

Terra Nova Incentive Program: 2009

To Qualify:

- Core Subjects: English (Language); Math; Social Studies; Science: Student must score in the upper quartile (76th percentile or above) in the respective subject.
- Non-Core Subjects: Student must score an overall **average** of 76 or above in the 4 core subject areas (above).
- The sponsor and student must both sign an agreement form that would act as an excused absence for the missing exams.
 - The sponsor is responsible for transportation outside the regular bus schedule.
 - Students are not allowed on the school campus during the absence time.
 - Students out of compliance will forfeit the incentive contract and be required to complete all exams.

The Incentive: A student who qualifies (as explained above) will be exempted from the half day of school for the respective exam and the preparation class that precedes it. The student may opt to take an exam to improve the semester grade (not lower it), but the student is then required to attend the entire half-day.

Example:

	NP-L	NP-M	NP-SS	NP-S	AVERAGE
STUDENT 1	93	84	88	67	83
STUDENT 2	73	73	87	84	79
STUDENT 3	76	70	75	70	73

Student 1: would be exempt from all exams except Science (other 3 core subjects above 75; average above 75, so exempt from non-core exams).

Student 2: would be exempt from all exams except English and Math (other 2 core subjects above 75; average above 75, so exempt from non-core exams).

Student 3: would be exempt from English (other 3 core subjects not above 75; average not above 75, so not exempt from non-core exams).

Advantages:

- Teachers/Students would have an easily identifiable criterion to immediately identify who qualified and who didn't (the green highlighted spreadsheet cells). No comparisons would be necessary for the exemption. Teachers could use comparison information for other data driven research.
- Seniors would not be part of the incentive program since they are already out of school during the final exam timeframe.
- There are 148 students in the first quartile and 189 students in the second quartile. The goal is to increase the number of students in the first quartile with a robust incentive program.
- The incentive represents a **major reward** that shows how serious we are about improving test scores. It also helps teachers prepare for exams with the students who need it the most.