

Welcome Parents!

AmEx Information Night



PARENTS MATTER!

A strong support system at home can make a huge difference in the academic success and emotional stability of an AP student.



YOUR CHILD IS ABOUT TO BEGIN...

"Advanced Placement" classes? What does that mean? What is "The American Experience"? As a parent, what can I expect?

The purpose of this evening presentation is to inform parents of students about to enter "The American Experience" class what they can expect from instructor and class. Mr. Geib will discuss expectations, work load, stress levels, the "AP" system, college applications, "AP" exams, and how a parent can play a supportive role during the all-important junior year of high school.

Mr. Geib sees parents as a child's first and foremost teacher, and therefore he seeks to keep parents informed of the ideas behind "The American Experience," as well as about key events and emotions to expect. Past such evenings have shown Mr. Geib that teacher-parent planning and consultation in advance can prevent problems and misunderstandings in the future. Such is the hope.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT?

"Advanced Placement" classes are college-level courses intended for precocious, ambitious, and well-prepared high school students. Depending on how they score on culminating "AP exams," students can earn college credit for their AP high school courses.

The AP curriculum and AP exams are created by the College Board. AP classes are increasingly important in the highly competitive college application process. AP classes receive "weighted" marks for G.P.A. calculation.

TO KEEP IN MIND:

- Mr. Geib seeks to **REWARD** students for what they do well, not merely to **penalize** them for their mistakes.
- **One failed exam or essay does not a failed year make!** Academic resilience is a key trait many "AP" students need to learn.
- **Pace yourself.** Anyone can stay on top of course work in October, but the class continues all the way until the next June. Be aware of this!
- **Be consist in your work habits.** A large task is easily completed over several nights. Don't procrastinate!
- **If you work hard, play hard!** Rest and relaxation and requisite for this class.



AmEx class website log-in information:

login: foothilltech
password: fths!geib

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AmEx Computer Needs:

A fast computer and broadband Internet connection are very helpful, though not mandatory!

Prepare for next year!

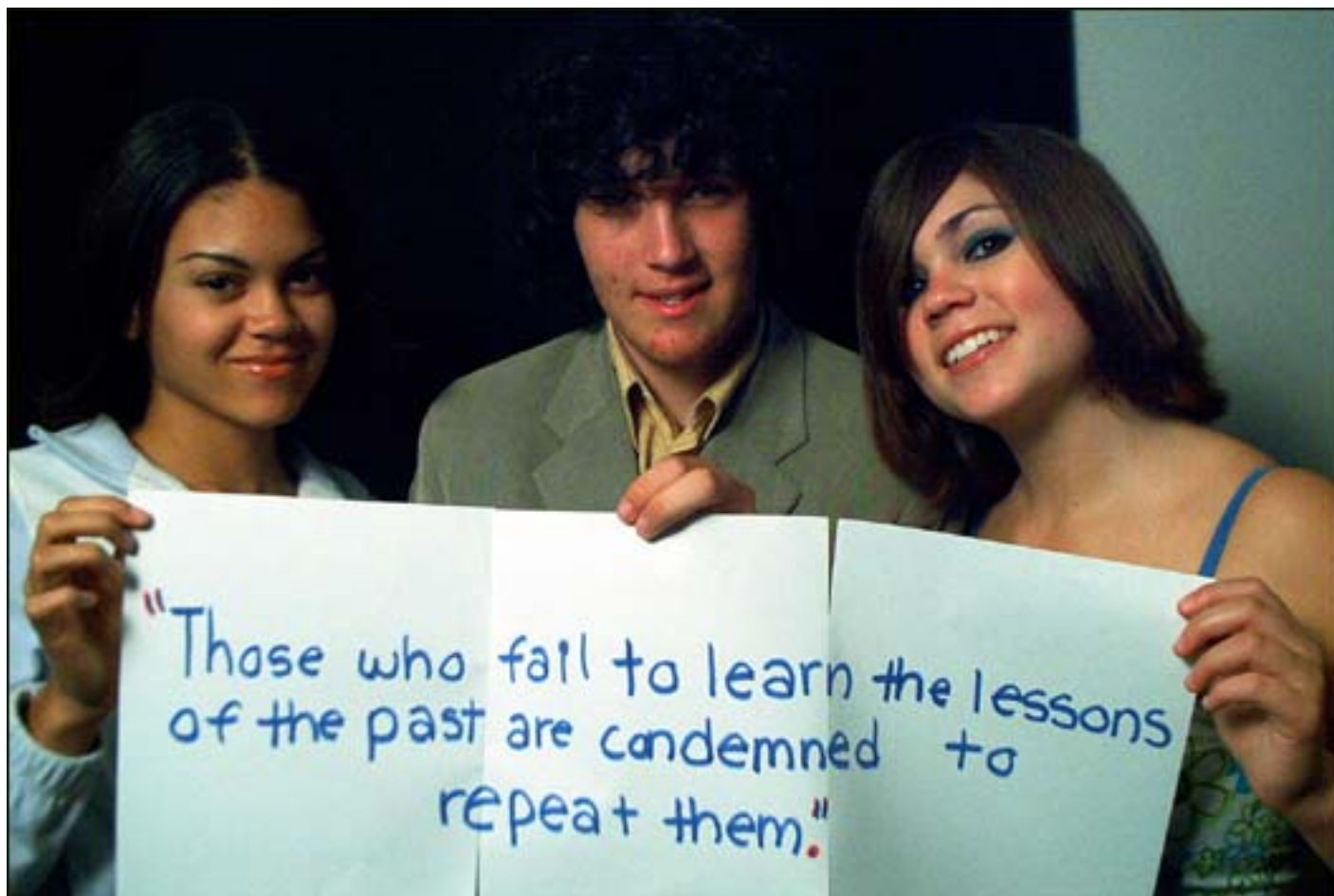
THE DIFFICULT FIRST FEW MONTHS...

Many students taking Advanced Placement classes for the first time encounter a shock at the beginning of the year. **The reading is extensive and the class moves rapidly; what might have earned an "A" in the past in AP earns a C.** There often exists a difficult period of re-adjustment wherein "American Experience" students struggle to write and reason at the university level. The temptation to drop the class often proves tempting.

Nevertheless, with patience, perseverance, and hard-work most AmEx students by November find themselves in "the groove" and enjoy success in the class. **Praise and support from parent and teacher count for much!**

STUDENT SUMMER WORK:

AP-caliber students labor all year long to try and live up to their teacher's high expectations, but during the summer they should have a break, in Mr. Geib's opinion. **AmEx students will read two assigned books over the summer and that is it!** Students will then have the rest of the summer free to read according to taste or whim. This is much less summer work than in similar classes, and it is by design. **Mr. Geib believes that summers are for rest and relaxation.**



Learn from past year's mistakes so as to avoid pitfalls during your own "American Experience"!

Being a parent of a college-bound young adult can be daunting. What tests and grades does my child need? By when? How much will college cost? Loans, scholarships, grants? **Visit the excellent College Board parent website to get all the information!**

COLLEGE BOARD PARENT INFORMATION SITE:

<http://www.collegeboard.com/parents/>