

INnovative Occupations Virtual Academy

School Newsletter

Mrs. Danzy's News and Notes

Greetings INOVA families! It is hard to believe that we are at the end of August already.

Please remember that we have in-person benchmark testing this Monday, the 29th.

Students will have breakfast provided for them in the morning, and it will be located in the cafeteria, where they are entering for testing.

You can support their success by making sure each is well rested and prepared with the needed supplies/resources, such as their computers, charging cords, and ID's. The results of this assessment will be used by students and staff to create growth goals for themselves. Every student is capable of doing better than their previous performance and that is always the goal...growth. We practice a growth-mindset in everything that we do and encourage you to do the same.

Mrs. Danzy

Headmaster

INOVA@cguhisd.org



As you have likely heard we are making some adjustments to our district-wide grading practices this year. These changes are being made to support our efforts to ensure that a student's grades motivate them to continue striving towards mastery of course content and truly represent a student's readiness for the next level of learning. You are invited to a Teams meeting on Wednesday August 31st at 3:30PM to learn more about these changes. If you are unable to attend, the presentation from the meeting will be shared in next week's newsletter.



Supporting our Educational Planning

The CGUHSD Governing Board has called for a 10% Override Continuation. This Override is a continuation which means that it is already built into the current property tax rate. But, by Arizona Statute, districts must seek renewal of a prior approved override at least every five years if they desire to continue the funding. The Override currently generates a little over \$3M for the district in M&O funds supporting salaries, benefits and educational programming.

Counselor's Corner

Hello INOVA Student Body!

Word of the Day - "Success is a result of consistent practice of winning skills and actions. There is nothing miraculous about the process. There is no luck involved."
—Bill Russell

Tip of the Week - FAILURE Is not an Option. GET INVOLVED and Follow Up to maximize your connectivity to SUCCESS

1. Turn your Camera on and Participate because it's one of the choices that will prepare you for a better tomorrow as a lifelong learner.

2. Athletics there are a number of sports that you can participate in, as your Success Coach Counselor understanding what you all are up against please understand branding yourself starts now and joining a sport is never a bad idea if you are looking to become apart of a group of people that build together to accomplish a common goal such as A State Championship.

3. Connect with your peers from INOVA, don't be afraid to network and make new friends within the community that you are apart of with Casa Grande Union High School District. We will be having events in the near future at INOVA but there will also be several opportunities to connect with your peers and all members across Casa Grande Union High School District sites so immerse yourself in it.

New Curriculum Resource

Technology Tips

Students experiencing any issues with their computer or accessing programs can do the following:

- Restart your computer - Restarting your computer should be something students do weekly to check for computer updates.
- Clear Cookies and Cache - When you use a browser, like Chrome, it saves some information from websites in its cache and cookies. Clearing them fixes certain problems, like loading or formatting issues on sites.
- Check Edmentum Status Page - If Edmentum is not responding or your having issues logging into Edmentum, checking the status page will let you know if they are experiencing any issues:
[Edmentum Status](#)
- Call Technology - 520-374-7170 Hours of Operation: 7 am - 4 pm

EDMENTUM

- Students who are currently scheduled to take an Edmentum class should have received an enrollment email from Edmentum. The email provides the student with details of the course, the Edmentum teacher assigned as well as login information. Students are expected to login to their Edmentum course during the period it is assigned on their schedule daily. Any student that has not received their course, please reach out to Mrs. Teran - ateran@cguhsd.org
- *Parents, you should also be receiving emails from your child's Edmentum teacher regarding opportunities for students to attend live lessons (if applicable) as well as progress reports. Please check your email and spam folder.

Do you love anime and manga?

Then Today.

Friday August 26 @ 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

come join Ms. Renee for Anime & Manga

Club!

And

Next Friday September 2nd Same Time, Same Place



Vista Grande Library 1556 N. Arizola Rd. Casa Grande, AZ

This is a chance to watch Anime, discuss Anime and meet others.



Don't Forget!

Please be sure to like the social media pages for Casa Grande Union High School District on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter for news and announcements.



This Saturday!!!

August 27 @ 7:00 am

Fly-In Breakfast



Casa Grande Municipal Airport 3225

North Lear Avenue, Casa Grande, AZ



PowerSchool Updates

Dear parents. Soon you we will be updating our PowerSchool system to reflect the changes we have made to the grading system this year. The changes made are to support a growth mindset in your student and give them an opportunity to raise their grade at any time during the semester. Grades will no longer be averaged by performance in each quarter, and we will now have one running grade for the entire semester. Therefore, soon you will only see your student's semester grade, quarter 1 and quarter 2 will not be seen.

Grading Shifts Part 2

Our district grading committee comprised of teachers site administrators and district administrators has been working since last spring to revise our grading policies in alignment with our districts vision for personalized mastery-based learning. Traditional grading practices have been demonstrated by research to not accurately represent a students knowledge and skill and to over emphasize behaviors that do not represent learning. In an effort to move towards grades truly representing student knowledge and mastery, and to provide students with multiple opportunities to demonstrate mastery of standards we are implementing the following grading guidelines this year.

Grading Categories and Weights

Semester grades will no longer be divided by 40% Quarter 1, 40% Quarter 2 and 20% final exams. Final exams will no longer be required in all courses. This change will enable students to continue to demonstrate progress towards mastery of course content throughout the semester. The elimination of required final exams allows teachers with additional flexibility to offer students multiple ways to demonstrate mastery of course content at the end of the semester. It also eliminates the excessive weighting of one assessment that frequently results in grade drops at the end of the semester.

Instead of the quarterly categories, grades will be categorized in PowerSchool as formative and summative. Formative assignments (homework, classwork, participation) are assignments that provide students with the opportunity to practice new skills as they are learning and for teachers to provide ongoing feedback and should constitute approximately 20% of a students grade for a course. Summative assignments (labs, tests, quizzes, projects, papers) are designed for students to demonstrate mastery of the content they have learned.

Performance on summative assignments should constitute approximately 80% of a students grade in a course. As we move towards this emphasis on summative assignments, you may see some variation in these percentages and in requirements for final exams and assessments. Please consult with your child's teacher if you have any questions about the weighting of assignments or final assessment requirements in a particular course.

Retakes

All students will be provided the opportunity to retake summative assessments. We understand not every student learns at the same rate and/or students may learn and master a skill later and should be given the opportunity to demonstrate their learning. If you have questions about retake opportunities and timelines in a specific course, please consult your child's teacher.

Zero Guidelines

Zeros in a gradebook for missing can have a disproportionately negative impact on a students grade and result in grades that do not represent a students level of learning. This can also quickly result in a situation in which it is impossible for a student to recover from the impact of a few missing assignments. In order to ensure that grades are more representative of a students actual learning, zeros will not be entered into the gradebook for summative assignments. If students have multiple missing summative assignments, teachers may assign a semester grade of incomplete. A teacher may assign a zero for missing formative assignments and not require a retake.

We will be holding a Q&A sessions on Teams on Wednesday August 31st for families (330pm). We look forward to discussing your questions at that time. [Teams Link](#)



Upcoming Dates

Benchmark Testing-August 29th @INOVA

Civics Testing (juniors and any seniors missing it)-August 31st @INOVA

Early Release- August 31st

