

Hello newly incoming 6th Grade Parents/Guardians,

First off, we would like to welcome you to the Pulaski 6th Grade Family. The most important thing that we always stress with our students, and it is more important this year than ever before, is that the 6th Grade is one family no matter the homeroom and we are always here for each other. We have worked together for 16 years. We find that when the two homerooms are invested in their their learning, every student benefits from feeling like part of a large group working towards the same goal.

Unfortunately we are not able to start the school year together in person but we have been learning new programs and ways to ensure your child's success. We will be starting school on Tuesday at 9:00 with a Microsoft Teams meeting to say hello, and to set expectations. We will be contacting the students after their information is uploaded into our accounts with details for Tuesday. We will communicate with the grade as a whole and we will cc the parent email group as well. When you see our email, we ask that parent's check with their children's progress to ensure that all students are on the same page.

We are working on a schedule where part of the day students will be on-line with us, and the rest of the day students will be working on assignments. Our initial thought is a quick 5-10 minute meeting as an entire grade, then we will break off into smaller groups. The goal will be to teach your children a lesson in the first part of the day, whether it be us live or a recorded lesson (could vary daily). We will then look to connect with the children live towards the end of the day to check if they have any questions. We will be meeting with students in three different groups. We will have whole grade meetings, whole class meetings and smaller groups broken into cohorts for smaller learning communities. We will also be available for small groups for extra help sessions as needed. We will be going over all of this with your children Tuesday during our first meetings. (time: tbd)

As far as supplies, the best thing to help your child be successful is to make sure they are organized. We would like each child to have a separate notebook for math, science, social studies and ELA and an ELA journal.

Classroom materials that your child needs, like textbooks, workbooks, and novels are going to be made available for you to pick up one day next week during a time slot provided. We will be in touch with the date and times when we decide how that will work as a school.

We will be using Microsoft Teams, Edmodo, Clever, Read theory, Vocabulary.com, quizizz, Brain Pop, emathinstruction.com, and iReady. We will be spending the first week using these tools to make sure the students are able to log in and can access the different features in each program. If students are struggling with the technology we have asked Mrs. Montero if we could bring students in, a small number at a time, to help square away any technology issues. We will make these appointments based on need and your availability.

Together we will make this a great year for your children and we hope to see them in class in the very near future. Please if you have any questions do not hesitate to reach out and ask.

Student logins for office 365 (teams) is their student-id@yonkerspublicschools.org and their birthday in MMDDYYYY format will be there password.

Thank you

Mr. Kreps

Mr. Thomas