



CyberSentinel

Welcome Back!

As you read this, we are all starting to settle in to a new year and a new routine. The staff at Grand Haven CyberSchool are excited to start the Fall semester with each of you. CyberSchool courses, and virtual education in general, present an acclimation time for students and families to fully interact with online courses and school at your pace, your time. We encourage you to contact us with any questions you may have regarding courses, or other aspects of CyberSchool.

The CyberSchool staff wants you to have the best year possible. To that end, we encourage you to explore the extra-curricular options we have available. Grand Haven Area Public Schools offers some exciting opportunities for CyberSchool students and families. Every student is eligible to participate in a number of programs and activities to enhance their education including: Arts, Music, Sports, after-school clubs, Careerline Tech Center, and Science Olympiad. Let us know if any of these opportunities is of interest to you.

It is our privilege to work with your students and we value the relationships we have already started to build. As the year unfolds, we will have opportunities to experience community together as a school family. Look for announcements of events specifically organized for CyberSchool families to come together as well as GHAPS events that CyberSchool students and families can participate in.

Again, thank you for the chance to make a positive impact on your student. We look forward to creating lasting experiences and memories together!

CyberSchool Open Enrollment Nights

Grand Haven CyberSchool is holding Open Enrollment Nights: **September 23, September 30.** Dates will be held at **Central High School, 106 S. Sixth St. Grand Haven, MI 49417, 6:00-8:00 p.m.**

Staff will be available to answer questions regarding enrollment, expectations, as well as how CyberSchool may be the best option for students grades 7-11 and their families.

If you would like more information, please contact :

Kevin Berko, Program Coordinator
Email—BerkoK@ghaps.org
Phone—616-850-6856



Inside this issue

MEAP Testing Schedule	2
Course Structure Changes.....	2
Retakes: Now What?	3
Staff Office Hours.....	3
Staff Contact Information	3
Why CyberSchool.....	4
Our Story	4

Upcoming Dates

- **Monday, September 23**
-Open Enrollment Night
-See page 1 for details
- **Thursday, September 26**
-Picture/ID Day, CHS, 1:00-2:30 p.m.
- **Monday, September 30**
-Open Enrollment Night
-See page 1 for details
- **Wednesday, October 2**
-Student Count Day
- **Friday, October 4**
-Homecoming Game



Fall 2013 MEAP Testing Schedule

CyberSchool students are required to take the MEAP in October. Dates and grade level for MEAP testing are listed. All testing days will start at 8:15 a.m. All MEAP testing will occur at Central High School, 106 South Sixth Street, Grand Haven, MI 49417. MEAP testing will conclude each day by 11:00 a.m.

It is necessary for CyberSchool parents to make transportation accommodations for their student during MEAP testing.

Any questions or concerns, should be directed to:

Paul Kunde, Principal
Email—kundep@ghaps.org
Phone—616-850-6800

Tuesday, October 8

MEAP Reading—Grades 6, 7, 8

Wednesday, October 9

MEAP Reading—Grades 6, 7, 8

Thursday, October 10

MEAP Writing—Grade 7

Tuesday, October 15

MEAP Math—Grades 6, 7, 8

Wednesday, October 16

MEAP Writing—Grade 7
MEAP Science—Grade 8
MEAP Social Studies—Grades 6, 9

Education tailored to you... your PACE... your TIME... your LIFE...

Did You Know?

- Pre-quizzes are available on each lesson—80% or better and you can skip the lesson.
- You can review how you did on a quiz by clicking on the score when completed.
- Instructional videos can be paused and/or rewound to ensure you understand the content.
- You can use any notes you take during the lesson while taking a quiz or topic test.
- Using “Course Map” you can go back and review any previous material to prepare for a quiz or topic test.
- When you need another attempt at a quiz or review for a topic test, contact Mr. Williams. See page 3 for more details.

Course Structure Changes

There are a number of changes that have been implemented to the course structure of all CyberSchool courses. The changes are designed to allow for increased flexibility but also ensure students master material before progressing to the next major topic.

Outlined below is a summary of the current (out-going) structure, and the new structure in place. Please contact Kevin Berko, Program Coordinator, with any questions you may have.

Current (out-going) structure:

- ◇ Ability to pre-quiz each lesson. (80% or better on pre-quiz to skip lesson)
- ◇ At the end of each lesson, up to three more attempts to pass the quiz (70% or better to move on to next lesson) If a student has not earned 70% or better after four total attempts, the content-teacher must review coursework and arrange for additional attempts.
- ◇ Topic Tests are required at the end of a unit (varying from 3-6 lessons) Teacher review required after two attempts below 70%. (70% or better to move on to next unit)
- ◇ Cumulative Exams required to earn credit. (70% or better) Teacher review required for each attempt.

New structure:

- ◇ Ability to pre-quiz each lesson. (80% or better on pre-quiz to skip lesson)
- ◇ At the end of each lesson, up to two more attempts to pass the quiz. (70% or better to move on to next lesson) If student has not earned 70% or better after three total attempts, student is moved on to the next lesson with the highest grade earned (0%-60%)
- ◇ Topic Tests are required at the end of a unit. Teacher review of ALL lessons within the unit will be required before student can attempt Topic Test. Students may be required to go back and complete lessons that were not mastered.
- ◇ Cumulative Exams required to earn credit. (70% or better) Teacher review required for each attempt.

Daily Planning Schedule—Fall 2013			
7:50 a.m. 9:20 a.m.	Mr. Williams Mentor	Mr. Berko Program Coordinator	Mrs Stringham Mathematics
9:24 a.m. 10:54 a.m.			Mrs. Warner Science
11:21 a.m. 12:56 p.m.	Mr. Williams Mentor	Mr. Berko Program Coordinator	Mrs. O'Connor Social Sciences
1:00 p.m. 2:35 p.m.			Mrs. Sabatino English
After School	All subjects available by appointment		

Daily Planning Schedule is a guideline to when staff are available for student assistance

Retakes and Reviews...Now What?

Every student, at some point, will encounter the need for a quiz or topic test to be reviewed or opened for another attempt. While these temporary pauses in progress can seem counter-productive, they serve a very important purpose—ensuring that students have an understanding of the material, and the resources needed to earn a passing grade—on individual lessons, unit topic tests, and the course overall.

With the new course structure outlined on page 2, the need for retakes has been reduced. But the need for students to be attentive to their coursework remains.

When a student reaches the end of a unit, there is a topic review activity as a final practice before the test. When this activity is completed, the student will be prompted by the program to request a review from the teacher to proceed to the topic test.

At this time, the teacher will be reviewing all the lessons within the unit to ensure content understanding and grading accuracy. With this review, it is possible the teacher may reset one or more activities/quizzes from the unit before attempting the topic test.

This is a golden opportunity for students to ask questions about the material that has been difficult, or explanation of concepts that may still be unclear prior to the test.

So...when you need a retake or review, follow these steps:

- ◇ Email Mr. Williams (williamj@ghaps.org) to request a retake or review
- ◇ If you are struggling with a lesson or content ask specific questions— “I need help with the Law or Exponents” or “What do they mean by “sensory images”. The more specific you can be with your questions, the better our staff can be to help you.
- ◇ Make sure you are taking notes on all the different activities—you can use your notes on quizzes and topic tests—your notes will also help you ask specific questions when you need help.

CyberSchool Staff Directory

- Paul Kunde
Principal
Email—kundep@ghaps.org
Phone—616-850-5020
- Kevin Berko
Program Coordinator
Email—berkok@ghaps.org
Phone—616-850-6856
- Mr. John Williams
Mentor
Email—williamsj@ghaps.org
Phone—616-850-6877
- Mrs. Cheryl O'Connor
Social Sciences
Email—oconnorc@ghaps.org
Phone—616-850-6855
- Mrs. Kim Sabatino
English Language Arts
Email—sabatink@ghaps.org
Phone—616-850-6852
- Mrs. Amy Stringham
Mathematics
Email—strngha@ghaps.org
Phone—616-850-6860
- Mrs. Colleen Warner
Sciences
Email—warnerc@ghaps.org
Phone—616-850-6851

Reminder!

Make sure students are communicating with Mr. Williams *weekly*.

This is a State requirement, and failure to maintain *weekly* communications may be cause for dismissal from CyberSchool.

Our Story

Grand Haven CyberSchool, started in 2012, provides students with another option to meet their educational needs in a non-traditional way. Students, grades 7-11, take part in a completely online course structure. Local GHAPS staff monitor student progress, as well as look for ways to create meaningful educational opportunities for each CyberSchool student.

Why Grand Haven CyberSchool?

Grand Haven Area Public Schools wants to provide educational options for students that are currently not enrolled, or have not been successful, in a traditional school setting. In addition, Grand Haven CyberSchool provides an educational choice for families and students, and will provide students opportunities to accelerate. This is a tuition-free program, so parents incur no costs to educate their students at home. Grand Haven CyberSchool student's success is our goal.

All courses offer a highly-qualified teacher whom is a content expert to assist the students. In addition, Grand Haven CyberSchool provides a mentor teacher that will also support the student. Both the teacher and mentor will closely monitor student progress.

Grand Haven CyberSchool staff are employees of Grand Haven Area Public Schools. All teachers, mentors, technical, and administrative staff are local residents invested in the community. This is an important point to consider when evaluating a virtual educational option. This allows for face-to-face meetings if content specific tutorials or extra help is needed. Many other cyber schools in West Michigan can not offer such a personalized approach to student success.

Grand Haven CyberSchool

106 South Sixth Street
Grand Haven, MI 49417

Phone: 616-850-5020
Fax: 616-850-6810
E-mail: berkok@ghaps.org

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

