Welcome Letter Summer 2015

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 10th you can start this process by going to this link, Online Technology Checklist, from your computer that you plan on using for the summer. Teachers will start contacting you on June 30th and July 1st by email and phone.

You will have a mandatory orientation the morning of the first day of class, July 6th, with your subject teacher through Blackboard Collaborate, our virtual classroom. For a summary of expectations, go to link, FCPS Summer Online Learning. For critical dates for your summer planning, look at the Online Summer Calendar.

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

1. Complete 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 your 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 20th and August 3rd. End-of-course SOL exams will be August 4th. English 11 writing SOL will be July 13th-14th. These exams are mandatory face-to-face meetings that you must attend.

6. Check your Blackboard access after June 26th at http://fcps.blackboard.com/

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.

Sincerely,

Michael Kowalski
Online Campus Administrator

*Testing Sites: English/Science (Falls Church High School), Math/Spanish (Fairfax High School), PE (Luther Jackson MS), and Social Studies/Econ (Lee High School)