



ACES HIGH SCHOOL & Mukilteo Virtual Academy | Weekly What's Happening ▪ Family Edition

Volume 1, Issue 4 ▪ 27 September 2021

Welcome new Staff!

Bienvenido nuevo personal!

Can you believe we are already through Week 4 of school? There is so much happening across our three programs as we not only transition back into in-person school, but also build an entirely new virtual learning program (high school and middle school). It's exciting stuff, but also takes time.

One of the areas that has taken the most amount of time and energy is hiring. We have a fantastic cadre of teachers we have been able to hire for our programs and add to our already outstanding teaching staff. I am so proud to be part of the ACES/MVA learning community.

Please join me in welcoming the following new staff since my last newsletter!

ACES:

- Maura Schapper, Visual Arts.
- Derek Hanson, PE/Health and Plato.
- James O'Neill, Student Services.

MVA:

- Mark Iddins, Social Studies.
- Kelly Armentrout, Spanish and Plato Electives.
- Viveca Smith, Student Services.

Middle School Program:

- Luke Tomlinson, Visual Arts.
- Jennifer Salcedo, Student Services.
- Andrew Huskamp, English Language Arts.
- Ryley Callaghan, Physical Education and Electives.
- Jennifer Plemmons, Science and Electives.
- Carol Green, English Language Arts and Electives.

All:

- Grecia Lagerquist, Registrar. Grecia starts on Tuesday, 21 September.
- Patti Stracener, High School and Beyond Plan and On-time Graduation Specialist.

And we are STILL hiring!!

Attendance, Timeliness, and Bell Schedules

Horarios de asistencia, puntualidad y timbre

Daily and on-time attendance to school is important for many reasons. Being late creates anxiety for students and they miss out on important, start of class details and information. When students are gone, they miss out on classroom activities, answers to questions, and support and classroom activities that cannot be replicated...at least not as easily nor extensively.

Here is what you need to know about attendance this school year:

- The State of Washington, via the Office of Public Instruction (OSPI), has reinstated truancy intervention and procedural requirements. When students miss school, we are obligated to respond early.
- **Funding for schools is based on attendance.**
- Timely attendance is super important and is the Number 1 way we can best support students in their progress toward earning credits, preparing for the next step, graduation, and life after high school.

PLEASE READ UP ON SOME OF THE PARTICULARS ABOUT EACH PROGRAM!

ACES

- School starts at 7:30 AM and is done at 2:00 PM.
- We have a new bell system, with music, to help students know when they have one minute to get to the next class.
 - Tardy to School = Up to 10 minutes late to school. Student goes straight to class. Teacher will document.
 - Tardy to Class: After Period 1, anything after the “tardy music” is considered tardy to class.
 - Absence from class = Late to class 11 minutes (or more) or does not show to class. If student shows up more than 10 minutes late to school, check-in through the Attendance Office.
 - Absence from entire day = misses 50% of classes for the day.
- **Leaving campus during the School Day:** Students cannot leave campus without parent permission/excusal. Students aged 18 and older must have a “Emancipation Form” on file to excuse self from school or classes. This form requires parent/guardian permission and excuse patterns will be monitored.

MONDAY - THURSDAY		FRIDAY	
Period 1	7:30 - 8:20	Period 8A	7:30 - 8:25
Period 2	8:25 - 9:15	Period 8B	8:30 - 9:25
Period 3	9:20 - 10:10	Period 8C	9:30 - 10:25
Period 4	10:15 - 11:05	Lunch	10:25 - 10:55
Period 5 (Focus)	11:10 - 11:40	Period 5 (Focus Friday)	11:00 - 11:50
Lunch	11:40 - 12:10		
Period 6	12:15 - 1:05		
Period 7	1:10 - 2:00		

MVA

- School starts at 7:45 AM and core classes are done at 12:25 PM.
- There is a **required** asynchronous portion for the day from 1:00- 2:00 PM.
- **Camera ON is required** to be marked “present” to class. This requirement is part of the funding model for **Continuous Learning 2.0**. Students who leave (log off/turn off camera) during class without the class being dismissed or specific instruction to turn off one’s camera for independent directed activities will be marked absent.
- **TARDY** = Up to 10 minutes late to class. **Absence** = late 11 minutes (or more) or does not show to class.
- **FRIDAYS** are asynchronous learning days. Teachers have set-up independent activities for students to complete and turn-in during the “class period.” Student have until 2:30 PM each day to get into their classes and complete the work for their Asynch Friday. That said, we created an organizational structure for students to get into each class and get their work done so that they are done for the day by 2:00 PM (see below).
- FRIDAYS are also used for teachers to do small group and 1:1 work sessions; and family outreach. So, teachers will not “meet the class” on Fridays but instead will set-up conferences and/or “study groups” for students to join and get the support they need to be successful with content and skills.

STUDENT SCHEDULE: SYNCHRONOUS DAYS						ORGANIZATIONAL PLANNING for ASYNCH FRIDAY		
Time	Minutes	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Time	Minutes	Friday
7:45 AM - 9:15 AM	90	PERIOD 1	PERIOD 4	PERIOD 1	PERIOD 4	7:45 AM - 8:30 AM	45	PERIOD 1
9:25 AM - 10:50 AM	85	PERIOD 2	PERIOD 5	PERIOD 2	PERIOD 5	8:35 AM - 9:17 AM	42	PERIOD 2
11:00 AM - 12:25 PM	85	PERIOD 3	PERIOD 6	PERIOD 3	PERIOD 6	9:22 AM - 10:04 AM	42	PERIOD 3
12:25 PM - 1:05 PM	40	Lunch/Travel	Lunch/Travel	Lunch/Travel	Lunch/Travel	10:09 AM - 10:51 AM	42	PERIOD 4
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	60	Required Asynch	Required Asynch	Required Asynch	Required Asynch	10:56 AM - 11:38 AM	42	PERIOD 5
*†1:05 PM - 2:00 PM	50/55	Opt. Specialty Elective	Opt. Specialty Elective	Opt. Specialty Elective	Opt. Specialty Elective	11:43 AM - 12:25 PM	42	PERIOD 6
						12:03 PM - 12:45 PM	42	OPT. Specialty Elective
						12:25 PM - 12:55 PM	30	LUNCH
						1:00 PM - 1:30 PM	30	Required Aysnch

Middle School Program

- School starts at 8:00 AM and core classes are done at 2:00 PM.
- There is a **required** asynchronous portion for the day from 2:00 – 2:45 PM.
- **Camera ON is required** to be marked “present” to class. This requirement is part of the funding model for **Continuous Learning 2.0**. Students who leave (log off/turn off camera) during class without the class being dismissed or specific instruction to turn off one’s camera for independent directed activities will be marked absent.
- **TARDY = Up to 10 minutes late to class. Absence = late 11 minutes (or more) or does not show to class.**
- For the Middle School Program, we shortened classes from 50 minutes to 45 minutes and lengthened the passing period from 5 minutes to 10 minutes. We also added 15 minutes to the lunch time (45 minutes instead of 30 minutes) to provide time for students to work on their homework and asynch (independent) work.
- Middle School Program students meet with their teachers five days a week.

Period 1 - 8-8:50 (50 sync minutes due to announcements)
 Period 2 - 9:00-9:45 (45 minutes synchronous)
 Period 3 - 9:55-10:40 (45 minutes synchronous)
 Lunch - 10:40-11:25
 Period 4 - 1:25-12:10 (45 minutes synchronous)
 Period 5 - 12:20-1:05 (45 minutes synchronous)
 Period 6 - 1:15-2:00 (45 minutes synchronous)

2:00-2:45 - 45 minutes asynchronous for students, plan time for staff

Covid-19 Safety Measures at ACES (and when Visiting ACES)

Medidas de seguridad de Covid-19 en ACES (y al visitar ACES)

ACES Students and Families, and anyone visiting our campus or any district site:

Please stay home if you have any signs or symptoms of COVID. At the end of newsletter is the District “COVID-19 DAILY HEALTH SCREENING AND RESOURCE FORM.” It walks you through what to do if your learner has any signs or symptoms of Covid-19.

We posted this form on our website under the Students & Families tab > then the “Covid Safety” link, as well as under “Other Useful Links” on our main page.

Middle School Electives

Electivas de la escuela intermedia

There have been some questions about the Middle School Program electives and why these electives are not the same as what your learner registered for at their home school.

- 1) Our programs were staffed very tight. So, each class is at or near capacity of 30 students per class.

- 2) Not all electives can be replicated in a virtual setting. For example, Orchestra, Band, and Choir proved extremely difficult to teach in an online setting last year because Zoom does not allow for “parallel” voice. Meaning, voices/instruments cannot be heard at the same time...rather, one voice or instrument will play over.
- 3) With only one week to put together our program, we had to work off of the experiences and skill sets of our teachers to provide electives. Our teachers are working hard to plan and facilitate learning experiences that are both fun and enriching for students that build both academic and social-emotional skills.
- 4) Electives at the Middle School Level will show-up as just “Elective” on the report card/transcript.

Virtual Learning Expectations: Cameras and Engagement

Expectativas de aprendizaje virtual: cámaras y compromiso

In case you missed it in the section on “Attendance,” there are some important components of being part of our Mukilteo Virtual Academy 6-12 Programs:

- 1) Cameras ON is required in the virtual learning programs. Why?
 - **Reason 1:** State Funding. We need to know that the students who are “attending” class are actually our students and not someone else doing the work/course for the students. The funding model for Continuous Learning 2.0 (see below) requires cameras on.
 - **Reason 2:** Mukilteo School District selected the “Continuous Learning 2.0” model for our virtual learning programs. This model was designed to mimic an in-person, brick and mortar experience for students. Meaning, students are visible and present in class, students will be called upon to participate in class discussions and activities, and students will be encouraged to engage with their peers/teacher in small and large group discussions. In essence, the model is designed to engage students in best practices around independent, whole group, and collaborative learning.
- 2) Being “present” in a class is not the same as engaging in a class. Doing the work and activities is part of earning a grade and credit. Please help your learners monitor their work and organization. Completing and turning in work helps the teacher know where there are gaps, helps students build skills needed for each next step and level, and allows teacher to be able to provide feedback for growth.

Thank you for supporting your learner in engaging in class and attending intervention and office hours when they need additional support.

Picture Day 2021

Día de la foto 2021

ACES and MVA 9-12: Please mark your calendars for **Thursday, 7 October for Picture Day 2021**. Our photos will be done through Solis School Photography this year.

- **ACES Students:** Photography will be from 11:10 AM – 1:05 PM in the ACES Library.
- **MVA Students:** Photography will be from 1:15 PM – 4:00 PM in the ACES Library. We will send out a separate update this week on specifics about picture day only with all of the details. Too much information for this newsletter. We will also post on our website.
- All **ASB Cards** are FREE again this year to all students throughout the District. ASB Cards will be printed on the same day as Photo Day.
- **Ordering Photos:** [Click here](#). All ordering is online via store.solisimages.com.
- **Pricing:** [Click here](#).
- **Preparing for picture day:** [Click here](#).

Middle School Program: Alysia and I are working on a solution for our Middle School Program students for school photos. We should have a plan in place to share in our next issue of this newsletter.

Curriculum/Parent Night 2021

Currículo / Noche de padres 2021

Curriculum/Parent Night 2021 is just a couple of weeks away! Due to Covid-19 safety measures, we will not have an in-person event this year. We sure are hoping we can get families back in the building soon! That said, the virtual academies will also have their Parent Nights via webinar; however, we also hope (in the future) to provide nights to bring families and students together in person.

What to expect this year:

- 1.) Teachers are creating videos about their classes that they will post on their **Schoology** sites. These videos will be posted by the afternoon of the Curriculum Night date. We encourage you to talk with your learner about them showing you their teachers' videos!
- 2.) We have a separate webinar set-up for each program Curriculum Night. Links will be sent in the next Family Update. Here are the dates and times:
 - **ACES:** Wednesday, 13 October, 6:15-7:00 PM (Zoom)
 - **MVA, 9-12:** Wednesday, 13 October, 7:15-8:00 PM (Zoom)
 - **MVA, 6-8:** Thursday, 14 October, 6:15-7:00 PM (Zoom)

Teacher Subs and Class Coverage

Subsidio de maestros y cobertura de clases

- **Many of you have already read the district email about our teacher shortage across not only our district, but also state-wide. This shortage greatly affects getting subs as well. When we have a shortage, we are dealing with it in a few ways:**
- **ACES In-person Program:** When we do not have a sub to cover a class, we are covering those classes internally with teachers on staff (they give up their plan period) or by an administrator (I, Kimberly, am jumping into classrooms to sub also 😊).
- **MVA, 9-12 Program:** Our 9-12 virtual learning program teachers teach 6 of 6 classes. Therefore, they cannot help cover classes when we have an unfilled absence. Therefore, administration is either jumping in to cover or we are making that class period an asynchronous learning day. A message will be sent to students if their class has to be converted to an asynch day because of an unfilled absence. Please encourage your learner to complete the work assigned and submit that work per the instructions on Schoology.
- **MVA, 6-8 Program:** We are working on a solution to provide coverage for our 6-8 virtual learning classes when we have no sub to cover classes. The difficulty in class coverage by other teachers in the program is getting them access to an absent teacher's Schoology page as well as setting up a Zoom link in-time for students. At this time, when we have an unfilled absence, we are converting the class to an asynch day and sending a message to students. Please encourage your learner to complete the work assigned and submit that work per the instructions on Schoology. When another solution is determined, we will let you know the new plan.

Thoughts from Kimberly

Pensamientos de Kimberly

It's hard to believe that we are already in our fifth week of school. Lots of things have transpired over the last month: new hires, new students (and transferring of students), new programs, unexpected shifts and changes, re-examining programs, excitement, frustrations, and lots of questions. These all have been threads in the fabric of this first month. One thing, however, remains constant, our focus on students. That focus permeates to what we do in the classroom, what we do in our programs, and the systems we are building and rebuilding...student-centered and student minded. We so appreciate your patience, kindness (lots of amazing phone calls with our families this last month), and high

expectations for our programs and our learners. As we continue to build what ACES High School and Mukilteo Virtual Academy is and can be, we are looking forward to more input from you! Please be looking for upcoming information about the Panorama Family Survey as well as other opportunities to share your input!

Kimberly

COVID-19 DAILY HEALTH SCREENING and RESOURCE FORM



COVID-19 DAILY HEALTH SCREENING AND RESOURCE FORM

If your child has a fever or symptoms of illness, please refer to the short checklist below for instructions.

Report your child's absence and expected date of return to the school office.

24 Hour Rule

Has your student had **ONE** of the following symptoms for **LESS THAN 24 HOURS** in the past day?

- Unusual Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or Vomiting
- Diarrhea or abdominal pain

YES



24 Hour Rule:

Student may return after they have felt better for a full 24 hours.

Example: student develops a headache on Monday, the headache is better by Monday evening or Tuesday morning, they must stay home all-day Tuesday and can return on Wednesday. If student's symptoms persist go to **10 day Rule**.

10 Day Rule

Has your student had **ANY** of the following symptoms?

- FEVER (100.4 or greater)
- COUGH
- SHORTNESS OF BREATH
- LOSS OF TASTE OR SMELL

YES



10 Day Rule:

Student must stay home 10 days or get a COVID test.

1. If student is COVID positive: The student must stay home for 10 days. Call school ASAP to report positive test result.
2. If student is COVID negative: The student can return to school after symptoms have improved and no fever for a full 24 hours without medication.
3. If student is not tested for COVID: The student must stay out of school for 10 days and have improved symptoms and no fever for full 24 hours without medication.

Has your student had **TWO** of the following symptoms or **ONE** of the symptoms which lasted

- Unusual Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or Vomiting
- Diarrhea or abdominal pain

14 Day Rule

Has your student been **EXPOSED** to a COVID positive person?

YES



14 Day Rule:

Student must stay home for 14 days regardless of test results. Calculate 14 days by starting with the **LAST** day the student was exposed to the positive person.

***If you are fully vaccinated you do not need to quarantine**

***If you answered NO to all the above questions, send your student to school 😊**

If you have any questions or need help, please call your school's front office and ask for the nurse. You can find drive through testing information on our district website or at snohd.org