

October/November 2021

9th Grade Newsletter

Western School of Technology and Environmental Science

SUCCESS TIPS

- Create a workspace that is quiet, well-lit and with limited distractions.
- Have school supplies readily available.
- Attend class daily and attend coach class if needed.
- Use your calendar/planner to keep track of assignments
- Develop and maintain Time Management Skills/Routine: sleep routine, a time to shut down all electronics, complete schoolwork, extra-curricular activities, eat, exercise, time with family and friends, etc.

ADVICE FOR FAMILIES

- Be Informed and Involved
- Be a good listener. Discuss what is being learned, any challenges being faced, clear expectations for completing responsibilities (school and home) and how you can support them
- Encourage your child to self-advocate and keep open lines of communication with teachers, counselor, and administrator.
- Assist in creating appropriate and professional emails to send to Western Tech staff.
- Review Schoology on a regular basis for school information and your child's academic progress.
- Go over teacher feedback on assignments with your child. Emphasize mastery of skill rather than earning a good grade. Once a skill is improved/mastered the grades will improve.

9th Grade Team Contacts:

Ms. Bickerstaff, 9th grade team leader
kbickerstaff@bcps.org

Ms. Kutch, 9th grade administrator
tkutch@bcps.org

Ms. Osborne, library media specialist
tosborne@bcps.org

Western Tech National Honor Society

VIRTUAL TUTORING PROGRAM

As we adjust back to in-person learning this academic year, the members of NHS are here for you!

-All Academic Subjects -Time Management

-Study Skills -Digital Literacy

Tutoring will take place virtually this year. Our time slots are flexible and can be agreed upon by the tutor and the student, at their convenience. Students can meet their tutor through Google Meet, Zoom, FaceTime, or even phone call.

Request a tutor by contacting Eeshani Gupta via our NHS Tutoring Remind Page*

*Download the Remind app or visit remind.com/join. Enter the code@349f64 to be added to our Remind group messaging board.

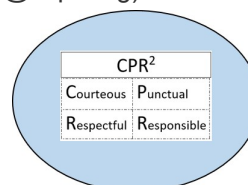
COUNSELORS' CORNER

We are here to support you! Meet with your counselor to discuss:

- Study strategies
- Decision making
- Friendship/ Peer issues
- Choosing classes
- Plans for after high school
- Hobbies/Interests
- Stress
- Time management
- Setting goals and steps to achieve them
- Get to know your counselor

School Counselors:

Ms. Monahan, A-G (jmonahan@bcps.org)
Ms. Gould, H-O (rjuanteguy@bcps.org)
Ms. Tavernia, Department Chair, P-Z
(atavernia@bcps.org)
Ms. Brumfield, College Counselor
(dbrumfield@bcps.org)



Upcoming Units/Projects October/November 2021

Social Studies:

Mr. Sleplesky's, Mrs. Streets' and Ms.

Bouvier: American Government students will study the United States Constitution, Executive and Legislative Branches.

Math:

Ms. Bauer's, Mr. Carlino & Mr. Saulsbury's

Algebra II students will learn operations with polynomials and factoring to prepare working with quadratic equations.

Ms. Wilson's students will work on studying linear functions.

English:

Ms. Higgins' Advanced Academics classes will use Bloom's Taxonomy and knowledge of literary approaches to read and analyze *Kindred* and *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

Mr. Conner's and Ms. Williams' English 9 classes will read the *Odyssey* and write original episodes for the epic

Science:

Mrs. Bickerstaff's, Ms. Achar's and Mr. Helcoski's Biology/Living Systems classes will study body systems, homeostasis, and biological feedback mechanisms.

Mrs. Bickerstaff's Ecology class continues to explore ecological concepts including relationships and populations

Mr. Payne's Anatomy class will study the skeletal system and begin the muscular system.

Mr. Payne's Paramedical Biology class will study the musculoskeletal system.

Automotive:

Mr. Cunningham's class will learn about safety in the shop, CCAR Online Training, Lift safety and tools.

Culinary:

Ms. Tomececk's culinary classes will be learning about food and workplace safety.

Physical Education:

Ms. Swiecicki's, Mr. Wagner's and Mr. McEvoy's Fitness Foundations and Mastery classes will work on the FITT Formula and Principles of Exercise

SKILLS OF SUCCESS



Each month 9th graders attend skill-focused workshops in their magnet classes.

October- Professional Communication

November- Note-taking

Engineering:

Mr. Renaud's and Dr. Mercer's Engineering classes will be completing the introduction unit and will be beginning the safety and materials unit.

Cosmetology:

Students will learn about career opportunities in the industry. Also, students will be participating in the Halloween competition to show their talent in a creative way.

Spanish and French:

Profesoras Casas', Confair's Spanish I and Monsieur Olive's French I classes will exchange greetings, personal descriptions and introductions.

Profesoras Casas', Confair's Spanish II and Monsieur Olive's French II classes will describe their childhood and compare themselves then and now.

Profesoras Casas', Confair's Spanish III and Monsieur Olive's French III classes will explore travel destinations and make recommendations.

Intro. to Graphic/Print Communications:

Mr. Adelong's students will learn the basics of Adobe Photoshop. Students will create or edit images using layers, transparencies, layer modes, masks, and selections. Students will repair a damaged photograph. Students will create notepads.

Need help setting up Schoology or want some troubleshooting tips? Visit

https://www.bcps.org/tech_support