

NOVEMBER 1, 2021

DIGITAL ACADEMY

News you can use!

BITS AND BYTES

Communication
Breakdown
THIS PAGE

First Quarter Ends
NOVEMBER 5, 2021

What Happened to
Pre-Tests?
PAGE 2

Calendar Updates

**TUES. 11/2 - NO SCHOOL
FOR STUDENTS**

MON. 11/8 - HALF DAY

**TUES. 11/23 - REPORT CARD
CONFERENCES**

**THANKSGIVING BREAK
NOV 25TH AND 26TH**



Communication Breakdown

THE PHONE SYSTEM STRIKES AGAIN

Remember when the phones were down across the district in September? Well, they finally got restored, but it turns out the restoration was incomplete.

Mr. Thompson discovered last Friday that there were 53 missed voice messages on his line because there was no indicator that any messages had been left by anyone.

Please accept my apologies if you left a message that never was returned - I didn't know that you had even called.

I would like to tell you that everything is fixed now, but the system continues to drop calls while we are connected - just ask the parents I ended up calling via cell this morning...

Communication Breakdown

(continued)

If you leave me a message at 610-490-3323 and do not hear from me by the end of the day, chances are I never got the message.

Your best bet is to email me at rthompson@chesteruplandsd.org, because while I don't always get the phone messages, I do see all emails.

Again, I apologize for any unreturned phone calls.

Ray

What Happened to the Pre-Tests?

The Case for Academic Integrity

Did your student come to you last Tuesday and complain that those horrible teachers had reset his or her pretests? If so, you are not alone.

Allow me to explain what happened. In the digital instruction model, pre-tests are used to determine prior knowledge so that students don't have to re-learn information they already know.

What we discovered as a team was that a large number of students were testing out of material at an incredibly rapid pace. When we see students completing a year's worth of work in 20 hours or less, we have to investigate.

What we found was that students had been using "outside supports," i.e. Brainly, MathFacts, Google, Wikipedia etc., to ace the pretests and avoid the actual instruction. Some students even admitted openly that they had used supports.

We are not suggesting that any student did or did not use outside supports to complete pre-tests. We told everyone at the beginning that we reserved the right to "check" on learning with an oral or written test of material, and that is exactly what we are doing.

If your student demonstrates understanding of the tested material in a one-on-one session with the subject teacher, the scores received on the pre-test will be restored. If your student cannot explain or prove their knowledge, they will be required to complete the work before testing again.

Thank you for supporting our efforts to maintain academic integrity.

Accessing the Observer Account in Gradpoint

Click the link in the email that brought you this newsletter or click the link below

<https://cusdnef8488-chesterup-pps.v2.gradpoint.com/>

Enter your username (the email address you gave us) and password "digital"

If you have problems connecting, please email Mr. Thompson

info.dtda@chesteruplandsd.org
or
rthompson@chesteruplandsd.org