



April 9, 2020

Greetings Middle School Bulldogs,

I hope this message finds you doing well during this challenging time. I would like to thank you for your support and patience during this time of uncertainty. The way the Bulldog community has come together these last few weeks is more proof of the strong West York spirit of which we can all be proud. This is certainly new territory for all of us, and together we can work to support each other and our students. Even though we are socially distanced, our technology can help us to stay connected. I wanted to provide you with the following information about what this 'distance learning' will look like for our students.

Canvas

Starting on Tuesday, April 14, 2020, our teachers will be using Canvas as a way to provide instruction, videos, and other resources for students as we continue our 'distance learning'. Canvas is our online Learning Management System that serves as a 'one-stop shop' for students to access all of their classes. The website for Canvas can be found [HERE](#) or also on the tab to the right. Informational videos about how to use and access Canvas are also included on the Middle School's main webpage. Students can enroll in the following course on Canvas to learn more about how to navigate this site: [CANVAS 101.](#)

Technology Help

If your student does experience any technology issues with their District-issued chromebook or with accessing Canvas, please feel free to reach out to the District Helpdesk. If support is needed, please reach out through our website [HERE](#) or by calling the District Helpdesk at 717-792-2796 x 2044. The Helpdesk is available from 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM every school day.

Student Expectations for Distance Learning

Students should be logging in to Canvas daily in order to complete assignments for all of their classes. The week will begin at 8:00 AM on Monday (Tuesday for the week of April 14th given the holiday), and students will have assignments to complete for each of their classes throughout the week. Each teacher has created their own Canvas page which provides the needed resources for students, the assignments for the week, and ways for students to communicate with the teacher. Teachers will post these office hours when they are available to help assist students through email or even virtual meetings through Zoom. Students should make sure to communicate with teachers if they have questions, so that teachers can respond to them and assist as those needs arise.

Zoom is an online video site that teachers may be using in order to connect with students. We are asking our families to please review and implement the following guidelines for 'distance learning' during Zoom sessions held by teachers and when communicating with teachers online. Students should display the Middle School BARK (Be Prepared, Act Responsibly, Respect Others, Keep Safe) traits during all Zoom sessions.

- All students are expected to review and abide by the following set of expectations for all virtual sessions. Failure to do so may result in discipline according to the Student Code of Conduct.

1. Cyberbullying, or bullying in any form, is not acceptable behavior for any student enrolled in West York Area School District classes. Any student found to be involved in these activities will be disciplined according to the Code of Conduct.
2. Be respectful at all times.
3. Be aware of your surroundings for inappropriate material that might be seen during an online Zoom session.
4. Do not post or share any inappropriate material.
5. Dress appropriately; the school dress code applies to online Zoom sessions.
6. Maintain integrity at all times. Cheating is considered a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

Attendance

All teachers will take attendance on a weekly basis at the secondary level. Students will be assigned an “Attendance Assignment” in Canvas by their teachers. All students will have the week to complete the assignment (8:00 AM on Mondays until 11:59 PM on Saturdays). Teachers will then enter attendance every Monday morning for the week prior. It is very important for students to submit their attendance assignments for each teacher each week.

Daily Announcements

To help us all stay connected, we have continued to broadcast our Daily Announcements, the “Bulldog Newz”. Click [HERE](#) for the YouTube channel for these daily announcements. While we do share some important information with students and families through these announcements, we hope that they can also serve as a way to keep us connected and perhaps bring a smile to each day.

We understand that each family is facing unique challenges, and due to these extraordinary circumstances, the District will strive to be flexible in our understanding and approach to these challenges during this time. Further, while we do expect that each student will attend lessons and work to the best of his or her ability, please know that our priority for Distance Learning throughout the closure is that students will not be penalized for circumstances beyond their control.

As always, thank you for our partnership, and please follow the guidelines for remaining safe and healthy!

With Bulldog Pride,

Anthony L. Campbell

Principal