Huntingdon Area School District

Bearcat Institute of Learning and Development
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Mr. John L. Bilich - Online Coordinator

Dear HS Online Parents,

I know you are all anxiously awaiting information on procedures for the beginning of the school year for your online learners. By Wednesday (9/2/20) evening, you will have received multiple emails with your student's logins, passwords, and student ID number. These pieces of information will all be important this year. You also will have received an email from Odysseyware giving you your login information for the Parent Portal so you can help monitor the progress of your student's Odysseyware courses. A tutorial can be found here: https://www.odysseyware.com/training-resources/parent-portal Please note that the High School delivery, which uses multiple platforms (Moodle, Google Classroom, Odysseyware) is different than the Elementary platform (PathBlazer), which is different still from the Middle School delivery method (Primarily Odysseyware).

Attendance
Even though classes at the HS level are designed so you can work at your own pace, PDE tells us that we have to maintain regular attendance. Monday through Friday between the hours of 6AM and 10AM, we will need you or your learner to use the following link to register attendance. If your family does not fill out this form once for each student, every day, he/she will be marked absent.
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeWbODRRQWWtmdVByROliGpQ2flXWhSWQ1AIDkpnIej_VHnxw/viewform

Computer/iPad/Books
Use of an iPad is not required as our classes are comprised of a web-based curriculum that can be accessed from any web browser such as Google Chrome, Internet Explorer, Firefox, etc. If you wish to use a District issued iPad, you may pick one up, along with any needed books, in the High School Cafeteria between 10AM and 3PM on Wednesday, September 2nd, or make alternate arrangements to pick them up at a different time.

Odysseyware, Google Classroom, Moodle
Your student(s) will have coursework delivered through one of three platforms. Courses are designed so your student(s) can work at their own pace at times that are convenient for your family. The pacing information inside Odysseyware will keep your learner on track by telling them how many lessons they must complete per day in order to finish the required amount of work by the end of the marking period. Google Classroom and Moodle rely more on the traditional due dates to keep pace with course completion. Students can work ahead if they wish. Be sure to bookmark https://huntingdon.owschools.com/ for easy access or click the Odysseyware link from the quick links section of the www.huntsd.org webpage. I

found a really helpful youtube orientation for students that is only about 14 minutes long. I would suggest watching this video as it might answer a lot of questions about how to use the software. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yhKCZ9zi6XM&t=21s

Your student will have a HASD teacher assigned to each of their courses. If you have any questions about the course or if your learner needs more help than is offered within the course curriculum, they can schedule a time to meet with their facilitator by sending a message through Odysseyware, Google Classroom, or Email. Families can also schedule homework help that is available in the evening by HASD teachers. Lastly, there are times available throughout the day that HAHS teachers will be available for help in the High School Library. These help sessions must be scheduled ahead of time and families must provide transportation to and from the High School for this face-to-face help.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

John L. Bilich
Online Coordinator/Athletic Director