



Learning Habits

Because meeting The Guiding Principles is required as a graduation standard for the class of 2018, there is a need to differentiate between the Learning Habits and the academic grade. In some courses, the assignment grade may include specific learning habits (e.g., adhering to due dates, attendance, and/or participation).

The expectations for Learning Habits for each teacher will be explained to students and parents in the opening day Course Introduction Material (First Day Sheet). Students at Medomak Valley High School are required to show evidence of the following Learning Habits:

Respect

- appropriate language
- positive attitude
- appropriate use of technology
- general civility

Effort

- engagement
- perseverance

Preparedness

- attendance
- punctuality
- time management

Once each quarter, teachers will include on the report card the number a student has earned for the Learning Habits in that class for that quarter using the following rubric:

4 Exemplary	3 Acceptable	2 Needs Improvement	1 Rarely
Student consistently meets the required Learning Habits.	Most of the time the student meets the required Learning Habits.	Some of the time the student meets the required Learning Habits.	Rarely does the student meet the required Learning Habits.

Medomak Valley High School's designated Learning Habits are directly tied to *Maine's Guiding Principles* as indicated on the next page.

Beginning with the class of 2018 in order to earn a proficiency-based diploma, MVHS requires that a student earns four threes (3) or fours (4) by the end of their junior year in order to demonstrate proficiency with the Guiding Principles. Students who do not satisfy this requirement must meet it in another way that may include a course or a comparable substitution as approved by administration.

Students in the classes of 2015, 2016, 2017 will be rated on the Learning Habits, but the ratings will not be a graduation requirement.

Maine's Guiding Principles state that each Maine student must leave school as:	Medomak Valley High School's Corresponding Learning Habits:
A. A clear and effective communicator who:	
Demonstrates organized and purposeful communication in English and at least one other language	Respect: civility
Uses evidence and logic appropriately in communication	Effort: engagement
Adjusts communication based on the audience	Respect: appropriate language, civility
Uses a variety of modes of expression (spoken, written and visual and performing including the use of technology to create and share the expressions)	Respect: appropriate language, appropriate use of technology
B. A self-directed and lifelong learner who:	
Applies knowledge to set goals and make informed decisions	Effort: engagement Preparedness: time management
Applies knowledge to set goals and make informed decisions	Effort: engagement, perseverance
Applies knowledge in new contexts	Effort: engagement; Preparedness: time management, punctuality
Demonstrates initiative and independence	Preparedness: attendance, punctuality, time management Effort: engagement, perseverance
Demonstrates flexibility including the ability to learn, unlearn and relearn	Effort: perseverance Preparedness: attendance, punctuality, time management
Demonstrates reliability and concern for quality	Effort: perseverance Preparedness: attendance, punctuality, time management
Uses interpersonal skills to learn and work with individuals from diverse backgrounds	Respect: appropriate language, civility
C. A creative and practical problem solver who:	
Observes and evaluates situations to define problems	Effort: engagement, perseverance
Frames questions, makes predictions and designs data/information collection and analysis strategies	Effort: engagement, perseverance
Identifies patterns, trends and relationships that apply to solutions	Effort: engagement, perseverance
Generates a variety of solutions, builds a case for a best response and critically evaluates the effectiveness of the response	Effort: engagement, perseverance Preparedness: time management
Sees opportunities, finds resources and seeks results	Effort: engagement, perseverance
Uses information and technology to solve problems	Effort: engagement, perseverance
Perseveres in challenging situations	Effort: perseverance

D. A responsible and involved citizen who	
Participates positively in the community and designs creative solutions to meet human needs and wants	Respect: appropriate language, positive attitude, civility Effort: engagement and perseverance Preparedness: attendance, punctuality, time management
Accepts responsibility for personal decisions and actions	Respect: civility Preparedness: attendance, time management
Demonstrates ethical behavior and the moral courage to sustain it	Respect: appropriate use of technology, civility
Understands and respects diversity	Respect: appropriate language, civility
Displays global awareness, economic and civic literacy	Effort: engagement
Demonstrates awareness of personal and community health and wellness	Respect: civility
E. An integrative and informed thinker who:	
Gains and applies knowledge across disciplines and learning contexts and to real-life situations with and without technology	Effort: engagement, perseverance
Evaluates and synthesizes information from multiple sources	Effort: engagement, perseverance
Applies ideas across disciplines	Effort: engagement, perseverance
Applies systems thinking to understand the interaction and influence of related parts on each other and on outcomes	Effort: engagement, perseverance

United States. State of Maine. Department of Education. *Guiding Principles*. Maine Department of Education, 2013. Web. 08 June 2014.