Good afternoon, Cyber Students & Families!

Can you believe we are halfway through our fourth and final quarter of the year? Wow!

I wanted to take a few minutes to update you on a few things and to share some information I like to periodically send. Take a look at the information below and reach out to myself, your guidance counselors, your teachers at Warren, or your building principals here at UCASD if you need anything at all. We are proud of you and want to help you finish your year in the Union City Cyber Academy on a positive note. Please let us know how we can help and support you.

Mrs. Stacey Dell

Director of Curriculum and Special Programs

Union City Area School District

### Fourth Quarter Mid-Term Progress Reports - Middle & High School Students

At noon on Monday, May 9 (today), I pulled and printed mid-term progress grades for all full-time and part-time cyber students in Grades 6-12. These will be mailed out to all full-time cyber students and hand-delivered to part-time cyber students on Wednesday along with the attached letter (**PDF below**) explaining the mid-term progress reports from the Buzz Portal. Again, keep in mind that these were pulled at **noon** on May 9, so any graded assignments between now and the delivery date may have adjusted. This information is just to help students and families to see current progress for students across courses so far during the fourth quarter. **All parents and guardians at all levels have access to students' grades, activity, and progress in the Buzz Portal; to see how to access your child's account to monitor his/her progress by either logging in with his/her credentials or by requesting a parent account, check out the "Tracking Your Child's Daily Progress" section below and reach out to your guidance counselor for help or support. If you need a new copy of your child's login credentials, you can always request a copy from your child's guidance counselor.** 

# Third Quarter Report Card Grades - All Students

If you have any concerns about your child's recent report card grades, reach out to your guidance counselor directly. Remember that Buzz Portal assignments for 3rd quarter report cards grades were pulled the day after the conclusion of the quarter so that the teachers were able to grade them in time for report card distribution. If your child completed work *after* the end of the quarter (March 30) and *after* the March 31 deadline, those assignments did not count for the report card grade unless he/she had an approved extension for extenuating circumstances or per his/her IEP/504. See my previous emails from March 11 & March 16 about these dates and the conclusion of the 3rd quarter.

# **Helpful Contacts for Cyber Academy Success**

Sometimes it helps to know who the best person to contact is when you're running into a challenge, need to turn in an excuse, or need some support!

 When you/your child is struggling with a particular class, an assignment, a due date, live lessons, class pacing, the structure of the course, questions about materials, etc., please communicate with the **individual teachers at Warren**. Their contact information is listed in the course home pages in the Buzz Portal.

- When you have scheduling questions or general concerns about your/your child's progress, please reach out to your guidance counselors: Elementary Mr. McMahan (emcmahan@ucasd.org), Middle School Mr. Anthony (janthony@ucasd.org), High School Mrs. Dawson (kdawson@ucasd.org), and K-12 Mrs. McNulty (smcnulty@ucasd.org).
- If you need the attendance Zoom link or have questions about the attendance process, please reach out to Mr. Shawn Thompson (sethompson@ucasd.org).
- If you/your student does miss school/morning attendance, please don't forget to submit excuses to your building-level attendance secretaries as per our cyber handbook: Elementary Mrs. Blystone (ablystone@ucasd.org), Middle School Mrs. Himrod (Ihimrod@ucasd.org), and High School Mrs. Reynolds (Ireynolds@ucasd.org) so that he/she can be marked accordingly in PowerSchool. It is always good to include Mr. Shawn Thompson (sethompson@ucasd.org) on those correspondences, too.
- If you/your child has an IEP or 504 and you have concerns, please communicate with both **the teacher at Warren** and **your case manager at UCASD**. Mrs. Stacey Mulson (smulson@ucasd.org) is our Director of Pupil Services and is also here to help!
- If you are a parent/guardian who would like to be added as an observer to your child's account, please contact Misty Weber at Warren (WeberMD@wcsdpa.org).
- If you are experiencing technical difficulties with assignment submission, the online portal, or your individual Buzz Portal account, you can contact Misty Weber (WeberMD@wcsdpa.org), Neil Kent (kentn@wcsdpa.org), or Michael Cradduck (cradduckm@ucasd.org).
- If you are having challenges with your UCASD-issued Chromebook, please submit a HelpDesk ticket (helpdesk@ucasd.org) to our tech team. Be sure to let them know that you are a Union City Cyber Academy student so they can reach out to you for troubleshooting purposes.

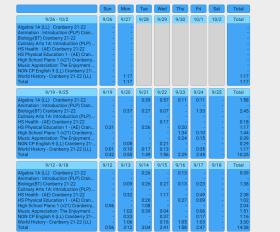
### **Live Lessons or Live Office Hours**

Almost every course in the cyber academy, barring a few electives, has the option for live office hours and/or live lessons. The information for joining these and attending these is on the home page for each course in the Buzz Portal. If you ever find that you don't see those listed there, please reach out to Ms. Weber at Warren, myself, or the individual teacher to let them know. The teachers are required to post that contact information and any available office hours they have, if applicable. It is important that students attend these to get help, instruction, and support as they are able or need it.

## **Tracking Your Child's Daily Progress**

All parents/guardians have several options for monitoring student progress and success in the Buzz Portal. Parents/guardians can access the student's portal using the student's login credentials, which are given out by the individual building guidance counselors, or parents/guardians can request to be added as an observer by contacting Misty Weber at Warren (WeberMD@wcsdpa.org). If you reach out to Misty and do not receive your login credentials from her, please contact me (sdell@ucasd.org) ASAP so that I can assist! By logging in using either method, parents/guardians can view a "Daily Activity Report" as seen below:

Finding the Daily Activity Record: Sample Daily Activity Record:





### **Materials**

If one of the instructors requests materials that you do not have access to, please let us know. In most instances, if it is not something you have available at home, you can let the instructor know, and they will work with you or help you modify the task(s). If it is a particular type of art supplies or school supplies, let us know so we can assist. Elementary students who need additional supplies from their initial supplies bags from the start of the year can reach out to Mr. McMahan (contact information below) or myself.

## **Keystones & PSSAs: Spring Testing Dates**

Thank you for your time, communication, and participation in our statewide assessments. We are currently concluding our PSSA make-up sessions in that testing window and are preparing for Keystone exams for our students being assessed in Algebra, Biology, and Literature this year; those students will be assessed beginning next week. We have reached out to those families with resources and information. Our district has detailed all Spring Keystone and PSSA testing dates on our district homepage on the Student Assessment tab on the curriculum dropdown. Here, you can view the general assessment calendar, as well as the specific dates for testing in each grade level and content area. These specific calendars are on the right-hand side of that page. Keystone information, including item and scoring samplers, can be viewed on PDE's website.

## **Helpful Resources for Families**

As we have some new families joining our cyber academy program, I wanted to share links to a few resources that you may find helpful:

- Union City Cyber Academy Handbook: The handbook describes all pertinent information about attendance requirements, processes for struggling students, and more.
- Buzz Portal: This is the website that houses all cyber academy courses, grades, communications with Warren teachers, and more.
- Food Service Request for Meals for Cyber Students: Complete and turn this form in to your individual building office if you would like to register for meal pick-up through UCASD.
- Union City Cyber Academy Homepage: This is our spot on the district website for documents, contacts, updates, and information.
- Website Links for Free eBooks: This document features links to websites that allow student access to free books for courses or personal reading.

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