Welcome Letter Summer 2014

Welcome to Fairfax County Public Schools’ Online Learning environment, the Online Campus. We want you to know that you will receive a high quality education online, because all FCPS online courses are in alignment with the Fairfax County Public School’s Program of Studies and the Commonwealth of Virginia’s Standards of Learning.

*Every student who enrolls in an online course must first complete an Online Technology Checklist.* This is critical as the technology must be present to take a course. On June 9th you can start this process by going to this link, [Online Technology Checklist](http://fcps.blackboard.com/), from your computer that you plan on using for the summer. Teachers will start contacting you on July 1st and 2nd by email and phone.

You will have a mandatory orientation the morning of the first day of class with your subject teacher through [Blackboard Collaborate](http://fcps.blackboard.com/), our virtual classroom, except for PE students who will meet face to face with their teacher one the first day. PE students will be taking the physical fitness assessment known as the Virginia wellness testing. For a summary of expectations, go to link, [FCPS Summer Online Learning](http://fcps.blackboard.com/). For critical dates for your summer planning, look at the [Online Summer Calendar](http://fcps.blackboard.com/).

Here are a few tips to help you become a successful summer online student:

1. Do the online technology checklist and create a work folder on your computer where all the assignments are kept. Make sure your microphone and speakers are in working order.

2. Schedule time every day to work in the online course. On average students need to schedule about 7 hours every day for their summer school course. Remember one week of summer school is equal to one quarter of the regular school year.

3. Make sure you reply to the teacher’s welcome email that is sent to you just before class starts. Check you inbox and junk mail folder if you don’t see it. Email the online campus if you don’t see the teacher’s welcome email before the start of class.

4. Make sure you have a Photo ID for all testing sessions. Students will not be allowed to test without one. (Examples: Visa, Driver’s License, Child ID Card, School Library Card, Military ID, Current Yearbook)

5. Schedule to attend your face-to-face mid-term and final exams on July 21st and August 4th. End-of-course SOL exams will be August 5th. English 11 writing SOL will be July 15th-16th. These exams are mandatory face-to-face meetings that you must attend.


Again, welcome to the Online Campus. Please do not hesitate to contact the Online Campus with any questions regarding the Online Technology Checklist or your Subject Course at [onlinecampus@fcps.edu](mailto:onlinecampus@fcps.edu).

Sincerely,

Michael Kowalski
*Online Campus Administrator*

*Testing Sites: English/Science (Annandale High School), Math/Spanish (West Springfield High School), PE (Oakton HS), and Social Studies/Econ (Lee High School)