**Come with us on our journey—**

Kate Sullivan Orientation

2020-2021



**Who is attending Digital Academy?**

In a word: EVERYONE. In the event that any of our Crocodiles need to be learning from home we want to ensure that they are comfortable and confident using the Canvas Learning Management System. Additionally, this will provide us the opportunity to begin exploring Blending Learning as an instructional approach.

**What is Blended Learning?**

In a nutshell, Blended Learning is a research-based instructional approach where students learn partially online, partially in a brick and mortar location, and along a more individualized path designed to provide a more integrated learning experience. NOW, given the many challenges presented to us this year, we will not be able to fully operationalize a Blended Learning model but this well-established instructional approach does provide us with a wealth of information that will assist our teachers as they plan and prepare for instruction. If, ultimately, Blended Learning is a chance to reinvent what learning looks like for our students, then we see this next year as an opportunity to develop some ways-of-work that will sustain us in the future. The 1:1 commitment made by our district ensures that our students will have blended learning experiences for years to come. We all know what they say about life, lemons, and lemonade….we are going to approach the 2020-2021 school year as chance to make some lemonade!!

**How will our children be learning?**

Students will use our new learning management system, Canvas, to access everything!!! Canvas will be accessible to all students through their ClassLink accounts. Once in Canvas, our students will be able to link with learning modules, assignments, and more. Canvas will also be where they will turn in completed work and receive feedback from their teachers. Students will have moments of live instruction, independent work, small group instruction, and BREAKS. Any students who receive services will continue to receive those services LIVE.

**What will our children learn?**

Our students will still be receiving Florida Standards aligned instruction in all core academic areas: English Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies. They will also receive P.E., Art, and Music. We will continue to use vetted curriculum resources such as, but not limited to, Canvas Digital Modules, Wonders, Go Math!, Fusion’s Science, etc.





**Learning from home this year??? Here are a few student and parent expectations….**

**At-home Student Expectations:**

* All students are expected to go LIVE at 8:30 a.m. for their Morning Meeting. Daily attendance will be taken at this time. Students who are not present during this meeting will be marked absent or tardy. If you are late, please contact your teacher as soon as you are present. If you have an appointment, please provide the appropriate documentation so that the tardy/absence can be excused
* Students are expected to access daily schedules, assignments, due dates, etc. through Canvas
* Students are expected to complete all assignments in a timely manner; assignments are graded work not just evidence of participation
* Students (and/or parents) are expected to contact their teacher with all questions and concerns about assignments

**Parent Expectations:**

* Parents are expected to sign up for Parent Portal in FOCUS in order to keep up with student grades
* Parents are expected to sign up for Parent Canvas in order to keep up with assignments and other posted information; this information should be kept up with in the same manner as the agenda book and other school-to-home communications
* Parents are expected to help students stick to their daily schedules
* Parents are expected to make sure students are completing work as assigned
* Parents are expected to assist their child in creating an at-home learning space designed for maximum success, parents are expected to offer encouragement, parents are expected help students remain on-task and on schedule
* Parents are expected to help students learn ON THEIR OWN….a moment of guidance, words of encouragement, a quick clarification or restatement is absolutely okay…teachers do this all the time…however, we need our students to show us what they are capable of doing independently in order to provide them with the most appropriate instruction ☺