



Trailblazer Times

September 3, 2021

Dear Virtual Academy Families,

IMPORTANT ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

- For all elementary school students, attendance is taken at the beginning of your first daily zoom.
- For all middle school students, attendance is taken during your 8:15 a.m. homeroom. Please be sure your student attends homeroom so that they are not marked absent for the day.
- For all high school students, attendance is taken via the [High School Daily Attendance Form](#).

SHOW YOUR SMILING FACE!

We are finishing our fourth week of school! Students and teachers have gotten to know each other during the first four weeks of school. It is important that students show their face during live Zoom meetings with their class. When a teacher is instructing, it is much easier to see if a student is engaged and following what the teacher is saying if their video is on. Below is a good reminder of when a student's video should be on and when it's okay for it to be off. [Here is a quick video message from Mr. Boyd on this topic. Check it out!](#)

When to Turn Your Video On	When to Turn Your Video Off
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● When entering the Zoom classroom● When the teacher is teaching● When the teacher is asking questions● When the teacher is asking students to show what they know.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● During breaks in instruction● When working independently● Any other circumstance that has been discussed by the teacher and parent prior to meeting.

NO SCHOOL MONDAY--LABOR DAY

Students have been working so hard this year! This Monday, September 6 is a holiday, and teachers will not be holding zoom meetings or taking attendance. We will be back on Tuesday, September 7.

SEPTEMBER IS “STUMP THE TEACHER” MONTH!

All students are encouraged to participate in our “Stump the Teacher” competition! Students will submit their questions using our ["Stump the Teacher Form."](#) and each Friday, the Virtual Academy will livestream Virtual Academy teachers answering those submitted questions. Questions must have an objective, singular answer. For example, “what is the abbreviation for magnesium?” or “what is the capital of Libya?”

NOVEL PICKUPS

We have several different novels here at our office at 701 Thomas Road.

7th grade Advanced English:

The Giver

If your student is taking Virtual Virginia courses, they have the following novels ready for pickup:

9th-grade English:

The Great Gatsby

Brown Girl Dreaming

10th-grade English:

Lord of the Flies

Fahrenheit 451

Julius Caesar

Antigone

11th-grade English:

A Good Man is Hard to Find

Of Mice and Men

A Raisin in the Sun

12th-grade English:

Hamlet

Frankenstein

Beowulf

AP English Literature and Composition:

Hamlet by William Shakespeare

Beowulf