



September 25, 2020

Dear KGMS Families:

We hope things are going well for everyone so far this school year. We want to take a moment and answer some of the frequently asked questions we have been receiving since the opening of school.

**Attendance:** All students need to log in through Canvas to do their assignments. Canvas is our learning management system and it is how we accurately track attendance for students. We know your children are working hard and want to make sure their attendance is correct. If your student is going to be absent, please email your student's teachers so they can accurately mark your student's attendance. Please email Cheryl Conklin [cconklin@kgcs.k12.va.us](mailto:cconklin@kgcs.k12.va.us) if you have additional questions about attendance.

**Authorize student's Google Drive:** Assignments do not show as submitted to the teacher if the Google drive has not been "authorized" on the Canvas side by the student.

Helpful video: [Google Drive Authorization](#)

**Contact Information:** Please ensure that we have the most up to date phone and email addresses for your contact information. If you have received a message from the middle school on one platform and not the other (text, not email or vice versa) please contact the school so that we can update your information.

**Canvas:** Canvas is the learning management system used by King George County Schools. Every teacher has a Canvas page that provides information for their specific class. Teachers have been provided with the flexibility to link their Google Classroom to their Canvas page. We recognize that this has caused some confusion for families initially but just as in a "normal" school year with in-person classes, each teacher has slightly different classroom routines and procedures and the early part of the school year is used to help students adjust to all of their different classes. Teachers are working with their individual classes of students to practice the routines and procedures in the virtual environment and our students are adapting and adjusting to virtual learning.

**Grades:** The students' *official* grades are in PowerSchool. The grades posted in Canvas do not necessarily reflect all recorded grades for all assignments. Teachers have been flexible during the first few weeks in accepting work beyond stated due dates to allow time for students to figure out how and where to submit work for each individual teacher. If a zero has been given, it should be accompanied by a comment that communicates how students can earn a grade for work that has not yet been submitted. Please expect that as we get beyond the 1st 9-week interims (October 1) that due dates will be more closely adhered to and that missing assignments will receive a grade of zero. If there is concern about a specific assignment grade please email your child's teacher directly.

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Respectful, Accountable, Productive and Present

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<https://kgms.kgcs.k12.va.us/>



# KING GEORGE MIDDLE SCHOOL



*“Home of the Foxes”*

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**PowerSchool Parent Portal:** PowerSchool Parent Portal tracks student grades, attendance, class assignments, etc. You can create a Parent Portal account at <https://ps.kgcs.k12.va.us/public/> if you have not already done so. Email Kelley Cox [kcox@kgcs.k12.va.us](mailto:kcox@kgcs.k12.va.us) or Cheryl Conklin [cconklin@kgcs.k12.va.us](mailto:cconklin@kgcs.k12.va.us) if you need Access ID & Password information to create a PowerSchool Parent Portal account.

**Interims:** It has been a challenging start, but we are one-eighth of the way through the 2020-2021 school year! Grades posted in PowerSchool on October 1st reflect the 1st 9 week interim grades.

**Student Work:** Classes are scheduled for a two hour block online each day, except Wednesdays. Please encourage your child to stay online after the lecture is over and work on the assignments for class. This gives them the opportunity to ask questions and get help with the work if they need it, and reduces or eliminates the time they need to spend on work once the school day is finished. Your child’s teachers are available online through the google meet for the full two hour block.

**Wednesdays:** Student expectations are asynchronous learning, independent practice, and assignment completion. Wednesday is a school day and attendance is counted. Students should check in by logging into Canvas on Wednesdays to be counted as present for the day. The purpose of this asynchronous learning time is for students to complete work on their own and seek out teachers’ help through office hours, if needed. All teachers have office hours Wednesday from 10:00-11:30. Please have your student check in and utilize their time for assignment completion.

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