

Virtual Academy @ Randolph Middle School Newsletter Week of October 4, 2021

4829 Tabernacle School Rd Asheboro, NC 27205 Phone: 336.318.0076 Fax: 336.318.0809



Middle School Teachers will begin hosting a student social lunchtime with each grade level once a week!

It is not a class, not a grade and is completely optional!

Students will be able to see and talk with each other, just like in the cafeteria!

Take a break from the chat box and talk for real!

Look in Google Calendar for your invite!



A few gentle reminders:

- Conversations will need to remain school appropriate.
- Rudeness, cursing or disrespect will result in the student being removed from the meet and a phone call home will be made.
- When you are not talking, please remain muted. Teachers and students can hear everyone and everything in the background when your microphone is on.

Hello Voyager Families!

Last Monday we will restated google meet expectations, refreshed student's knowledge on navigating Pearson, and learned how to use Google Calendar events to join Google Meets instead of using codes. Please read over these expectations with your student(s) as we have been enforcing them (page 2).

Students must attend at least half of their core instruction to be counted present for the day. If you have a doctors appointment, we would need a doctor's note to change your absence to an excused absence.

Questions about your student's progress in Pearson? Sign up to be an observer in their classes! Details are on the school website.

Despite our efforts, some students are behind and overwhelmed with missing assignments. Therefore, we will begin a MANDATORY study hall during small group times for these specific students. We will be calling home on Monday to give more information to those families. Students not in study hall will remain in the small group rotation, visiting each of their teachers and participating in extension activities related to that class.

Thank you for your continued support! If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact us. We are only a phone call, email or Dojo message away!

Middle School Teachers

Mystery Picture of the Week

You see this daily in one of your teacher's classrooms... just from afar. Look hard in your google meets and see if you notice this sitting in the background. No hints will be given and we will not take guesses early. All will be revealed in your Small Groups on Thursdau!



Upcoming Dates:

October 25th - End of 1st Quarter October 26th - Second Quarter Begins

October 29th - Teacher Workday*& School Pictures

November 8th - Report Cards (1st Quarter)

November 24th - Annual Leave* November 25th and 26th - Holidays*

*No School for Students

Mrs. Kansas Akin---- <u>kakin@randolph.k12.nc.us</u> Ms. Connie Cagle--- <u>c1cagle@randolph.k12.nc.us</u> Mrs. Rachel Cashatt --- <u>rcashatt@randolph.k12.nc.us</u> Mrs. Christina Overcash --- <u>covercash@randolph.k12.nc.us</u> Mrs. Jennifer Benner ---- <u>jbenner@randolph.k12.nc.us</u> Mrs. Justine Carter ---- <u>j1carter@randolph.k12.nc.us</u> Ms. Erin Luther---- <u>eluther@randolph.k12.nc.us</u> Mr. Bailey Welch ---- <u>bwelch@randolph.k12.nc.us</u>

Voyager Expectations

- 1. Students will attend live classes by joining the Google Meet linked in their Google Calendar. This INCLUDES their SMALL GROUP TIME!
- 2. MANDATORY STUDY HALL is an opportunity to learn time management skills and work on missing assignments. Study Hall will take place during small group time. Students that are required to attend study hall will have study hall listed in their Google Calendar instead of Small Group A, B or C.
- 3. Students will be able to complete synchronous and asynchronous activities in a timely manner.
- 4. ATTENDANCE students must attend at least half the Google Meet to be present for that class. (For example, if they join and leave after 5-10 minutes they are absent for that class.) - If you have a doctors appointment and were absent, we would need a doctor's note to change your absence to an excused absence.
- 5. TARDIES If a student chooses to join late we ask you to PLEASE NOT INTERRUPT and to go back and watch the recorded lesson for anu missed content.
- 6. SUBMITTING ASSIGNMENTS Check your share settings. All assignments submitted through Pearson must be 'shared with Randolph County School System' in order for your teachers to view your work (page 4).
- 7. LANDING PAGE Access and navigate the Pearson landing pages for each of your courses. They include cool links and resources to assist you in your classes.
- 8. GOOGLE MEET ETIQUETTE
 - use the hand raising icon use appropriate language eliminate background noise CAMERAS ON during instruction
 - keep chat box open for content area questions and feedback
 - questions about your grades or attendance should be addressed in an email to maintain your privacy
- 9. WHAT TO DO WHEN TECHNOLOGY FAILS DO NOT INTERRUPT CLASS Have the student mute their computer or log out and do one of the following:
 - Call the Support Pearson hotline 1-800-382-6010 for Pearson issues. Everything else call the school (336)318-0076 and ask for Ms. Ricks.

10. DISCIPLINE - failure to be an appropriate virtual learner may result in the student being removed from the meet.

October is Bullying **Prevention Month!**

The last week of October is Red Ribbon Week!

We will wear blue every Friday to show our stance against bullying!

Send pictures of students, families, or pets wearing blue and use the hashtag #VARblueup on our social media pages, or send them directly to Ms. Chriscoe in a message.

THE VIRTUAL ACADEMY @ RANDOLPH

RED RIBBON WEEK & BULLYING PREVENTION MONTH

BE DRUG FREE ~ HELP STOP BULLYING

MONDAY, 10/25 - PJ DAY Good Choices are the key to your DREAMS

TUESDAY, 10/26 - DECADE DAY, DRESS FOR THE 80S Drugs and bullying are so OLD SCHOOL

> WEDNESDAY, 10/27 - HAT DAY Put a LID on drugs and bullying

THURSDAY, 10/28 - WEAR RED DAY Go RED to show you are drug free

EVERY FRIDAY IN OCTOBER Wear BLUE to show you are against bullying #blueup

- use headphones - participate in the lesson

Pearson Gradebook Quick Reference Guide:

<u>Where is it?</u>

Log into Pearson, you can either:

- 1. Choose the three lines in the top right then 'gradebook'
- 2. Click on the bar graph icon under the course you want to see the grades for.
- 3. Once you are in the gradebook, in the top right you will be given the choice to sort
- 4. assignment lists by 'categories' or 'syllabus order'. Choose your preference.

What do the codes mean?

X = Exempt from the assignment (does not hurt or count into student grade)

- Student marked that assignment complete
 - = (blank space) student has not submitted assignment
- Grade % (in green) = Grade is passing (60% or above)
- Grade % (in red) = Grade is not proficient (below 60%)
- Assignment (Google Doc. Link, file, video, image, etc.) submitted but not yet scored.
- 5 = Student is allowed a re-try on the assignment (at teacher discretion)

Will all grades in Pearson be a grade in PowerSchool?

No. It is up to each teacher what they choose to copy into PowerSchool from Pearson.

<u>Need Assistance in Pearson?</u>

1. In Pearson, find the question mark near your students name. This it the help button. When you click it, a Support pop-up will appear on the right, you can search your topic or question there.

2. <u>Contact Pearson's Student Technology Support:</u> Call 1-800-382-6010 and follow the prompts. Available Monday through Friday 8:00am to 8:00pm Available Saturday and Sunday 10:00am to 7:00pm





Last Week's Mystery Picture



This <u>pillow and blanket</u> is on a chair in Ms. Luther's Science classroom!

Did you spot it?



What is the 'Waffle'?

You have probably heard many teachers ask you to 'click on the waffle' or 'rubix cube' in the top right corner of your screen. When you are in a Google Chrome tab, gmail, calendar and various other

google-based sites you may see this icon. It is a quick way to jump between these sites and create new documents, slides, etc. without having to be in google drive first!

Teachers have also noted this as one of the quickest ways to open google meets.



<u>Google Share Settings:</u>

The most common error we as teachers are coming across is having access to view your documents. If we cannot see your work, we cannot grade it. Copying a share link to submit in Pearson is not enough, you MUST <u>check your share settings</u>!

- 1. When working on a google doc., google slides, etc. you will see a large Share button in the top right corner. (The Google Docs share button is blue and Google Slide's button is yellow.)
- 2. After clicking share, you will have a pop-up appear in the middle of your screen with "Share with people and groups" as the title.
- 3. Do not share and add your teacher's name.
- 4. In the bottom section of the pop-up titled **"Get link"**, find and click on the blue Share with Randolph County School System button.
- 5. Permission Updated will appear briefly at the bottom of the pop-up. - if your teachers already have the link, we can now see it -

<u>To get a link to submit an assignment in Pearson:</u>

- 1. Click Copy Link.
- 2. Go to the Pearson Assignment.
- 3. Paste in the My Web Address space of your Pearson Assignment.
- 4. Click submit to turn it in.

Note: This link share tutorial is necessary when submitting in Pearson. For Science and Social Studies, continue to add your document to your class folder as normal. If your science assignment is in your Science folder and the folder is shared with Ms. Luther, she can view all of your assignments.

<u>Keyboard Shortcuts</u>

Ctrl + C = Copy

Ctrl + V = Paste

Ctrl + X = Cut

Ctrl + Shift + t = Tab Recovery

Ctrl + f = Find (Search) Box

Ctrl + Z = Undo Last Action

Ctrl + Y = Redo Last Action

<u>Note</u>: You do not press the + or = buttons to perform these shortcuts

Google Drive Tips:

Is there a save button?

Google Doc., Sheets, Slides, Jamboard, etc. is automatically saved in your Google Drive! No 'Save' button needed.

My work is in a google doc, how can I find it?

You can sort files different ways to find your work. In the top right corner (above your folders) beside the arrow, you can click and re-sort by topic. Clicking the arrow re-orders your sort view (for example, if sorting by date new to old, clicking the arrow will re-sort it old to new).

Another way is to open the type of file and sort within that file type. For instance, if I am searching for a Google Doc with math work on it, I would click the 'waffle' and open Google Docs. Then I can search within Google Docs for my file, usually the most recently opened will be at the top.

There are several other options, use what is easiest for you. Many teachers advise making folders in google drive, one for each class to help sort work and keep your drive organized.





~	
/ Editing -	^
Share with people and groups	3
Add people and groups	
Rachel Cashatt (you) Owner	
Send feedback to Google Done	
Copy link Copy link Share with Randolph County School System Copy link Share with Randolph County School System Copy link	
Copy link	
Copy link Copy link	
Copy link	÷ 3 3 **
Get link Restricted only people added can open with this link Restricted only people added can open with this link Share with Rendolph County School System Share with people and groups No one has been added yet ad pp. 306-307 III Mathematics: Counse I. Get link https://docs.google.com/document/d/11Lb2uldG6g-b-z_SDI3XQ4wfgEBVTfCopy link Randolph County School System - Anyone in this group with this link can view	€ 3 3 *

