

LMS and LHS Introduces ICU Program

Lyman Middle and High School is introducing a program this fall in efforts to provide targeted student assistance for all of our students. This program is called the Power of ICU program. The ICU program will create accountability with students in the middle school and high school by utilizing time inside of the school day to work directly with students without the loss of instructional time.

The acronym ICU means just what you think it does: "Intensive Care Unit". ICU provides a time for students that may require more individualized instruction to work with teachers in the specific content areas requiring attention. ICU is not optional for students. They are assigned to ICU by teachers on an "as-needed" basis. That being said, ICU is also not a disciplinary tool, rather it's a time for students to be able to have the guidance and help they may require to be more successful in the classroom.

A great feature of ICU is the communication piece. Every time a student is assigned to the ICU database, the parent's cell phone and email address will be sent a notification about their child's ICU placement. The students will also receive a notification on their school email informing them of the ICU assignment. As a parent, it's important to remember that when you receive an ICU notice, it's not a negative, it's a chance to address issues quickly and timely with your child and to help them organize and be productive during the school year. Please talk with your children about their ICU assignments – it's all a beneficial part of creating more responsibility and communication for our student at Lyman.

The reasons of incorporating ICU

One of the main problems middle and high schools are facing across the board is incomplete or poorly completed assignments. Incomplete assignments (zeros in the gradebook) are a lose-lose situation. It indicates that no learning took place, which is seldom ever the case. This program is designed to facilitate assignment completion by providing some extra time if needed. Our goal in using the ICU program is 100% assignment completion for LMS and LHS. And, if and when they submit assignments that may be sub-standard, our hope is to provide timely remediation, so they gain a better understanding of the concept they are being taught.

Below are the steps involved in the ICU program:

Student does not submit work or submitted work is not completed to expectations:

1. Student will be assigned to the ICU list by content area teacher requesting remediation.
2. Parents and students will receive communication of the ICU placement.
3. Student will attend the next ICU with the teacher that placed them on the ICU list.
4. Once the assignments is satisfactorily completed, the student will be removed from the ICU list.

When assignments are completed and completed well, learning, retention and grades improve. Data has shown that the ICU program is effective in lowering the percentage of failing grades and helping students be more successful and responsible in the classroom. We anticipate seeing the same results at LMS and LHS.

We're excited to begin this program at LMS and LHS. If you have any questions about the program, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Uthe at the school.

Go Raiders!