



## Charles S. Rushe Middle School

### **Contact Information:**

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### **Planning:**

Period 5 (Ms. Smith & Mrs. Longa)

Period 6 (Mrs. Livingston & Mrs. Grassick)

## **Introduction**

The SOAR Program provides an authentic self-paced learning experience for your child that fuses face-to-face interaction and collaboration with an online learning curriculum. By uniting these ideas, the students receive a multifaceted education that helps prepare them to SOAR for life in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

Please take time to review the details of our plan with your student. You may want to keep this plan handy throughout the year for reference. In order to ensure the success of your student, it is imperative that we work together and communicate as a team.

## **Communication:**

We will be doing our best to continue with our weekly newsletter out to students/parents with each content area lessons due that week. Please ensure that you have provided an updated email in the form attached below or email our teacher team. We will also be using MyLearning announcements as ways to communicate daily/weekly.

## **Pacing:**

Students are required to submit their assigned work each week to ensure they finish all courses by the end of the traditional school year. Students will be assigned and/or required to complete work at home to ensure they keep up with the pacing guide. To assist students with staying on pace, each student will have access to a pacing guide calendar in MyLearning detailing the assignments/tests due each week for each SOAR subject. Students that fall 1 week behind will be required to check in daily with the teacher to help them get back on pace. ***Parents will be notified by email/phone if their child falls excessively behind (more than two weeks).*** Students are always encouraged to work ahead, but not at the expense of content comprehension.

## Note Taking

**Studies have shown that note taking is essential to student success, so it is a mandatory component in SOAR.**

- Students will be required to take notes for every lesson, and random notebook checks will be conducted weekly.
- Students that fail to complete notes will not be permitted to move forward until the required notes are completed.
- The first weeks of school, students will be taught the key features that identify the required notes. However, students may conference with the teacher for assistance if there is any confusion.
- Students are permitted to use their notes to assist them on any quiz, practice test. However, students are not permitted to use their notes on any module test, or unit exam. Students must demonstrate their mastery of the content when taking any assessment that requires a passcode.

## Computers

- Every student in SOAR will be issued a computer that is assigned to them in the classroom. \*\* we encourage students to bring their personal computers on campus if possible, to use as preference due to social distancing and safety reasons.
- Students will be required to maintain and care for their computer while it is assigned to them.
- Students will be given information on how to maintain and care for their computers during the first week of school.
- Students are not permitted to install software of any kind without permission from a teacher or district tech support.
- Students are prohibited from touching another student's computer without permission.
- Additionally, students may use any home computer that has internet access to complete work as needed.

## Grading Policy

The average of total points will determine the students overall grade based on the grading scale:

A-90-100

B-80-89

C-70-79

D-60-69

F-0-59

Parents may view their students' grade at any time via the **MyLearning** application on My Pasco Connect website <https://pasco.instructure.com/>. *MyStudent will be updated to reflect a student's current grade at least once a week.*

**Late work:** All assignments/quizzes/tests will have a one-week grace period for completion. After one week, if the work has not been submitted, the student will receive a grade of zero, indicating the work is late. The student may still complete the work without penalty, but their grade will not change until the work has been submitted/completed.

**Assignments:** Assignments must be submitted with the assignment instructions and rubric. Assignments submitted without instructions/rubric will receive a zero and will be returned with feedback to add the instructions/rubric to earn points.

- When an assignment is completed, the student will get feedback from the teacher on all areas that need improvement. Any assignment can be submitted up to 3 times provided the student follows the teacher's suggestions to correct their work. Students may conference with the teacher to clarify any misunderstandings to maximize points.

**Quizzes:** Students will have 2 attempts to take any quiz, and will receive the highest score achieved. However, students will be provided with the number of questions that are correct and incorrect. Students may conference with the teacher after each attempt to resolve confusions. Students that do not earn at least a 70% by the second attempt are encouraged to meet with the teacher to discuss material and resolve confusions and at that time may request a 3<sup>rd</sup> attempt.

#### **Tests/Mid-Module Checks:**

- *Students must score a 60% on all module tests. Students will be required to retake tests that earn a grade lower than 60% before they can move on to the next module.* However, if a student wishes to earn additional points/or is required to retake a test, *they must conference* with the teacher and complete a reflection piece to demonstrate their understanding of their mistakes before each attempt.
- Students will have 60-90 minutes to complete any mid-module check/test respectively.
- *Any assessment that requires a passcode, must be taken at school.*
- *Passcodes to assessments will not be given out for any reason.*
- We will accommodate with extra time to complete a test, but students will have to take the assessment at school.

#### **Dishonesty:**

- Cheating on quizzes and tests will not be tolerated.

- Students are expected to follow school electronic device policy and adhere to academic integrity rules.
- Any student caught copying answers from the internet will be issued consequences up to and including referrals and permanent recording of ACADEMIC DISHONESTY on record.

## Rules and Consequences

School Rules: Respect, Responsible, and Problem Solver!

### Classroom Rules:

1. Be in assigned seat/area before bell rings
2. Obtain teacher permission before talking or getting out of their seat
3. Bring all materials daily (computer, charger, spiral, pen/pencil, etc.)
4. Respect all persons, property, and workspace.
5. A water bottle is permitted but must have a screw top. No open containers (including fast food beverages)
6. **\*\*\* Students are expected to follow all Covid-19 safety guidelines in place for school year\*\*\***

### Classroom Consequences:

7. Verbal Warning
8. Conference with student
9. Time-out/Parent Contact
10. Lunch Detention/Parent Contact
11. Parent Conference
12. Behavior Improvement Plan

***Note: Major violations will result in immediate discipline referral to Administration***

### Our Pledge to Students

- We will trust you until you give us reason to do otherwise.
- We will respect you and work with you to solve problems.
- We will promptly correct and offer feedback on your work.
- We will work with you to meet learning goals.
- We will offer extra help and alternative assessments to ensure your success.

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**The Board recognizes that a course of study or certain instructional materials may contain content and/or activities that some parents find objectionable. If after careful, personal review of the program lessons and/or materials, a parent indicates to the school that either the content or the activity conflicts with his religious beliefs or value system, the school will consider a written request for his child to be excused from a particular class for specified reasons. The student, however, will not be excused from participating in the course and will be provided alternate learning activities during times of such parent requested absences.**

## **Helpful Math Websites**

[www.prodigygame.com](http://www.prodigygame.com)

[www.KhanAcademy.com](http://www.KhanAcademy.com)

[www.Youtube.com](http://www.Youtube.com)

PBS Math Club - <https://www.pbslearningmedia.org/collection/pbs-math-club/#.W4iOapMzq34>

Math Antics - <https://www.mathantics.com/>

The Art of Problem Solving - <https://artofproblemsolving.com/>

The Rappin' Mathematician - <http://alexkajitani.com/the-rappin-mathematician/>

eHow education (highly recommended!) - [https://www.youtube.com/user/eHowEducation/playlists?disable\\_polymer=1](https://www.youtube.com/user/eHowEducation/playlists?disable_polymer=1)

## **Helpful Language Arts Websites**

[www.owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/949/01/](http://www.owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/949/01/)

[www.nytimes.com/section/learning](http://www.nytimes.com/section/learning)

[www.mobymax.com](http://www.mobymax.com)

## **Helpful Social Studies Websites**

[www.icivics.com](http://www.icivics.com)

<https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/us-history>

<http://www.mission-us.org/pages/landing-mission-1>

<http://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/>

## **Helpful Science Websites**

<https://www.brainpop.com/science/>

<https://www.nasa.gov/education/materials/>

<https://phet.colorado.edu/> (simulations)

## **SOAR ACADEMY/TEAM SUPPLY LIST**

*to ensure the safety of all students, we are, unfortunately, unable to share supplies in the classroom.*

**Personal Supplies:** *students need a full supply of the following objects with them every day in each class*

- \* supply box/bag
- \* comfortable earbuds or headphones (must be wired)
- \* 3 dozen pencils (students go through *a lot* of these)
- \* 1 dozen pens (erasable if using in math)
- \* 1 pkg colored pencils
- \* 2 highlighters
- \* glue sticks
- \* scissors
- \* ruler
- \* compass
- \* 1 pkg lined index cards

### **MATH SUPPLIES:**

- \* 2 spiral notebooks (1 per semester)
- \* 1 pack of graph paper
- \* calculator TI-30Xa

### **SCIENCE:**

- \* 2 spiral notebooks (1 per semester)
- \* 1 pack of graph paper

### **SOCIAL STUDIES SUPPLIES:**

- \* 2 spiral notebooks (1 per semester)

### **LANGUAGE ARTS SUPPLIES:**

- \* 2 spiral notebooks (1 per semester)
- \* Students may be required to purchase 1-2 novels as part of this course. The book list will be provided the first week of school

### **Recommended Community Supplies:**

- \* 1 bottle of hand sanitizer
- \* 1 box facial tissue
- \* 1 ream of white copy paper
- \* 1 ream of colored copy paper
- \* 1 canister of Clorox/Lysol wipes
- \* 1 roll of paper towels
- \* 1 box Expo marker

