Sample Review of a Student’s Graded Paper

Student’s appointment form. Notice how the student explains that the paper has already been graded and that the course instructor’s comments are included:

An excerpt of the student’s draft, with Writing Center feedback responding to and elaborating on faculty feedback:

Entering ninth grade can be one of the most emotionally difficult, most academically challenging times in children’s lives. Along with the self-esteem issues, developmental changes and environmental shakeup faced by the young adolescents, school districts risk watching their ninth graders fall through the cracks without proper transitional programs in place. In fact, researchers have identified ninth grade as the most critical point to intervene and prevent students from losing motivation, failing and dropping out of school.

Some school districts across the country are finding the best way to address the need is by creating ninth grade academies or centers and schools within schools. These entities are designed to smooth the transition to high school and give students the attention they need during this critical time (Reents, p. 14). For example, a high school in Virginia found that freshmen were not being successful because of high absenteeism, discipline referrals, suspensions, and core course failures. They found that identifying at-risk eighth grade students and inviting them to participate

Comment [FAC1]: Says who? There is no citation here.
Comment [WU2]: Your course instructor wants you to support these points about adolescents and school districts. What researchers studied these topics and made determinations? Be sure to cite sources to tell the reader where you are getting the information.
Comment [FAC3]: What need?
Comment [WU4]: I agree with your course instructor that you will need to provide a bit more explanation to link the idea of a need with what you discussed in the previous paragraph. Do you mean the need for transitional programs?
Comment [FAC5]: APA format.
Comment [WU6]: To follow APA format completely, add the year of publication. A year should always be included in a parenthetical citation. (Reents, 2013, p. 14).
in a ninth grade intervention program proved successful. They implemented a study skills and organizational skills curriculum during a modified block schedule in Languages Arts and Algebra, to further student development in academics and social skills. Part of the program’s purpose was to increase motivation through goal setting, academic achievement, social and behavioral skills, academic awards, self-assessment, cooperative learning, and setting group norms [Caldwell, p. 21].

Another strategy many school districts are implementing around the country, are “bridge” programs designed to demystify and ease at-risk eighth grade students into ninth grade.