

Huntingdon Area School District

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

Dear Elementary Online Parents,

I know you are all anxiously awaiting information on procedures for the beginning of the school year for your online learners. I hope the “meet the teacher” zoom meetings were informative and helped to ease your concerns about online learning this year. By Wednesday (9/2/20) evening, you will have received an email with your student’s login, password, and student ID number. These pieces of information will all be important this year. You also will have received an email for PathBlazer giving you registration information and instructions for the Parent Portal so you can help monitor the progress of your online learners. A tutorial can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WMLfQfUK4-w> Please note that the Middle School platform is different than the Elementary platform (PathBlazer), which is different still from the High School delivery method (Moodle, Google Classroom, Odysseyware).

Attendance

Even though classes in the PathBlazer platform 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/1FAIpQLSeWbODRRQWWtmdVByROliGpQ2flXWhSWQ1AIDkpnlej_VHnxw/viewform

Computer/iPad

Use of an iPad is not required as PathBlazer is 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 at your learner’s school between 8AM and 3PM on Wednesday, September 2nd, or make alternate arrangements to pick it up at a different time.

PathBlazer

Your student(s) will have coursework delivered primarily through PathBlazer and possibly a few other platforms that your online teacher will make you aware of. 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 PathBlazer 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. Students can work ahead if they wish. Be sure to bookmark [Clever](#) for easy access or click the Clever 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=g7ZTrgJZ6Ho>

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 PathBlazer, SeeSaw, 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 teachers will be available for help in the elementary schools. These help sessions must be scheduled ahead of time and families must provide transportation to and from the 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