

Mrs. Dahlquist's Update v.2

9/21/2020

Dear Families,

Look for your HISD Connect Parent Portal codes in a letter that came from your teacher. If you did not receive it, please contact your teacher immediately. You need to sign on and access HISD Connect regularly to keep track of your child's grades, attendance, and district information.

More Information:

I am updating this with more information about completing the forms we need and making your choice referenced in the article below. You received a letter from your teacher with instructions on how to set up your account in the Parent Portal.

First, go to this site to access HISD Connect Parent Portal:

<http://hisdconnect.houstonisd.org/public/>

Once you are there, follow the instructions on your letter to set up your account.

Once your account is set up, you have some things to do. If you have had children in school before, you know that you always get a big packet of forms to fill out at the beginning of school. This is YOUR homework! Starting this year, you will complete those forms electronically on your parent portal.

Here is a video to help you sign in and do your required forms and make your choice of virtual or in-person instruction:

English: <http://rmd.me/1htMheMVzWn>

Spanish: <http://rmd.me/HExieAyEzeh>

Click on the left where it says FORMS, and a list of forms will appear in the main body of the page. You will complete ALL the forms shown. When you are ready to SUBMIT, look for the arrow to reveal a choice to SUBMIT FOR FAMILY. That way you won't have to redo the forms for every child! In some ways, this will make our lives easier!

One of the forms is called STUDENT COMMITMENT, and this is where you make your virtual or face-to-face learning choice.

I hope this helps!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Dahlquist

Virtual vs. Face-To-Face Instruction - It's Your Choice

Dr. Lathan has a message for you as you embark on this change in instruction for your child. Please view this link:

Dr. Lathan's Video: <https://youtu.be/-O2PMINo6wo>

Here are some things you should know as you make your choice for the second 6-week grading period:

- Certified teachers will provide instruction in the classroom and virtually. These teachers may not be the teachers you currently have, and may not even be Walnut Bend teachers.
- Physical distancing will be enforced with reduced class sizes.
- Physical distancing signage will be placed around the campus.
- Facilities, Maintenance, and Operations will distribute personal protective equipment (PPE) to each campus on a weekly and monthly basis.
- PPE will include thermometers based on the number of students.
- Each week, schools will receive disposable masks (one per staff member and one per student), and wipes will be provided for classrooms and campuses.
- Each month, gloves will be provided for classrooms and campuses.
- A health screening app will be used by employees for check-in.
- Masks are always required to be worn properly by students and staff.
- Students will need to take laptops/Chromebooks home in the event they need to switch to virtual instruction.

Also, to ensure that we continue to support our families, our Communications Department created a video that provides a glimpse of how schools would look like when face-to-face instruction resumes. Please watch the video so you have a better idea of what it will look like.

- English: <https://youtu.be/BtL7zzlIB6M>
- Spanish: <https://youtu.be/O8YaQHWdEiw>

Parent Training on the HUB

The Academic Instructional Technology team has organized parent workshops to help parents understand how to access the HUB and support their student. The workshop will take place in a virtual live session with opportunities for question and answers. The **"Getting to Know the HUB for Parents"** training can be access through HISD@Home. Here are direct links to each session for your convenience.

Parent HUB Course Dates
Time
Links to Webinar

Thursday, September 24, 2020

[Getting to Know the HUB for Parents](#)

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

5 PM

[Getting to Know the HUB for Parents](#)

Thursday, October 1, 2020

5 PM

[Getting to Know the HUB for Parents](#)

Tuesday, October 6, 2020

5 PM

[Getting to Know the HUB for Parents](#)

Thursday, October 8, 2020

5 PM

[Getting to Know the HUB for Parents](#)

ROCK YOUR SCHOOL DAY!

Your Walnut Bend teachers have been training and following exceptional teachers around the country through Get Your Teach On, a community of outside the box thinkers who strive to make learning engaging. Last year was our first time to join the national movement to Rock Your School with engaging, themed ideas and joined schools around the world doing the same. If you were here, you and your kids probably remember the entire school decorated for a Rock and Roll Theme, with flashing lights and music themed activities all day long. The kids even got introduced to some rock icons as the staff dressed in their best impressions of rock stars!

We were not going to let this year go by without rocking our virtual school on September 24th, National Rock Your School Day! This year our school theme is Eagles Take Flight! Each grade level is planning a day of interesting activities around this theme - a day when we don't have to struggle with the HUB, but can explore and learn together in some exciting ways. Here is a sampling of activities that will be taking place in our Teams classrooms on virtual Rock Your School Day!

Exploring modes of transportation

Virtual field trips

Hispanic Heritage connections

Study of migrating birds, the places they stop, and culminating in Rio de Janeiro for Carnival

Learning about eagles

Eagle themed games and music

Art projects - Creating postcards to a place you would like to fly, creating a masked selfie

Science experiments with paper airplanes

Writing about traveling to locations in books

Dressing up! Shopping for needs for a trip

Studying air travel and airports

Virtual plane rides to the 7 Wonders of the World

Virtual trip to Egypt

Thursday will be a fabulous day of learning as we Rock Our School! I look forward to everyone's participation!

Textbook and Supply Pick-Up - Make-up Days

When

Wednesday, Sep. 23rd, 10am-1pm

Where

10620 Briar Forest Drive Houston, TX

More information

If you did not pick up your child's textbooks and supplies on Saturday, please do so this Wednesday-Friday, 10:00-1:00. Have your child's first and last name, grade level, and teacher's name written big on a piece of paper in the front windshield. Your books will be brought to the car. Thanks!

Important Dates

September 28: Teacher Inservice Day - No School for Students

October 1: Open House Meetings: 6:00 (Links will come from the teachers)

October 19: Face-to-Face Instruction Begins

November 3: Election Day - ALL Students Virtual On This Day