



8/17/2020

Dear Gateway College Prep Community:

We are excited that the start of school is so close. Our teachers have been working hard to have remote learning options available and ready for families. We are going to continue our tradition of providing some of the best education in Central Texas. We appreciate your support and patience during this busy time.

I wanted to take a moment and provide reference to our list of Distance Learning Resources that are available to you ([Click HERE for the link](#)). This is found in the same places that it was in the spring. On our website under the "Parents" tab. I have placed a link for you in the announcements on our homepage as well as an announcement in Blackboard with a link. Here are the tools available to you:

- 1) Monday A and B Day Calendar - We are trying to limit the number of transitions that our 5th -12th graders have during a school day so we are alternating A and B day every week on Monday. This is a link to the A and B day schedule for Mondays for the first semester ([Click Here](#) for the link). The weekly assignments spreadsheet will also mention whether or not it is an A or B day on that Monday.
- 2) Distance Learning Forms - Any feedback or requests that we need from the community will be placed here.
- 3) Important Letters from the Head of School about school operations during Covid-19.
- 4) Weekly Assignments - This is the spreadsheet that contains all of the graded assignments and their due dates for each grade level or high school subject. Week 1 will be posted tomorrow at noon for our community to see. After that the spreadsheet will be shared every Sunday at noon for our families that want to start preparing for the week. This time all teachers will need to have the spreadsheet updated at that point so there will be nothing new on Monday morning that will pop up.
- 5) Accessibility options - These are helpful links for students who need accommodations or easy technology fixes that will allow you to turn in work.
- 6) Blackboard Resources for parents and students - These are instructional videos that will help you navigate and use Blackboard.

As stated, we will be uploading our first week's assignments at noon tomorrow 8/18. We will also share a link to the zoom links for each teacher's classes. This will be posted on Blackboard as this is a closed site for only Gateway families. Once this document is posted in Blackboard, please do not share the information on social media or by email as we want to protect the integrity and confidentiality of our classroom time. This document is being created in order to give families an easy tool to find out how to get access to direct instruction in one spot instead of clicking on dozens of Blackboard pages.

3360 Westinghouse Road Georgetown, Texas 78626

Phone: (512) 868-4947 Fax: (512) 868-4946

www.gatewaycps.org

There are 3 ways that Gateway teachers will take attendance this school year in accordance with TEA requirements:

1. **In Person** - The first won't start until students return to campus. This is in-person attendance and it will work in the exact way that it always has at Gateway. The student must be present in front of the teacher at the time of attendance. All other Student Handbook guidelines for attendance apply for those that select the in-person option.
2. **Live Zoom Call** - Students who are present and participating in a live zoom call will be marked present by the teacher.
3. **Daily Participation** - For those families who miss the daily zoom call for any reason, the student will watch the recorded zoom class from that day posted on Blackboard and document to the teacher that they participated. The document that contains the zoom links that will be shared tomorrow will also contain instructions from each teacher on how they will record attendance for participation. This asynchronous participation must be completed anytime from midnight - 11:59pm on the day of attendance.

I will develop a video tomorrow afternoon that walks families through all of the following:

1. Accessing Blackboard
2. Making sure to get counted present for attendance
3. The Assignments Spreadsheet and how to use it
4. Zoom etiquette

****** THIS IS IMPORTANT PLEASE READ ******

All students enrolled at Gateway must open Blackboard and actively engage by either participating in a Zoom call or doing the Daily Participation option by following the teacher's instructions. Students who do not participate will be marked absent. If a student is absent for the first 3 days of school, the student is considered a "no show" and withdrawn from school. This would mean you would lose your spot and have to reapply to Gateway. Please watch the video from Mr. Boorman and get in contact with your teacher on the first day of school.

Sincerely,



Benjamin Boorman
Head of School