

2020-2021

Kate Collins Middle School

Welcome & Virtual Orientation





KATE COLLINS
MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Meet Our Administrators

Marcia Nester: Principal

Katrina Lassiter: Assistant Principal

Bryan Strickler: Assistant Principal

Mitch Peeling: Dean of Students



Welcome, KCMS, to our 2020-2021 School Year

Welcome to the 2020-2021 School Year, Kate Collins Middle School Students and Families! I want you to know that safety, quality instruction and communication are priorities as we navigate the current changes and uncertainties. Our staff is working diligently to prepare quality remote instructional experiences, as well as adjust to the various guidelines and recommendations. Even though this year will be different, we are excited to meet and teach our students, whether it be in person, remote or hybrid settings. The following presentation will hopefully provide needed information and clarification.

I look forward to working together with you as we navigate these middle school years in these challenging and unprecedented times.

Sincerely,

Marcia Nester KCMS Principal



Counseling Office



- School Counselors are here to help students and listen when they need someone to talk to.
- We will be available for video counseling sessions using a secure and confidential platform.
- We will also be reaching out to all 7th and 8th graders to work on career assessments and academic planning.



Mandy Lancaster
All 7th Grade
8th Grade M-Z

Mary Adams
All 6th Grade
8th Grade A-L

Your School Counselors are Here for You!

STOPit!

Kate Collins Middle School continues to be enrolled with STOPit! Our access code is: **Badgers**

[What is STOPit?](#) Parents, watch this video to learn more.

[What is STOPit?](#) Students, watch this video to learn more.

[STOPit](#) is an online reporting tool designed to deter and mitigate bullying, cyber abuse, and other inappropriate behaviors, consisting of an app and a back-end incident management system for school administrators.

Our students will have access to the STOPit mobile app, which has two simple but powerful features.

- Report can be used by students to report incidents to school contacts anonymously.
- Messenger can be used to engage in anonymous two-way communication with school contacts.

Both Report and Messenger empower students to stand up for themselves and for one another.

- Students have the power to help put an end to harmful and inappropriate behavior they see online. They can use STOPit to reach out for help if they or a peer are facing a personal crisis or experiencing bullying, abuse, or are otherwise in need of assistance. Our goal with STOPit is to create safer, kinder, school communities.
- No student information is needed to use STOPit. The only way personally identifiable information will be accessible through STOPit is if a student voluntarily includes it within a report or message.
- Both our school and STOPit are committed to protecting the privacy of student data. STOPit is a signatory to the [Student Privacy Pledge](#), spearheaded by the Future of Privacy Forum and the Software & Information Industry Association. You may review STOPit's [Privacy Policy](#) for details, including more information on how anonymous reporting works.



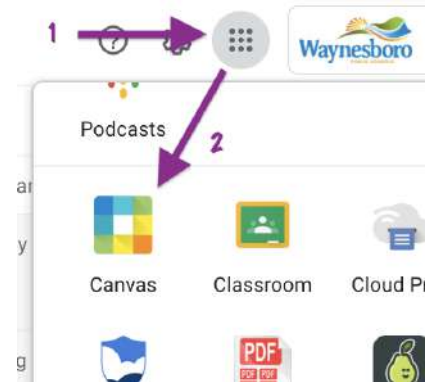
Accessing Virtual Instruction

- Remote learning will occur within a Learning Management System called Canvas.
- It is being utilized across the state for this purpose, which will allow our teachers to access and share instructional materials from the state department as well as with their colleagues around the state, school, and division.
- Students will log into Canvas each day to access their remote instruction. All their assignments, resources, and materials will be housed within this system.
- We will be providing video and written resources for parents and students on our website about it in the very near future. We will notify you as soon as those are available. It will be user-friendly and provide easy consistent access for all students across the division.

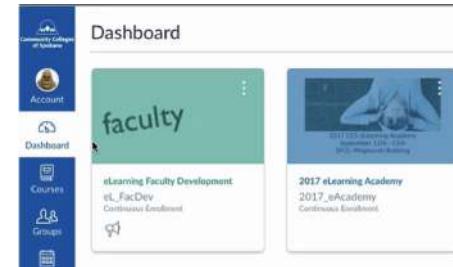
Logging into Canvas

- **Step 1:** Students can access Canvas through their school email accounts. They will select the Canvas app and use their school email accounts to log in.
- **Step 2:** Once students are logged in, they will have access to each of their classes for fall semester. Their “dashboard” will show all of their classes in a format that looks something like the picture to the right.
 - From their dashboard, students can look at their classes, see upcoming assignments, read new messages from teachers or classmates, and many other things.
- Students’ teachers will guide them through the ways their classes are set up, but students should spend some time familiarizing themselves with the site beforehand.

Step 1:



Step 2:



Expectations & Behaviors to Remember

- During synchronous (video) lessons, students should follow the same expectations that they would during traditional classes.
 - Be RESPECTFUL, RESPONSIBLE, and INVOLVED!
- Students should sign into synchronous lessons using their first and last names.
- Students who are not meeting behavior expectations during these class times will be removed from the “classroom” and talk with the teacher afterwards.
- Keep an eye out for more information about virtual learning from Central Office.



Types of Virtual Learning

Synchronous

- Synchronous Learning means live instruction that happens in real time.
- This could be a live (video) lesson, lecture, or discussion.
- This could also be a live chat, meaning that the students and teacher are participating at the same time.

Asynchronous

- Asynchronous Learning means learning that happens on the student's own time.
- This could be a pre-recorded lesson, video, reading, essay, project, or independent work.
- This could also be contributing to a discussion thread within Canvas.

Attendance Policies for Virtual Learning

- Attendance will be monitored each day through meaningful contact, such as office hour participation, synchronous learning sessions, work samples, etc.
- Students are expected to log on to Canvas while working on their classwork.
- They must do so each Monday through Friday in order to be counted as “present.”



Advisory

Each student will have an advisory teacher. This teacher will be a great resource to the students, and provide each student with a (virtual) smiling face as they go through their week.

you matter.



Advisory teachers will help with some of the items listed here:

- Help students fill out an agenda so they can manage their time wisely, and help them revise their weekly schedule as the semester progresses.
- Reach out to students in regards to their academic progress, and monitor their adjustment to virtual learning.
- Help students feel connected to an adult in the building. Advisory teachers will ask students about their days, their struggles with virtual learning, and their successes.
- Serve as a resource for students and families to reach out to throughout the year.

Schedules

Students can see which classes and teachers they have by logging into Canvas.

Advisory teachers will contact each student the week of August 24th to discuss their schedule.

You Can Do It!

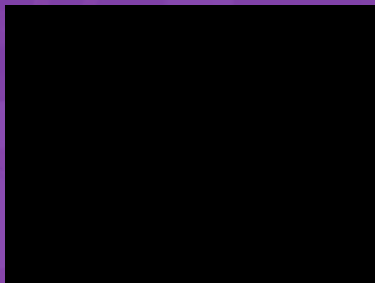


Meet Your Teachers

Welcome, 6th grade!
Click below to meet your
teachers.



Welcome back, 7th grade!
Click below to meet your
teachers.



Welcome back, 8th grade!
Click below to meet your
teachers.



Teacher Access: Schedules & Office Hours

- Each teacher will have a designated time for their live class sessions, as well as for office hours.
- Office hours are a time when teachers will be available outside of their scheduled class time for students to ask questions and receive help. Students can set this up in advance or at the last minute. Office hours will be hosted through a variety of means; your teachers will give you more information!
- Schedules of live class sessions and office hours will be posted on the school website as soon as they are available. These can also be found on each class' Canvas site.

Students: What to Expect Throughout the Week

- Synchronous interaction with your classes and teachers--this will typically happen twice a week for each class.
 - We strongly encourage students to take advantage of synchronous learning opportunities as frequently as possible. However, if you cannot make a scheduled session, know that you are still responsible for the work assigned before, during, and after this session.
- Interaction with your teachers through email, video calls, phone calls, chat sessions, etc. This will happen at least once a week with each teacher.
- Classwork that you must complete on time and to the best of your ability--due dates for each assignment are available in Canvas.
 - You can expect to have anywhere from two to three hours of work per class each week, in addition to the times you meet with your teacher.

Student Day Example

This example shows a student working from 9-3 each school day, with breaks throughout this time. Note each student's day will vary according to his or her needs.

The week includes 3 hours of class/work time for English, Math, Social Studies, and Science. It also includes 2 hours for PE and Electives.

It also has 6 extra hours that students can use as needed, 1 hour for independent reading, and plenty of time for breaks and lunch.

Keep in mind this is only an example. Students will work with their advisory teacher to setup a schedule that works for them, their family, and fits in all of their classes.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:20-9	Get up, eat breakfast, & prepare for class.	Get up, eat breakfast, & prepare for class.	Get up, eat breakfast, & prepare for class.	Get up, eat breakfast, & prepare for class.	Get up, eat breakfast, & prepare for class.
9-10	-English zoom (30 min.) -Spend 30 min. working on English	-Work on what you need throughout the day--or getting a head start on what is due tomorrow.	-Zoom with Science teacher: check in & ask questions. -Spend 45 min. working on science	-English zoom (30 min.) -Spend 15 min. working on English -15 min. break	-Work on what you need throughout the day--or getting a head start on what is due tomorrow.
10-11	-Spend 30 min. reading independently -30 min. break	-Math zoom (30 min.) -Work on math	-15 min. break -Work on social studies	-Spend 30 min. reading independently -30 minute break	-Math zoom (30 min.) -Work on math (30 min.)
11-12	-Social Studies Zoom (30 min.) -Work on Social Studies (30 min.)	-Lunch!	-Zoom with Electives teacher: check in & ask questions. -Work on English	-Social Studies Zoom (30 min.) -Work on Social Studies (30 min.)	-Lunch!
12-1	-Lunch!	-Science zoom (30 min.) -Continue working on science (30 min.)	-Lunch!	-Lunch!	-Science zoom (30 min.) -Continue working on science (30 min.)
1-2	-Elective zoom (30 min.) -Work on electives (15 min.)	-Work on English -15 min. break -Zoom with English teacher: check in & ask questions.	-Zoom with PE teacher: check in & ask questions. -Spend 45 min. working on PE.	-Elective zoom (30 min.) -Work on electives (15 min.) -Zoom with Social Studies teacher: check in & ask questions.	-Zoom with math teacher: check in & ask questions. -Work on math (30 min.) -15 min. break
2-3	-Think about what needs finished today, & what to prepare for tomorrow.	-PE zoom (30 min.) -Think about what needs finished today, & what to prepare for tomorrow.	-Think about what needs finished today, & what to prepare for tomorrow.	-Think about what needs finished today, & what to prepare for tomorrow.	-PE zoom (30 min.) -Think about what needs finished today, & what to prepare for tomorrow.

- **Assignments will be graded throughout the quarter.**
- **Complete assignments to the best of your abilities, ask for help, and turn work in on time.**
- **Be sure to check Canvas frequently so you can stay on top of your due dates.**
- **Grades will be updated consistently in PowerSchool.**



Grading & Classwork

Be Ready!

- Complete the Returning Student Registration on the Waynesboro Public Schools website.
- If you do not have a device other than your phone ready for remote instruction, contact our front office @946-4635.
- If you do not have internet access, contact Mr. Jody Lohr, WPS Exec. Director of Technology @946-4600, Ext. 129.
- In addition to receiving school messenger information to your primary number and/or email, utilize our school webpage and follow us on our Friends of Kate Collins Middle School facebook page.
- Locate a space for your student to work in daily that is away from distractions.
- Make sure your student charges their computer daily!
- School supply lists are available on the KCMS website. However, now that we are remote, adjust accordingly.
- If students do not have materials needed at home, contact the KCMS office or your student's teachers.
- As students need certain materials from the school throughout the year, we will arrange pick up dates. Students might need to use these to get books or project supplies, for example.

Meal Distribution Information

- Waynesboro Public Schools will provide FREE breakfast and lunch to ALL students enrolled in Waynesboro Public Schools, regardless of income level, for the 2020-21 school year.
- No application is required.

For 100% Virtual Learners

- Begins Tuesday, 9/01/20, and continuing every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. 5 breakfasts and 5 lunches will be included in every pick up or delivery.
- Meals will be distributed once a week. Please only pick up on one day.
 - Tuesday: Curbside pickup 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm at all schools
 - Wednesday: Bus Stop Delivery 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm (at designated sites)
 - Thursday: Curbside pickup 9:30 am - 11:00 am at all schools.

For students attending school in-person

- Meals will be sent home with students: do not come to pickup.

*There will be no meals served on the scheduled school holidays:
Labor Day - September 7, 2020*

Thanksgiving Break - November 25-27, 2020

Christmas Break - December 21, 2020 – January 1, 2021.

Please contact Tammy Coffey, Supervisor of School Nutrition, at 540-946-4600 ext.144 for any questions and leave a message with contact information so they may return your call.

7th Grade Immunization Requirement

Middle school immunizations:

- *All seventh graders, who are 11 years of age, are required to have the tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis (Tdap) vaccine prior to the first day of school. This is a state requirement in order to begin remote or in school instruction.*
- *Immunization documentation can be hand delivered or faxed. Scanned copies are not accepted.*
- *Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine is an immunization requirement for girls entering sixth grade. After reviewing education materials provided by the Board of Health, the parent or guardian, at the parent's or guardian's sole discretion, may elect for the child not to receive the HPV vaccine.*

Important Upcoming Dates

- **August 24th-28th: Chromebook Pick Up Times: 8:30-3:30pm, by appointment only. Contact the front office to checkout a chromebook.**
- **August 31: First Day of School**
- **September 7: Labor Day--No School**
- **September 8th & 9th: Class Materials Pick Up: 12-6pm.
Lower parking lot entrance.**



Our assistant principals, Katrina Lassiter and Bryan Strickler, and Dean of Students, Mitch Peeling, and myself look forward to working as your administrative team this year.

We are striving to make this a great year of learning, as we all learn new ways to navigate our current circumstances. We are excited to get to know you and your students, whether it be through hybrid or remote situations. Our emails and the school phone number are listed to the right if you have questions or concerns that we can assist you with. We wish you the best in this upcoming school year.

Thank you, and Go KC Badgers!

Contacts:

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Charles, 'Mitch', Peeling, Dean of Students

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