be excluded from classes that would challenge them. Past circumstances such as family instability or boredom may have contributed to lower grades rather than lack of ability.

5. Students must be enrolled in high school to take high school classes for credit.

**Intended Consequences:**

This will insure that students who earn less than an A on a high school class they took as a middle school student will not have that lower grade on their high school transcript.

**Unintended Consequences:**

Students are not as motivated to do their best without the incentive of earning a grade that counts.

Student may be required to retake the class in order to have a grade for it on their high school transcript.

6. Early Entrance to Kindergarten requirements are so strict that no child qualifies.

**Intended Consequences:**

Strict requirements will insure that children do not enter kindergarten before they are ready.

**Unintended Consequences:**

Young children with advanced abilities (particularly those from disadvantaged homes) will not have the opportunity to go to school even though they are ready to do kindergarten or higher work.