



Dear Families,

As we turn the calendar to August, we find ourselves just a few weeks away from the first day of school. We hope you and your family have been able to enjoy the summer so far. We would like to share some important information about the upcoming school year in advance of our regular reminders

We look forward to working together in partnership with you and your student(s) throughout the school year. Our two-way communication is critical to our success, so please make sure all of your contact information remains up-to-date with the school. The following are key highlights of a few planned changes that we believe will enhance the overall experience, and allow us to continue to meet the needs of all students.

- **Orientation** - All new and returning students will participate in a 3-day orientation on August 24, 25, and 26 from 8:30 AM - 2:30 PM. **Day 1 is synchronous for all students**, which is new for the 2022-23 school year. Day 2 and Day 3 will remain synchronous for new 21CCCS students while our returning students will shift to asynchronous once completion requirements have been met to finish the rest of our annual orientation. This time is essential for both new and returning students as it discusses Moodle, our learning management system (LMS), and other platforms students will use on a regular basis. In addition, it reviews updates and changes from the previous school year. This foundation is critical to help students access courses, navigate their coursework, and submit assignments.
- **Attendance** - As per Pennsylvania compulsory attendance and truancy laws, we are required to provide parents/guardians with our attendance policy on an annual basis. While we have always been responsible for daily attendance, we have revised this policy for the 2022-23 school year in order to improve the quality of our attendance data and to identify struggling students earlier to offer support. The following are some key changes:
 - *Daily Check-in Process* - Students will use a personalized link accessible on their Moodle dashboard to verify they are in attendance and will complete the required number of hours on schoolwork [6th Grade - 5 hours, 7th-12 Grade - 5.5 hours]. We will review this quick process with students on Day 1 of orientation.
 - Students have the entire school day to complete this task. 21CCCS will compile an absentee list the following morning and Academic Advisors will reach out in accordance with our updated process.
 - We will provide more information on what to do when you know about an absence(s) in advance.
 - *Absence Notes* - In order to avoid having an unexcused absence, parents/guardians have 3 days to electronically submit a note to excuse the absence and avoid the day being marked as unlawful and count towards truancy.



- **Virtual Back to School Night** - Mark your calendars and plan to join us online on Monday, August 22nd from 7-8 PM.

Stay on the lookout for more frequent updates as we get closer to the start of school.

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