

Columbia Virtual Academy

CVA News

Parent's Role in Online Learning

In this issue:

- Parent's Role in Online Learning
- Communication is Key!
- Parents are the Key to Success
- Parent checklist
- Important Dates
- Testing
- Graduation Project

Get Involved

Make sure your child understands the rigor of online courses. Make sure your child has access to the technology needed for the online course. Support all school rules and policies. Become familiar with the materials that the school has provided. Take responsibility for your child by insisting that he / she complies with the regulations outlined.

Support the school when con-

sequences are invoked for violation of school regulations.

Attendance

Make sure your child logs onto the online course **daily** unless illness or an emergency prevents this. If your child is unable to complete assignments due to unforeseen circumstances, please contact his / her teacher through email. If your child will be traveling during the semester, please ensure that arrangements for

coursework completion are agreed upon with the teacher ahead of time.

Academic Work and Progress

Show an interest in what your child is studying. Provide a time and a quiet place for the completion of assignments. Study and discuss progress reports and report cards with your child. If you have any questions, contact your child's teacher or counselor for further information.

Communication is Key!

You can email your child's CVA instructor for course related questions.

Returned all signed paperwork

Contact Mrs. Pamela Williams (681-2460) or a school counselor if you have any ques-

tions regarding registration, or withdrawal.

Stay informed by reading letters and other correspondence from the school.

Provide a working email address where the school may contact you.

<http://eschool.k12.hi.us/component/content/article/48-stories/124-five-ways-parents-play-a-vital-role>



Parents are the Key to Success

Researchers have found that — for all family income levels — students with involved parents are more likely to:

Earn higher grades and test scores

Enroll in advanced classes and programs

Pass their classes, earn credits, and be promoted to the next grade level

Attend school regularly

Have better social skills, show improved behavior, and adapt well to school

Graduate and go on to postsecondary education

Parent involvement is just as important for online learning as it is for in-class learning. Children and teens are still developing mentally and emotionally. Some of the skills young people are developing are critical to achieving academic success in online learning. These include:

Verbal communication

Written communication

Understanding computer technology

Academic learning strategies

Effective time management

Critical problem solving

Persistence and self-motivation

Some students will already have these when they begin an online course or program. Others will need to develop these valuable skills.

Parents Checklist for Supporting Student Success

Encourage your child and give positive feedback.

Allow your child or teen to ask you for help.

Encourage your teen to contact his or her teachers rather than having you do it for them.

Become familiar with the curriculum. Work with your child or teen to develop a study schedule.

Model good time-management strategies. This might include following a personal schedule or creating a daily "to do" list.

Help your child to use these strategies.

Talk with your child or teen about the appropriate ways to communicate with teachers and classmates.

Make sure your child has basic typing and computer skills.

Evaluate your child's level of self-motivation. Talk about the many advantages of getting an education and earning a degree.

Check your child's progress by using the methods the school provides (like a parent

portal website). Talk directly with your child about his or her progress and grades. Check in with the teachers periodically.

Provide study space at home with few distractions. Make sure it has good lighting, comfortable seating, a working computer, and good wrist support.

Never hesitate to call or write to school staff when you have questions or concerns.

Source: Minnesota Department of Education



Important Dates for CVA students

The following are date changes for the academic school year 2013-2013 for CVA students. Dates may continue to change throughout the year depending upon missed days for weather related emergencies.

- January 23-** End of second marking period/ first semester (part 2 of all classes completed) all classes completed)
- April 3-** Third Marking Period ends (part 3 of all classes completed)
- June 4-** Fourth marking period ends (part 4 of



Keystone Exams and PSSA Tests

All CVA students are required to take the state tests at the High School. Depending upon your grade level, you will be contacted by Mrs. Williams and instructed to report to the high school on certain days to take

these tests. If you are asked to come to the high school, you need to report at the time indicated, sign in at the attendance office, wear a visitors badge and go to the area indicated for testing. When testing is complet-

ed, sign out at the attendance office, hand in your badge and leave the building. YOU ONLY NEED TO COME TO THE HS IF YOU HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED BY EMAIL.

Graduation Project

Students at Columbia JrSr HS begin working on their graduation project during their freshman year. Each student is assigned a graduation project advisor. This project must be presented to a panel of teachers/

school board members PRIOR to graduation, during the senior year. If your child is a junior or senior and has not begun work or completed this project or has not had contact with an advisor,

check their email to find the contact info. Juniors will be getting their advisor assignment before the end of the year.



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The Columbia Borough School District partnered with 12 other public schools under the IU13 Intermediate unit to establish our virtual school, CVA. 2011-2012 was the first year for the virtual school to be affiliated with the Columbia Borough School District. The program has grown and we have more CVA students this year than last. The district is committed to CVA and has partnered with the IU, in a new agreement for many more years to come

Need additional Resources?

As parents, Bitsoftech.weebly.com will give you extra resources to help your child's education. There is also a page for the Virtual School that changes periodically to give you additional information, as needed.