

PURPOSE: To allow for students with large gaps in their schedule to leave campus for lunch

INTRODUCED BY: Morgan Smith

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MISSISSIPPI SCHOOL FOR MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE

SECTION ONE (DEFINITIONS):

“O” Plan: The highest privilege plan offered at MSMS, given only to seniors in outstanding academic and residential standing.

SECTION TWO (REASONING):

Seniors who have earned “O” Plan have proven themselves to be extremely responsible. To be eligible for “O” Plan, a student must be punctual, with no more than two tardies and zero unexcused absences over the previous nine-week period. As a reward, these students should be allowed to leave campus for lunch given they have a 2+ hour gap in their schedule.

MSMS students, especially those which maintain “O” Plan, manage incredibly stressful day-to-day lives. Allowing them to leave campus for lunch would provide them with the opportunity to absorb a brief change of scenery before returning to campus recharged and ready to get back to work. This privilege would both enhance the lives of “O” Plan students and encourage students on lower privilege plans to strive for “O” Plan so they can get off-campus lunch with their friends.

Additionally, to adequately balance this privilege, certain guidelines should be put in place with it. If a student ever fails to return to campus on time for their next class, resulting in a tardy or unexcused absence, their privilege to sign out before 2:00 p.m. for lunch should be permanently revoked. Signing out for lunch should also count for one of an “O” Plan student’s five weekly general errands.

MSMS is a college preparatory school for the academically gifted. In college, students are often given the opportunity to leave campus during their off periods, including to go out for lunch. MSMS would be doing its students a service by allowing them to leave campus for lunch and hone their time management skills in the process. Additionally, no student would be given a challenge they are unprepared for, as “O” Plan students have consistently shown their responsibility and time management skills throughout their stay at MSMS.

SECTION THREE (APPENDIX):

- a) *“I think we should be able to [leave campus for lunch]. It would give everyone something to look forward to during the day and would be a nice way to accommodate students’*

diets on days they don't like what's offered in Hogarth. Like, I don't really eat fish, so it would be nice to leave campus on Friday to get something else to eat." – Anya Klein, MSMS Senior

SECTION FOUR (SPECIFIC CHANGE):

On page 100 of the student handbook (PDF page 106) under the section "Sign In & Sign Out / Off Campus Permissions," the following should be changed to:

SIGN IN & SIGN OUT / OFF CAMPUS PERMISSION

RL.82. In general, no routine sign outs are allowed before 2:00 p.m. or the end of the student's last class, if later than 2:00 p.m., Monday – Friday. **However, if a student is on "O" Plan and has a gap in their schedule of 2+ hours off during the day, they may leave campus for lunch. If they ever fail to return in time for their next class, their privilege to do this will be taken away permanently.** Return time will be determined by the privileges the students have earned and their mode of travel.

On page 102 of the student handbook (PDF page 108) under the section "Sign Out Times," the following should be changed to:

Sign out Times

Monday – Thursday

- RL.94. Daily sign outs begin after 2:00 p.m. or after students finish their last class, whichever is later. **However, if a student is on "O" Plan and has a gap in their schedule of 2+ hours off during the day, they may leave campus for lunch.**
- RL.95. There is a 3-hour limit per sign out. Students must be in by 6:30 p.m. during Daylight Savings Time and 5:30 p.m. during Central Standard Time.
- RL.96. If students want to sign out with a visitor, the visitor must be on their On/Off Campus Visitation List.

On page 121 of the student handbook (PDF page 127) under the section "Earned Privilege Plans," the following should be changed to:

THE "O" PLAN

(Only offered to seniors)

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA			PRIVILEGES	
GRADES	• Percentage Average: 93-100 or All A's • No NCs and no C's		LIGHTS OUT	Regular
VIOLATIONS	• No more than two Level I written warnings • No Level II or III		CURFEW	Regular
SATURDAY SCHOOL	• No more than 1 hr assigned for academic reasons		STUDY HOURS	3 days a week not required (remember that others will be studying)
EXTRA-CURRICULAR	• Participation/ Membership in 2 activities, clubs, sports, or organizations during the previous 9 weeks		TV TIME	• Ends 12:00 a.m. Sunday – Thursday • Study hours – on nights not required
ATTENDANCE	• No unexcused absences • No more than two tardies during the nine-week period		SIGN OUT LIMIT (weekend)	7 hours
WORK SERVICE	• Outstanding rating		CAR USE	• Monday – Thursday for general errands [4 hours; local; in by 10:00] • Lunch sign outs [before 2:00 p.m.; only allowed if gap in schedule is 2+ hours; counts as general errand] • 5 general purpose sign-outs [4 hours; local; in by 10 p.m.] • 3 special event sign-outs [48 hours prior permission from the Hall Director]
RESIDENTIAL LIVING	• Outstanding rating			
WELLNESS	• Outstanding rating			