



ARTS & COLLEGE
PREPARATORY ACADEMY

GUIDANCE FOR PARENTS & GUARDIANS

Below are some best practices for virtual learning. We completely understand that these changes to the school year present many challenges for our families, and are always flexible and willing to work with you to ensure your student has access to an engaging and rigorous education.

Create a Schedule

Continue to have your child engage in a daily routine. Parent and guardian support is crucial to ensure student attendance and promote engagement in learning activities. Community schools are being held to a rigorous attendance standard which may affect our funding. We ask that you help to make sure your student logs in to school everyday at 8:55am. Synchronous learning (live classes) is an important component to digital learning at ACPA. Students will be expected to attend class at home, just as they would at school. It is particularly helpful (emotionally and behaviorally) for students (and adults) to maintain control and predictability in our lives. Print out your student's school schedule and instructions when available, and have your student put them on their wall. As soon as you know the plan, share and discuss the plan with your student.

Location, Location, Location

Your family's regular learning space for occasional homework might not work for extended periods. If possible, set up a physical location that's dedicated to school-focused activities. Make sure it is quiet, free from distractions and has a good internet connection.

Student Ownership

Help students take ownership of their learning. ACPA does not expect parents and guardians to be full-time teachers or to be educational and content matter experts. Provide support and encouragement, and expect your student to do their part. Struggling is allowed and encouraged! We are eager to work with your student to help them achieve their goals!

Technology

Familiarize yourself with the school technology platforms. Teachers and the ACPA community will be using Schoology*, PowerSchool, and email as their primary methods of communication this year. As best you can, understand the expectations WITH your student, so it is a shared experience. If you need help, contact their Home Base teacher (see page 15) or the ACPA team for support!

*More Information and details regarding Schoology *coming soon!*



GUIDANCE FOR PARENTS & GUARDIANS (CONT.)

Use PowerSchool to Monitor Student Progress

ACPA recommends that parents and guardians use PowerSchool to monitor their student's academic progress on a regular basis. Every parent/guardian has the capability to set up a unique account that is linked to their student. This information is distributed at the beginning of the school year. Please contact your Middle School or High School principal if you are unable to log into your account. Your student's Home Base teacher, classroom teachers, and other support staff will also be in communication regarding student progress as needed.

Prepare

Anticipate that whatever the upcoming school year looks like, it will be bumpy and come with a new set of challenges. Understand and practice "growth mindset." Learning comes in stages, and even if we haven't learned how yet, with practice, we can become better at the task. Set reasonable expectations and let your student know that getting used to the new format of learning can take time.

